

An Act to prevent the Exporting of Trash, or bad Tobacco.

**W** H E R E A S, by an Act of Assembly entituled, *An Act for amending the Staple of Tobacco, for preventing Frauds in his Majesty's Customs, and for the Limitation of Officers Fees*, it was among other Things enacted and declared, " That it was  
" the true Intent and Meaning of the said Act, that nothing therein con-  
" tained should affect any Tobacco that was made at any Time before the  
" first Day of *December*, One thousand seven hundred and forty-seven;  
" but that the same might be shipped, or otherwise disposed of, as the  
" Proprietor thereof should think proper; Oath, or Affirmation if a Qua-  
" ker, being made by the Proprietor of such old Tobacco, or Overseer, or  
" other credible Person, that the same was made before the said first Day  
" of *December*, One thousand seven hundred and forty-seven; which  
" Oath or Affirmation might be made before any one Justice of the Peace,  
" and such Justice giving Certificate of the Mark and Number of the Hog-  
" shead or Hogsheads of such old Tobacco, the same might be taken on  
" board any Ship or Vessel for Transportation, notwithstanding any Thing  
" in the said Act contained: Yet the Proprietor of such old Tobacco  
" might, if he thought fit, have the same old Tobacco inspected, or sub-  
" jected to Inspection, as the said Act directs, and in such Case he should  
" have and receive all Benefits and Advantages arising to the Owner of  
" Inspected Tobacco, in Manner therein before mentioned." And where-  
as it appears to this General Assembly, that sundry evil-minded Persons  
have, since the making the said Act, saved, bought, and, under colour of  
it's being old Tobacco, actually exported, and now do openly and pub-  
licly save and buy up, bad, trash, and unbound Tobacco, with the same  
View; which Practices, so plainly tending to frustrate all the good and  
salutary Effects intended by the said Act, if not immediately remedied,  
must prove of very dangerous Consequence to the People of this Province.

*Be it therefore 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 from and after the twenty-first Day of *May*, One thousand seven hundred and fifty, it shall not be lawful for any Person or Persons, under any Pretence whatsoever, to export or ship off, under the Denomination of old Tobacco, or Tobacco made before the first Day of *December*, One thousand seven hundred and forty-seven, unless the Proprietor thereof shall bring or cause to be brought the said Tobacco, in Hogshead or Hogsheads, to some Inspection-House; and when the same is so brought, deliver the same to the said Inspectors, and then and there the Proprietor, or some other credible Person, take the following Oath (or Affirmation if a Quaker); *I A. B. do swear (or if a Quaker affirm), that all the Tobacco now within this Hogshead (expressing the Mark and Number of each Hogshead) was really and bona fide made before the first Day of December, One thousand seven hundred and forty-seven:* Which Oath or Affirmation the said Inspectors shall, and they are hereby authorized, empowered, and required, to administer to the Person or Persons bringing the said Tobacco, such Person writing, or causing the same to be wrote; and the said Inspectors are hereby required to return all and every the said Oaths or Affirmations to the next *November* County Court, to be held for the County where the said Inspection-House shall be.

*And be it further Enacted by the Authority, Advice, and Consent aforesaid,* That the Inspectors of the several and respective Warehouses within this Province shall, and they are hereby required, to receive the said

Preamble.

No old Tobacco to be exported after May 21, 1750, unless brought to an Inspection-House.

Inspectors required to receive such Tobacco.