

And be it further enacted,

Underofficers
to be appointed.

[SECT. 4.] That for the better preventing of frauds and for securing of the duties of impost, &c., there be such and so many officers appointed by warrant from his excellency the governour as the commissioners shall think needful to assist therein, who shall be under oath for the faithful discharge of the trust committed to them; and the commissioners may procure boats or vessels, and when need shall be hire men to go in them, and make reasonable satisfaction to such as they shall employ for their service.

Penalty for tak-
ing of bribes;

[SECT. 5.] And if any officer employed in and about the impost, tunnage of shipping or excise, shall be convicted of taking or receiving any bribe, fee or reward, directly or indirectly to connive at, conceal or not seize any wines, liquors, goods, boats or vessels seizable by law, every such officer shall forfeit fifty pounds, or six months imprisonment, and be rendred incapable of serving her majesty in any office.

—for giving of
bribes.

[SECT. 6.] And if any person or persons shall be convicted of giving any fee or reward to any officer or officers employed in and about the impost and excise, to withdraw them from their duty, in conniving at any transgression or breach of the law, such person or persons so offending shall be liable to the like pains and penalties as aforesaid; all which penalties and forfeitures shall be recovered and disposed of in manner as the law directs, referring to other forfeitures for breach of the acts of impost and excise. *Provided,*

[SECT. 7.] This act shall continue in force during the continuance of the said duties of impost, tunnage of shipping and excise, and no longer. [*Passed March 27; published March 29, 1703.*]

CHAPTER 2.

AN ACT AGAINST THE DIMINISHING AND COUNTERFEITING OF MONEY.

Be it enacted and declared by His Excellency the Governour, Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,

Counterfeiting
or diminishing
of her majesty's
coins.

[SECT. 1.] That every person duely convicted of counterfeiting or impairing, diminishing or debasing any of her majesty's coines, by washing, clipping, rounding, filing or sealing of the same, shall be proceeded against as a felon, and suffer the paines of death.

Counterfeiting
or diminishing
of the current
money of the
province.

[SECT. 2.] And that every person duely convicted of counterfeiting, or impairing, diminishing or debasing any of the money, established to be current money within this province according to the act for ascertaining the value of coines current within this province, by washing, clipping, rounding, filing or sealing of the same, shall be set in the pillory by the space of one whole hour, and have one of his ears nailed thereto, and also be publickly whipt upon the naked body, with so many stripes as the court before whom the conviction shall be shall order, not exceeding forty, and pay all charges of prosecution.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,

Clippings, fil-
ings, &c.

[SECT. 3.] That every person duely convicted of buying or receiving any clippings, sealings or filings of money, shall forfeit and pay a fine of twenty pounds, one moiety thereof unto her majesty, for and towards the support of the government within this province, and the other moiety to him or them that shall inform and sue for the same; and also be imprisoned by the space of three months. [*Passed March 27; published March 29, 1703.*]