

At the General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on Wednesday the first day of July, 1761, and in the first year of His Majesty's Reign.

1 George III – [Chapter 12]

An Act for prohibiting the Exportation of Raw-Hides, Sheep or Calf-Skins, out of this Province, other than for Great-Britain; and to prevent the Cutting, Splitting or Flawing of Hides.

Whereas the exportation of raw hides, sheep and calf skins out of this Province, except to Great-Britain, has been found to be a great prejudice to the same.

Be it therefore enacted by the Honourable the Commander in Chief, Council, and Assembly, that from and after the tenth day of August 1761, no person or persons shall load on board any ship or vessel for exportation, any raw-hides of any ox, bull, steer or cow, or any sheep or calf-skin, before the master of such ship or vessel, shall have given bond to the proper officer at Halifax, or at any other port within the Province to such person as shall be appointed for that purpose, in the value of one hundred pounds currency, with sufficient security that the same shall be by the said ship or vessel carried to Great-Britain and to no other place, and be there landed and put on shore (the danger, of the seas only excepted) and shall within twelve months, return a certificate that the same have been so landed: And if any person shall presume to lade on board any ship or vessel any raw-hides or skins as aforesaid, before bond be given as aforesaid, he shall forfeit the same, and the mailer of the vessel shall forfeit the value of such raw hides as shall be found on board such vessel, and if any ship or vessel shall carry out of his Province such hides or skins as aforesaid, before bond be given as aforesaid, or any seizure made, every master of such ship or vessel shall forfeit and pay double the value of the same, and the shipper treble the value of the hides or skins so shipped.

Provided that information, suit, or prosecution on the same be had or made within the term or space of twelve months, next after the offence committed.

Provided also, that when the current price of raw-hides, such as of ox, bull, steer, or cow, shall be under three-half-pence per pound, the same may be exported to any of His Majesty's plantations.

And be it also enacted, that if any butcher or other person whatsoever shall by himself or any other person employed by or under him or them, gash, cut, split, or flaw, the hide of any ox, bull, steer, cow, sheep, or calf, in fleaing thereof or otherwise, whereby the same shall be impaired or damaged, and offer the same to sale, such butcher or other person so offending shall forfeit and pay the sum of twenty shillings, for each and every such offence committed by them, or any other person employed by or under him or them.

And be it further enacted, that the several fines and forfeitures incurred by this Act, shall be recovered on the oath of one credible witness in manner following, that is to say, that for exporting raw-hides, calf or sheep skins, contrary to the tenor of this Act, by bill, plaint, or information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record in this Province, one half thereof to be paid to the treasurer of the Province for the use of His Majesty's Government in said Province, the other half to him or them that shall inform and sue for the same; and the penalty for cutting, splitting, or flawing hides, to be recovered before any one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, to be levied by War-rant of Distress and sale of the offenders goods and chattels, under the hand and seal of the Justice before whom the conviction of the said offence is made, and for want of distress to suffer twenty days imprisonment, and that one half of said penalty be paid to the informer or person suing for the same, and the other half to the poor of the place where the offence shall be committed.