

in the said Vessels to Persons not residing here, and have still had the Benefit of the said Clause, as if all the Owners had actually resided here after such Sale, to the defrauding of the Publick. For Prevention of which Abuses for the Future, it is prayed that it may be Enacted,

For Preventing such Abuses,

And be it Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietor, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's Governour, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That the Owner or Owners of every Ship or Vessel residing in this Province, shall be obliged, either at the Time of Entry of such Ship or Vessel, or some Time before her Clearance, to apply him or themselves to the Naval Officer of the District where such Ship or Vessel shall load or unload, which Officer, as aforesaid, is hereby impowered and obliged to tender to, and such Owner or Owners are hereby obliged to take, the following Oath, viz.

All Resident Owners of Vessels, shall apply to the Naval Officers And take the following

YOU A. B. C. do swear that you are the true and only Owners of the Ship E. and have continued so ever since the Time of the purchasing the Register, by you now produced; and that you have not purchased the said Vessel, nor obtained the Register aforesaid, to the Use of, or in Trust for, any other Person or Persons whatsoever, nor for the Sake of evading the Payment of any Duties, in Favour of any Person or Persons whatsoever, that are not actual Residents within this Province.

Oath.

Provided, That in Case any of the Inhabitants of this Province, Owner as aforesaid, shall depart this Province and go beyond the Seas about his reasonable Affairs, and shall not be absent therefrom for above the Space of Twelve Months, in case any Vessel should happen in his Absence to require his Oath as aforesaid, such absent Persons Oath in such Case may be dispensed with, all the other Owners Residents (if any there be) taking the same Oath, and the Benefit intended by the said before-mentioned Act shall be allowed to the Owners of such Vessels.

Owner being absent not above 12 Months, His Oath may be dispensed with.

Provided nevertheless, That in case any Owner or Owners, resident in this Province, shall refuse to comply with the Directions laid down hereby, it shall in no wise be lawful for the Naval Officer aforesaid, to give any Benefit or Benefits to the said Owner or Owners, but they are hereby declared to stand on the same Foot with Persons Non-Residents Trading into this Province, any Law, Usage or Custom to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding

All the other Resident Owners taking it.

Resident Owners refusing to comply with these Directions, to have no other Benefit than Non-Residents.

An ACT for raising a Duty of Three Pence per Hoghead on all Tobacco exported out of this Province, for the Uses therein mentioned.

WHEREAS His Lordship the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietor, out of his great Goodness, has been pleased to constitute and appoint His Honour Charles Calvert, Esq; His Lieutenant Governour, in and over this his Province of Maryland, to whom we (His Lordship's good People) yield all due Obedience, as by his Commission we are obliged:

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