

break free, and then take out the hemp, untie the bundles and spread them on the ground to dry. Afterwards bind them up in handfuls again and rear them up opposite to each other on their roots, as you do corn sheaves in the field, and let them dry thoroughly in order to make the stalks brittle and fit for the brake as follows.

The brake is a machine of wood easily made, which compare to a man's hands, when his fingers are intermixt with each other at the tops, between which we may suppose the handful of hemp to be broken from one end to the other, after which you are to swingle them with a plain piece of wood like the blade of a back sword which you take in one hand, and taking the hemp from the brake in the other, and laying it over something like the back of a chair, strike it with the piece of wood you have in the right hand till the broken stalks fly off; yet as some will still remain, you must pick them out and make them as clean as you can, or rather every hemp planter ought to be furnished with a hatchet to take out the dirt and short stalks remaining after the swinging, for without this the hemp will not be fit to send to a foreign market for sale, because it will cost the purchaser from twelve to twenty pounds to clear and make fit for use every hundred pounds worth he buys, and therefore he will either not purchase it at all, or give for it little more than two-thirds of what is given for clean hemp.

Some planters have too commonly a custom to dew-rot the stalks, which discolours and takes away the beauty of the hemp. It is plain and obvious to every one that, by this method, before the stalk is rotten, the only thing intended the hemp itself is rotten, and every way spoiled, which you may be convinced of by examining the outer and inner barks of any Tree that lies on the ground and is exposed to the dews and air.

For the Benefit of HEMP-PLANTERS.

It may be necessary to advise them not to keep their hemp long on hand, but to send it to market as soon as possible: For the Sun's heat is very hurtful both to its weight, strength and quality. Being kept in the air extracts the oily substance, wherein its strength consists; and by not bringing it to market before summer, it will weigh at least fifteen pounds in every hundred less than the hemp would have done in the winter.

Heads of an ACT passed this Sessions for granting certain Duties in the British Colonies and Plantations in America, &c. and for improving and securing the Trade between the same and Great Britain.

WHEREAS it is just and necessary, that a revenue be raised in America, for defraying the expences of defending and protecting, and securing the same:

From and after 29 Sept. 1764, the following rates and duties shall take place on the several species of foreign goods, here enumerated, imported, into any of his majesty's plantations in America; viz.

On foreign white or clayed sugars, 1 l. 2 s. per C wt. [instead of 5 s.]

Indigo 6d per lb. [instead of 2d.]

Coffee 2 l. 19 s. 9 d. per C wt.

Madeira wine, 7 l. per ton.

Portugal and Spanish wines, 10 s. per ton.

Wrought filks, Bengals, and stuffs, mixt with filks or herba, 2 s. per lb.

Calicoes 2s. 6d. per piece.

Cambricks 3s. per piece.

French lawns, 3 s. per piece.

Coffee and Pimento, of the growth of the British colonies, imported from thence to other places, except Great-Britain, Coffee 7 s. per C wt. Pimento (Jamaica pepper) 2d. per lb.

The Act 6 Geo. II. (for the better securing and encouraging the trade of his Majesty's sugar colonies in America) shall continue in force till the 30th of Sept. 1764; after which it shall be perpetual, subject to the alterations following:

Foreign melasses and syrups imported into the British colonies, shall pay 3d. per gallon [instead of 6 d. as heretofore; which was seldom or never paid; but much of those commodities daily smuggled.]

N E W B E R N, July 13.

The 1st of this Instant, being the Day on which the Election of a Mayor for the Borough of Newbern is annually held; the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Common Council, met at the Court-house in Newbern, to proceed to the said Election; when THOMAS HASLIN, Esq; was unanimously chosen MAYOR for the said Borough for the ensuing Year; who, after having taken the Oaths of Government, and those appointed for his Qualification, was placed in the Chair by SAMUEL CORNELL, Esq; the late Mayor, who resigned his Mayoralty. An elegant Dinner was provided by the Mayor, for the CORPORATION, where all the Gentlemen in Town were invited.

Yesterday arrived here, Capt. Bolton, from Philadelphia, with European Goods, and a Quantity of Rum. By him we have the late Act of Parliament for regulating the American Trade, and laying additional Duties on it; which will be inserted in our next.

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