



*An Act to prevent the distilling Grain in this Province.*

**W** *H E R E A S* it has been found by Experience, that the drawing, distilling, and making Brandies and Spirits from Malt, Corn and Grain, in many Parts of His Majesty's Dominions, has been often the Occasion of great Scarcity of Corn, and enhancing the Price thereof; which has proved a great Grievance to His Majesty's Subjects: In order to prevent the Introduction of such evil Practices into this Province,

*Be it therefore enacted by His Excellency the Governor, Council, and Assembly, and by the Authority of the same it is hereby enacted,* That from and after the first Day of February, which shall be in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty, no Person or Persons whatsoever shall, directly or indirectly, draw, distill, or make, or cause or procure to be drawn, distilled or made, within this Province, any Brandies, Spirits, or Low-wines whatsoever, from Malt, Corn, or Grain, or from any Wash or Liquors produced from any Malt, Corn, or Grain whatsoever.

*And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid,* That if any Person or Persons within this Province, after the Time before mentioned, shall presume to draw, distill, or make any Brandies, Spirits, or Low-wines, from Malt, Corn, or Grain, or from the Wash or Liquors produced therefrom, they shall forfeit and pay the Sum of *Fifty Pounds*; and all the Spirits so distilled, and also the Stills, Backs, Casks, and other Utensils employed in distilling the same, shall be forfeited: One Moiety of which Fines and Forfeitures shall be applied to the Use of the Poor of the Town where the Offence shall be committed, the other to him or them who shall discover, inform, or sue for the same; and the said Penalties and Forfeitures shall be recovered by Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record in this Province.

*And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall be deemed and taken as a Public Act, and all Officers, as well His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, Grand-Jurors, Constables, and all other His Majesty's liege Subjects in this Province, are hereby authorized to see that this Act be duly observed, and to present and inform of all Breaches of the same.

*And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall be and continue in Force for *Ten Years*, and from thence to the End of the then next Sessions of of the General Assembly of this Province.

