

That Ship Tobacco on board Ships and other Vessels upon Freight and much abused
by cropping cutting lessning and diminishing of the Hoggheads wherein such Tobacco
is packt by the Masters of Ships or other Vessels or by other persons under their Command
and Government For Remedy whereof for y^e future Be it ENACTED by the Authority
advice and Consent a^d 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 Hogghead or
Hoggheads of Tobacco on board his said Ship or Vessel on Freight and shall either
by himselfe or any other Officer or person on board his said Ship or Vessel under his
Command cut or suffer any Hogghead or Hoggheads of Tobacco to be cut crott or
lessned in their Length or Breadth or by any other way or means abused defaced
or Impaired that then and in every such Case such Master of Ships or Vessels for
every Hogghead of Tobacco so cut or suffered to be cut crott or lessned in their Length
or Breadth abused defaced or impaired to be proved by the Oath of any Just^s person
to whom the Tobacco is consignd in Great Brittain 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 Legall proof
whatsoever made in this Province or elsewhere shall forfeit and pay the sume
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 Acc^on of Debt or on the Case within two years after the date of the Bill
or Bills of lading of such Tobacco AND be it ENACTED by the Authority a^d
that the Security or Securities of any Master of a Ship or Vessel within this Province
shall be lyable to make Satisfaction according to this Act for the cropping cutting
abusing defacing and impairing of any Hogghead or Hoggheads of Tobacco as
a^d prosecuted for the same in any Court of record within this Province that
can hold plea thereof and that every Navall Officer within this Province shall on
pain of Fifty Shillings Sterling certifie under his Hand and Seals who are the Security
or Securities of any such Master which shall be a sufficient Evidence in any Court
of Record where such Acc^on is commenced to draw who are the Security or Securities
of such Master for which Certificate the Navall Officer may have and receive one
Shilling and no more and that the severall and respective Navall Officers within
this Province shall hang a fair Copy of this Law in their respective Offices for the
perusal of all Masters of Ships and Vessels the said Navall Officer to have and
receive for the said Copy One Hundred pounds of Tobacco to be allowed in the County
Levy. And for as much as by the Enlargem^t of Tob^o Hoggheads from the late
Gage of Thirty Inches in the Diameter of the Head to this present Gage a Larger
Quantity of Tobacco will be exported in each Hogghead where by the several
Duties and Imposts on Tobacco will be evidently retrenched and lessned unless
a Just regard be had to the preservation of them in their usual worth and Value
which this present general Assembly is highly obligd to, those Duties being generally
applyd to the Support of Government and for other the most important Affairs of
this Province and y^e therefore it is not only just but necessary that the Duties upon
the Hoggheads which shall be of the Gage herein directed should be in some sort
enlarged proportionably to the Enlargem^t of the said Gage It is therefore most
humbly prayed that his Lordship the Lord Proprietarie will be favourably
pleased to Grant that it may be enacted And be it enacted by his said Lordship
by and with the advice and Consent a^d that from and after the Twentieth Day
of September next there shall be levied collected and raised to the right honourable
the Lord Proprietarie his Heirs and Successors for every Hogghead of Tobacco
which shall be shipped in any Ship or Vessel to be exported out of this Province
or any the Territories Islands Ports Rivers Creeks or places thereto belonging
after the Twentieth Day of September a^d the sum of Eighteen pence Sterd in
Lieu and Stead of the Twelve pence Sterling formerly imposed on every Hogghead
of the forementioned former Gage and for every Hundred weight of Tobacco exported
in Box Chest Barrell or Case two pence half penny Sterling and so pro rata for
a greater or lesser Quantity Provide always that the Money that shall be raised
by the said Duty shall be applyd to those Ends and Uses for which it has hitherto
been raised videlicet for the Support of his Lordships Government within this
Province in manner following and not otherwise, that is to say, three pence of the
said Eighteen pence for Hogghead for the purchasing Arms and Ammunition for the
maintaining a Magazine for the better Defence of this Province and for the due
Preservation thereof to be collected by the proper Officers and paid to the Treasurer
or Treasurers of this Province for the time being to be disposed of to the use a^d

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