

Be it Enacted by the Queen most Excellent Majesty  
 by and with the advice and consent of her Majesty's Governor  
 Council and assembly of this province and the authority  
 of the same that any person or persons whatsoever inhabiting  
 within this province and now being or that hereafter shall  
 be indebted to any merchant or others either resident in or  
 trading to this province that hath tobacco ready accord-  
 -ing to the nature of the Debt he owes and is willing to  
 pay the same and hath offered it to his creditor his factor  
 or Attorney and by him or them refused neglected or  
 Delayed to be received as aforesaid. It shall & may be law-  
 -full to and for such Debtor or Debtors at any time  
 between the first Day of November and the last day  
 of March in every year during the continuance of this act  
 and at no other times to repair to the next Justice of peace  
 and there before him upon making oath of such tob-  
 -acco already tendered and neglected refused or delayed to be received  
 as aforesaid the said Justice shall and is hereby enjoined impow-  
 -ered and required to appoint two sufficient persons of the  
 neighbour hood (not being of kin either to the Debtor  
 or Creditor) where such Debtor shall dwell to view search  
 and Look upon such tob-<sup>o</sup> ready to be paid in Discharge  
 of the Debt and tendered as aforesaid w<sup>ch</sup> two persons so appoint-  
 -ed shall take their oaths to be administered by the Justice  
 aforesaid well and truly to try & examine into the matter aforesaid  
 make report thereof to the Justice aforesaid and if upon view-  
 -ing the same it be found that the tobacco aforesaid be Clean  
 Sound and merchant able and fit to be paid in Discharge  
 of the Debt aforesaid they shall and are hereby Impowered &  
 authorized to marke the said tob-<sup>o</sup> in hogheads upon the  
 head and Bulge for such Creditor as aforesaid and weigh the same  
 and signify the neat weight thereof unto the Justice aforesaid  
 w<sup>ch</sup> tobacco so tendered neglected or refused <sup>valued</sup> marked and weighed  
 as aforesaid shall for ever after be esteemed and taken as the <sup>proper</sup>