

in order there to transact the emergent and necessary Business of this Province, and inasmuch as many Occasions do, and may require a Solicitation from his Majesty's Dutiful Lieve Subjects the Inhabitants of this Province, to his most Sacred, Royal and Gracious Person, who is the Protector and Father of his People, and likewise to their Noble Lord Proprietary residing there. And whereas, such Agent cannot be Supported but at the publick Charge, nor such Solicitations made, or necessary Business transacted, without a Fund to that Purpose, and for that this General Assembly are willing and desirous to charge themselves in the Staple Commodity of this Province with a reasonable Tax, to so good and desirable an End :

It is humbly prayed that it may be Enacted,

*And be it Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same,* That immediately from and after the Expiration of this Session of Assembly, every Master or Commander of any Ship or Vessel Trading into this Province, before the Clearing such Ship or Vessel, shall pay unto the several and respective Naval Officers clearing such Ship or Vessel, the Sum of *Six Pence* Sterling Money of *Great Britain*, for every Hoghead or quantity of an Hoghead of Tobacco taken on board such Ship or Vessel, in order to be transported out of this Province; and for every Hundred Weight of Tobacco taken on board such Ship or Vessel in order to be transported as aforesaid, either in Bundles, Chest, Case, or other Package, *One Penny* Sterling for every Hundred Weight, and so *pro rato* for a greater or lesser Quantity.

*And be it further Enacted by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid,* That the said several and respective Naval Officers within this Province, shall be and are hereby obliged Yearly and every Year during the continuance of this Act, to collect the Money arising by this Act in Sterling Money in Specie, or good Bills of Exchange, made payable in *Great Britain*, unto such respective Naval Officer collecting the same, and such Naval Officer shall be, and is hereby obliged to pay the Sum so by him received to such Person or Persons as shall from time to time (by Warrant or Authority from the House of Delegates in Assembly Convened, under the Hand of the Speaker of the same House for the Time being) be appointed Trustees to receive the same, deducting for the Trouble and Care of such Naval Officer in such Collection and Payment as aforesaid, the Sum of *Five Pounds* per Cent, out of such Money so to be received and paid, and no more.

*And be it further Enacted by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid,* That such Person or Persons so to be appointed Trustees as aforesaid, shall Yearly and every Year, during the continuance of this Act, with all convenient Speed, transmit such Money or Bill or Bills of Exchange by them to be received from the several and respective Naval Officers aforesaid, unto Mr. *Samuel Hyde*, Merchant in *London*, who is hereby