

Peace of the County, wherein the said Tobacco-Stalks shall be so cut up.

AND for the better Direction, of the Persons appointed for numbering the Plants of Tobacco, *Be it Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid,* That the Person nominated and sworn in each Precinct, shall repair to the several Plantations, and there take the Number of Tobacco-Plants, by counting the several Plants contained in every respective Piece of Tobacco Ground, in the best Manner, and by such Methods and Rules, as in his Judgment may best discover the true Quantity, having Regard to regular and irregular Pieces of Tobacco-Ground; such Person not being obliged to count such Tobacco-Plants, Plant by Plant, unless he shall think fit so to do.

AND if, at any Time hereafter, any more Plants of Tobacco, than are hereby allowed, shall, by the Persons appointed to view and number the same as aforesaid, be found planted or tended on any Plantation or Plantations whatsoever, the Owner, or Overseer of such Plantation or Plantations, shall immediately, in the Presence of the Person or Persons appointed to examine and number the same, cut up, or cause to be cut up and destroyed, so many Plants as shall exceed the Number herein before allowed, in such Place or Places of the said Tobacco-Grounds, as the said Owner or Overseer shall think fit. And in case the Owner or Overseer of any such Plantation or Plantations, shall refuse and fail so to do, the said Person so appointed to examine and number as aforesaid, be, and is hereby empowered and required to cut up, or cause the same to be cut up and destroyed; and shall have and receive, as a Reward for so doing, Twenty Pounds of Tobacco for every Hundred Plants that shall be so cut up and destroyed by them; to be paid by the Owner or Overseer of such Plantation or Plantations, where such Offence shall be committed. And upon due Proof thereof made by the Oath of the Person appointed as aforesaid, whose Oath therein shall be full and conclusive Evidence, shall and may be recovered before any Justice of the Peace of the County, where such Offence shall be committed: And the Persons so to be appointed to examine and number as aforesaid, are hereby required to make a true Report of their Proceedings, and the Number of Plants on each Plantation in their respective Precincts, to the Clerk of the Court for that County wherein the said Precincts respectively lie, on or before the Tenth Day of *September*, Yearly.

~~AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, by the Authority aforesaid,~~ That each Person so appointed and sworn to examine and number Tobacco-Plants, and to cut up and destroy Stalks, Slips, and Suckers as aforesaid, failing to make such Report of their Proceedings as aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay Two Thousand Pounds of Tobacco for every such Offence: And if the said Person so appointed to examine and number, and to cut up and destroy Stalks, Slips, and Suckers as aforesaid, shall (knowingly) allow any Person whatsoever to plant and tend on his or her Plantation or Plantations, any more Plants of Tobacco, than are hereby before allowed, or to tend any Seconds, Slips, or Suckers; each Person so offending, shall forfeit and pay Two Thousand Pounds of Tobacco for every such Offence.

AND