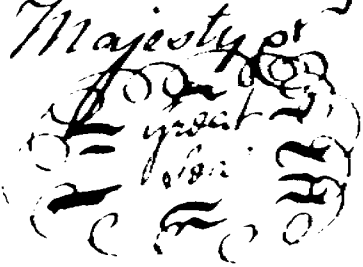


And in Case the said Master shall refuse the said Oath or upon Suspicion of having Goods on board for which He hath not cleared It shall be lawfull for the said Naval Officer to Enter on board any such Shipp or Vessel and the same to Search for any such Goods as aforesaid any thing in this Act before mentioned notwithstanding.

September 21st 1704
Read and assented to by the House
of Delegates - W. Taylard S. H. D.

Maryland October 3: 1704

On the behalf of her Majesty



Sept. 21st 1704

Read and assented to by her Majesty's
Honourable Council -

I will this be a Law
W. Bladen & Council.
J. Weymour

Maryland: At a Session of Assembly begun and held at the City of Annapolis in the County of Ann Arund: the 17th Day of July in the first year of the Dominion of the Right Hon: Charles a booke Lord and Proprietarie of the Provinces of Maryland and Avalon Lord Baron of Baltimore &c. Anno Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighteen, His Excellency John Hart Esq. being Gov: were Enacted the Law following.

among which is,

(No 7)

An Act ascertaining the Gage and Tare of Tobacco Hoggheads and to prevent Cropping Cutting and Defacing Tobacco taken on board Shipp or Vessels upon the right and for laying Impositions on Tobacco for the Hogghead for the Support of Government and for the encouraging Settlements in this Province by ascertaining the manner of paying his Lordships Aliagation Taxes and Quit Rents for the Terms therein proposed and for taking off the Tare pence for Hoggheads formerly raised for the publick Charge

Forasmuch as the Law hitherto made for ascertaining the Gage of Tobacco Hoggheads have in great Measure proved ineffectual either for want of laying sufficient Penalties upon the Offenders or of proper Methods to inflict them, but more especially as it seems to this present General Assembly by requiring a Compliance with such a Gage as has been found by experience to tend to the ruin of such Traders as were strict Observers of it, the Generality of our Tobacco being of so light and chafy a Nature that it has been found wholly impracticable to in a manner impossible to pack or Prize so much of it in a Hogghead of the late Gage of thirty Inches in the Diameter of the Head as would suffice for the payment of Freight and other Charges arising thereon the Freighters of such small Hoggheads having been frequently brought in Debt by the smallness of the Quantity of Tobacco contained therein to the great Damage of the Tobacco Trade particularly of the fair Traders therein which seems in a manner to have brought the latest of the aforesaid Law into a general Disuse it being rather more mischievous to the Freighters to be brought in Debt by their strict observance of that Gage than to loose their Tobacco here for exceeding it for remedy whereof for the future It is Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordships Governour and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly and the Authority of the said That from and after the End of this present Session it shall and may be lawfull for any person or Persons whatsoever suspecting discovering or knowing of any Hogghead or Hoggheads of Tobacco that shall exceed forty eight Inches in the Length of the Stave or thirty two Inches in the Diameter of the Head within the Croze or that shall exceed thirty seven Inches in the Bulge on any accident or pretence whatsoever (thirty six Inches Diameter in the Bulge being supposed a competent Gage) to call to his Assistance any Justice of the Peace or

W. Bladen

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