

own or any of his Deputy's offence or offences against this act and the debts mentioned which the Sheriff may ~~due~~ to any Inhabitant are to be understood of such Debts as are assigned to the Inhabitants in the Publick County or Parish Levy or forly per Pollis as or due from the high Sheriff by bill bond note or account proved any Law Usage or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

And whereas there have been divers great Complaines from severall parts of this province to this Generall Assembly of severall Sheriffs and Subsheriffs that have exacted and extorted great Sums of Tobacco above their due and Lawfull fees ascertained by the acts of Assembly of this province from severall of the Inhabitants thereof and the Lawes of this Province have inflicted a severe penalty upon any officer that shall charge and receive more than his due fees yet the said officers have most cunningly and craftily loaded the said Lawes by faking Bills or writings obligatory without ever delivering any account signed under their hands as the Law directs so that the party grieved cannot sufficiently prove the said extortion and is thereby left without remedy for prevention whereof.

Be it enacted by the authority advice and Consent of this Act in their severall and respective Counties wherein they dwell shall take any bond bill or any other writing obligatory of any person or persons upon any pretence whatsoever without indorsing the act on the back of the said bond bill or writing obligatory for which the same was paid and if any Sheriff or Subsheriff within this province shall during the time that he remains in his place or office upon any pretence whatsoever take any bill bond or writing obligatory without indorsing the act on the back of the said bond bill or writing obligatory as aforesaid by which it may appear upon what Consideration the same was taken the said bond bill or writing obligatory shall be voyd and of no effect And the officer or officers that took the same shall loose his debt and for ever be debarred of suing any other action for the recovery of the same any Law Statute or usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

And that whereas the said officers are prohibited from taking bills upon any pretence whatsoever otherwise then as is directed by this act during the time they remain in office to the intent the said officers may receive no damage by the act of Assembly for Limitation of actions.

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid that the time the said officers remain in office shall not be reckoned or

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