

C H A P. XV.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> of September, all Staves, Heading, and Shingles, to be examined, counted, &c.

Officers Fees: per Thousand and by whom paid.

In case of Dispute, 3 Persons to be chosen, and Lumber to be viewed and examined by them, on Oath, and their Determination to be final.

Their Fee, by whom paid.

Lumber determined unsound, not to be exported, nor from any Landing on the North-Side of Patapsco, unless inspected, under a Penalty.

Coopers and Carpenters, not debarred from buying Lumber, under a Restriction.

Oath to be taken by an Inspector of Staves, &c.

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XVII. And, whereas the preventing Frauds and Abuses, in culling and counting Staves, Heading, and Shingles, large Quantities of which are exported, will tend to advance the Credit of the same at foreign Markets, and promote the Trade and Commerce of the said Town of Baltimore; Be it therefore Enacted, That from and after the First Day of September next, all Staves, Heading, and Shingles, brought to, and offered for Sale, within the said North-West Branch of Patapsco, shall be submitted to the Examination of the Officer, so as aforesaid to be appointed for that Purpose; and, if the said Officer shall find the same sound, and fit for Exportation, he shall count, cull, and garble the same, in a just and impartial Manner, between the Buyer and Seller, for which Trouble, he the said Officer, shall receive and have, as follows; to wit, For every customary Thousand of Pipe Staves, Two Shillings Current Money; for every customary Thousand of Hoghead Staves, or Hoghead Heading, One Shilling and Six-pence Current Money; and for every customary Thousand of Barrel Staves, One Shilling Current Money; and for every Thousand of Shingles, Six-pence Current Money; the One Half thereof to be paid by the Buyer, the other Half by the Seller.

XVIII. Provided always, and be it further Enacted, That where, at any Time hereafter, any Disputes shall arise, between the Officer and the Owner, or Possessor of any the Staves, Heading, or Shingles, herein before mentioned, concerning the same, upon Application made, by the Owner or Possessor thereof, to any one Magistrate of Baltimore County, he shall issue his Warrant to Three indifferent judicious Persons, of Skill and Integrity, directing them to view and examine the said Staves, Heading, or Shingles; which said Three Persons, so as aforesaid appointed, shall take the same Oath, or Affirmation, if a Quaker, as by this Act is herein after directed to be taken, by the said Inspector, or Culler, Garbler, and Counter of Staves, Heading, and Shingles, and shall carefully view, inspect, examine, cull, garble, and count the same; and if they, or any Two of them, on such Review, shall find, pass, and declare the same to be sound, merchantable, and fit for Exportation, then the same Staves, Heading, or Shingles, shall be passed and allowed, and the Officer shall pay the Cost of the said Review, but, if on such Review, the Judgment of the said Officer is confirmed, then the said Owner, or Possessor of such Staves, Heading, or Shingles, shall pay the Cost of such Review; for which Review, each of the said Reviewers, shall have and receive the Sum of Eight-pence Current Money, for every Thousand of the said Staves, Heading, or Shingles.

XIX. And be it further Enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any Person or Persons, whatsoever, to export the said Staves, Heading, or Shingles, so adjudged and determined unsound, or not fit for Exportation, out of this Province; or any Staves, Heading, or Shingles, not counted, culled, and garbled, as aforesaid, from any Landing on the North-Side of Patapsco River, or out of the North-West Branch of the said River of Patapsco, on Pain of Forfeiture of Ten Shillings Current Money; for each; and every Thousand, so shipped and exported.

XX. Provided always, and be it Enacted, That nothing herein contained, shall debar any Cooper, or Carpenter, from purchasing a sufficient Quantity of Staves, Heading, or Shingles, to make up into Cask, or be used in Building, in the Way of his or their Business; so always, that he shall not buy any of the Cullings, which he may have before adjudged to be unmerchantable.

XXI. And be it further Enacted, That the said Inspector of Staves and Lumber, shall, and he is hereby required, on his Appointment, and before his executing the said Office, to make Oath, or Affirmation, if a Quaker, before