

## CHAPTER 2.

AN ACT TO ENABLE JOHN PAYNE OF BOSTON, GENTLEMAN, TO ATTEST CERTAIN RECORDS IN THE PROBATE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK.

Preamble.

WHEREAS the records in the probate office of the county of Suffolk, from the seventeenth day of February, one thousand seven hundred and forty-three, until[1] the first day of February, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-four, have not been attested by the register of probates for said county; and *whereas* John Payne of Boston, gentleman, for and during the whole term aforesaid, has acted as a clerk in said office, and all original papers registered in the books of said office have, by the said Payne, been compared with the registry or records, before such papers were delivered out of said office,—

*Be it therefore enacted by the Governour, Council and House of Represent[at]ives,*

John Payne,  
gentleman, em-  
powered to at-  
test records.

That the aforesaid John Payne be, and he hereby is, fully authorized and impowered to attest the books of records of the said probate office, from the seventeenth day of February, one thousand seven hundred and forty-three, until[1] the first day of February, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-four, having been first sworn to the faithful performance of his trust; and all records in said office during the term aforesaid, so attested, shall be, and are hereby declared, to all intents and purposes as valid and effectual as if such attestation had been made by the register of probate for said county, duly appointed by the governour with the advice and consent of the council. [*Passed June 11; \* published June 20.*]

## CHAPTER 3.

AN ACT FOR GRANTING UNTO HIS MAJESTY AN EXCISE UPON SUNDRY ARTICLES HEREAFTER ENUMERATED, FOR AND TOWARDS THE SUPPORT OF HIS MAJ[ES]TY'S GOVERNMENT OF THIS PROVINCE.

Preamble.

WE, your majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the represent[at]ives of the province of the Massachusetts Bay, in general court assembled, have cheerfully and unanimously granted and do hereby give and grant unto his most excellent majesty, to be applied to the support of his maj[es]ty's governm[en]t of this province, according to such acts, votes or orders of the general court as shall hereafter be made for that purpose, an excise upon the several articles hereafter named; and,—

*Be it accordingly enacted by the Governour, Council and House of Represent[at]ives,*

[SECT. 1.] That there shall be paid for all tea, coffee, and East-India ware, called china-ware, the sundry duties following; viz<sup>(1)</sup>.—

For every pound of tea, fourpence.

For every pound of coffee, one penny.

For all East-India ware, called china-ware, five per cent *ad valorem* at the retail price.

*And be it further enacted,*

[SECT. 2.] That from and after the first day of July next, and until the first day of July w[hi]ch will be in the year of our Lord one

No person to  
sell tea, coffee,

\* June 10, according to the record.