

months imprisonment without baile or mainprize
 and forfeit to our Sovereigne Lady the Queen her heirs
 and Successors the sume of twenty pounds ster^s to be
 Recovered and Divided as afo. and whereas also the
 Sherri^{ff}s of this province whose Duty it is to Convey
 Letters for her Majesty's Service are very much Complaine
 ed of for their Negligence.

Be it Enacted by the Authority advice and
 Consent afo that if any high Sherri^{ff}e or his Deputy or
 Deputy's receive any publick Letter he shall if required
 give a receipt for the same shewing the day and hour
 when he received the same and when he deliver's the same
 Letter to the next Sherri^{ff}e or party to whom Directed the
 party that receives the same shall Likewise if required give
 such like receipt to the Sherri^{ff}e that first Received it and
 if any high Sher^{ff} or his Deputy or Deputy's for whom
 the high Sherri^{ff}e shall be answerable shall refuse to
 give such receipt to be proved by the ^{Oath} of the person demand-
 ing such receipt or haveing received such Letter shall will-
 fully Neglect Immediately to forward such Letter as
 Directed, so that such Letter is stopped Twentyfour hours
 longer then it reasonably need be (respect being had to
 the wind & Weather) the high Sherri^{ff}e shall forfeit
 the sume of two thousand pound^s of tob^s in Cashe the one
 moyety thereof to our Sovereigne Lady the Queen her heirs
 and Successors for the support of Government of this
 province the other moyety to him or them that will sue
 for the same to be recovered by action of Debt in any Court
 of Record in this province, and such Neglect of such Sher^{ff}s
 (shall)