

Information, wherein no Effoyn, Protection or Wager of Law to be allowed.

Forty Pound
of Tobacco
allowed for
the Hoghead.

And for ascertaining what shall be allowed for the Value of Tobacco-Hogheads, *Be it Enacted*, That the Receiver of any Hoghead of Tobacco, shall pay and allow to the Owner or Owners thereof, for such Hoghead received, the Sum of Forty Pounds of Tobacco, to be added to the Neat-Weight of such Tobacco.

Preamble
as to Crop-
ping and
squeezing.

And whereas the Inhabitants of this Province, that Ship Tobacco on Board Ships and other Vessels upon Freight, are much abused by the Cropping, Cutting, Lessening and Diminishing of the Hogheads wherein such Tobacco is pass'd, by the Masters of Ships or other Vessels or by other Person under their Command, and Government; for Remedy whereof, for the Future,

The Guilty
Master,

Be it Enacted, by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid, That if any Master of a Ship or other Vessel within this Province, after the End of this present Session of Assembly, shall receive any Hoghead or Hogheads of Tobacco, on Board his said Ship or Vessel, on Freight, and shall, either by himself or any other Officer or Person on Board his said Ship or Vessel, under his Command, Cut, or suffer any Hoghead or Hogheads of Tobacco to be Cut, Cropped or Lessened in their Length or Breadth, or by any other Ways or Means abused, defaced or impaired, that then and in every such Case, such Master of such Ship or Vessel, for every Hoghead of Tobacco, so Cut or suffered to be Cut, Cropped or Lessened, in their Length or Breadth, abused, defaced or impaired, to be proved by the Oath of any sufficient Person to whom the Tobacco is Consigned in *Great-Britain*, or other sufficient Witness taken before any Magistrate, and a Certificate thereof, made by any Notary-Publick or Magistrate, and sent hither under his Hand and Seal, or by any other legal Proof whatsoever, made in this Province, or elsewhere, shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Six Hundred Pounds of Tobacco, or Fifty Shillings Sterling, to the Party grieved; to be recovered in any Court of Record in this Province, against such Master or his Sureties, by Action of Debt, or on the Case, within Two Years after the Date of the Bill or Bills of Lading of such Tobacco.

How to be
convict,

And punish'd.

Their Sure-
ties liable,

And the Na-
val Officers to
certify them,
&c.

Fee for cer-
tificate one
Shilling,
And to hang
up a fair Co-
py of this Act
for 100 l. of
Tobacco.

And be it Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That the Security or Securities, of any Master of Ship or Vessel, within this Province, shall be liable to make Satisfaction, according to this Act, for the cropping, cutting, abusing, defacing or impairing of any Hoghead or Hogheads of Tobacco, as aforesaid, and prosecuted for the same, in any Court of Record within this Province, that can hold Plea thereof: And that every Naval Officer within this Province, shall, on pain of Fifty Shillings Sterling, certify under his Hand and Seal, who are the Security or Securities of any such Master, which shall be sufficient Evidence in any Court of Record where such Action is commenced, to prove who are the Security or Securities of such Master, for which Certificate the Naval Officer may have and receive one Shilling, and no more; and that the several and respective Naval Officers within this Province, shall hang a fair Copy of this Act in their respective Offices, for the Perusal of all Masters of Ships and Vessels, the said Naval Officer to have and receive for the said Copy, One Hundred Pounds of Tobacco, to be allowed in the County Levy.

And