

An ACT laying an Imposition on Negroes, and on several Sorts of Liquors imported; and also on Irish Servants, to prevent the importing too great a Number of Irish Papists into this Province. *Pass 191,*

BE it Enacted, by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Majesty's Governour, Council and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That from and after the End of this present Session of Assembly, the Importer or Importers of Rum, Spirits, Wine and Brandy from *Pensilvania*, and the Territories thereto belonging, by Land, shall for every Gallon of the said Liquors so imported into this Province, pay unto the King's Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, for defraying the publick Charges of this Province, to be collected by the Naval Officer of *Cecil County* District, for the Time being, or his sufficient Deputy, the Sum of Nine Pence in ready current Money of this Province; and shall bring he same Liquors into this Province to the Place commonly called *Bohemia-Landing*, and to no other Place or Landing, 'till the Duties thereof be paid, under the Penalty of forfeiting to the King's Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, all such before-mentioned Liquors, which shall be brought to any other Place, contrary to the Intent of this Act, or the Value thereof in ready Money, One Moiety of the said Forfeiture to the King's Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, for the Support of Government of this Province, and the other Moiety to the Informer; to be recovered in any Court of Record in this Province, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint or Information, wherein no Essoyn, Proteſtion or Wager of Law to be allowed.

Nine Pence per Gallon on Liquors imported by Land.

And where to be Landed.

Penalty;

And to the End that the said Nine Pence per Gallon may be exactly paid and collected, *Be it Enacted, by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid,* That before the said Liquors shall be Water-born in *Chesapeake-Bay*, the Importer or Importers shall make Entry thereof, upon Oath, with the Naval Officer of *Cecil-County* District, of the Number of Casks, and the Contents thereof; which Oath the said Naval Officer, by Virtue of this Act, shall have Authority to Administer; and of the full Contents, the said Naval Officer may abate Twenty per Cent. for Leakage, and other Damage to be sustained, and no more.

The Payment of that only enforced

Twenty per Cent may be abated for Leakage.

And be it further Enacted, by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid, That if the Importer or Importers aforesaid, after he hath brought the said Liquors to *Bohemia-Landing* aforesaid, shall put the said Liquors on Board any Vessel in *Chesapeake-Bay*, or any the Rivers, Creeks or Harbours thereto belonging, before the Duty aforesaid shall be paid in ready Money as aforesaid, that then the Importer or Importers shall forfeit the said Liquors, or the Value thereof in ready Money, to the Uses aforesaid, to be recovered as aforesaid.

Liquors forfeited, if loaded before Duty paid.

And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That when the Importer or Importers aforesaid, have made fair Entries as aforesaid, and paid the Duty as aforesaid, that then the Naval Officer shall give the said Importer a Permit to carry the same to any River, Creek or Harbour, or Port or Place of this Province, to make Sale of the same.

After Payment, Permits to be granted.

Provided always, That if any Person or Persons shall import any the Liquors aforesaid, from *Pensilvania* aforesaid, in Sloops or other Vessels by Sea, through the Capes of *Chesapeake-Bay* into this Province, that then such Importer or Importers shall only pay the Duty of Three Pence per Gallon, as others do.

Three Pence per Gallon on Liquors imported by Sea.