

An ACT for Establishing the Rate of *Spanish Dollars*, and *the Interest* of Money within this Province.

*Be it enacted by his Excellency the Governour, Councill, and Assembly, and by the Authority of the same it is hereby enacted, That from and after the first Day of January, which shall be in the Year of our Lord One Thousand seven Hundred and Fifty nine, all Spanish Dollars, (that is to say) Sevill, Pillar, and Mexico Pieces of Eight, Weighing seventeen Penny half Penny Weight, shall be a Tender at Five Shillings, in payment of all Debts and Contracts that have been, or shall, after the said first Day of January, be made within this Province, where there shall be no special Agreement to the contrary.*

*And be it further enacted, That in any Debt or Contracts, whereon Interest arises, and may, by Law, be demanded and recovered, No greater Sum than Six Pounds by the Hundred for the Year, and so in proportion for a less Sum, shall be allowed in any Court of Law or Equity; and all Contracts, Mortgages, Bonds, and Securities, for any higher Interest, shall be Null and Void.*

*Provided That nothing in this Act, shall extend to Maritime Contracts among Merchants, as Bottomry or Course of Exchange.*