Anno vicesimo nono

Georgii II. Regis.

An Act for granting to His Majesty several Rates and Duties payable by all Persons, and Bodies Politick or Corporate, having certain Quantities of Silver Plate.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WHEREAS by an Act made in this Session of Parliament, intituled, An Act for granting to His Majesty the Sum of Two Millions, to be raised by Way of Annuities and a Lottery, and charged on the Sinking Fund, redeemable by Parliament; and for extending to *Ireland* the Laws made in this Kingdom, against private and unlawful Lotteries; the Interest of Fifteen hundred thousand Pounds, Part of the Sum of Two Millions, advanced on the Credit of the said Act, after the Rate

Preamble, reciting an Act of this present Session.

of Three Pounds Ten Shillings per Centum per Annum, and the Interest of Five hundred thousand Pounds, Residue of the said Sum of Two Millions, after the Rate of Three Pounds per Centum per Annum, are charged upon the Fund commonly called The Sinking Fund: We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled, towards making good the said Interest of the said Sum of Two Millions charged on the said Fund, have resolved to give and grant unto Your Majesty the respective annual Rates and Duties herein after-mentioned, for and upon all Silver Plate in Great Britain, and do therefore most humbly beseech Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and fifty six, there shall be raised, levied, collected, and paid, to and for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, for and upon all Silver Plate in Great Britain, the respective annual Rates and Duties herein after expressed; that is to say,

Annual Duties payable on Silver Plate; *viz.*

For every 100 Ounces, 5*s.* For and upon One hundred Ounces Troy Weight, and any greater Quantity of Silver Plate, not amounting to Two hundred Ounces, the Sum of Five Shillings.

For 200, 10*s.* And for and upon Two hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Three hundred Ounces, the Sum of Ten Shillings.

For 300, 15*s.* And for and upon Three hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Four hundred Ounces, the Sum of Fifteen Shillings.

For 400, 20*s.* And for and upon Four hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Five hundred Ounces, the Sum of Twenty Shillings.

For 500, 1*l.* 5*s.* And for and upon Five hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Six hundred Ounces, the Sum of One Pound Five Shillings.

For 600, 1*l.* 10*s.* And for and upon Six hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Seven hundred Ounces, the Sum of One Pound Ten Shillings.

For 700, 1*l.* 15*s.* And for and upon Seven hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Eight hundred Ounces, the Sum of One Pound Fifteen Shillings.

And

And for and upon Eight hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Nine hundred Ounces, the Sum of Two Pounds. For 800 Ounces, 2 l.

And for and upon Nine hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to One thouſand Ounces, the Sum of Two Pounds Five Shillings. For 900, 2 l. 5 s.

And for and upon One thouſand Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to One thouſand One hundred Ounces, the Sum of Two Pounds Ten Shillings. For 1,000, 2 l. 10 s.

And for and upon One thouſand One hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to One thouſand two hundred Ounces, the Sum of Two Pounds Fifteen Shillings. For 1,100, 2 l. 15 s.

And for and upon One thouſand two hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to One thouſand three hundred Ounces, the Sum of Three Pounds. For 1,200, 3 l.

And for and upon One thouſand three hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to One thouſand four hundred Ounces, the Sum of Three Pounds Five Shillings. For 1,300, 3 l. 5 s.

And for and upon One thouſand four hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to One thouſand five hundred Ounces, the Sum of Three Pounds Ten Shillings. For 1,400, 3 l. 10 s.

And for and upon One thouſand five hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to One thouſand ſix hundred Ounces, the Sum of Three Pounds Fifteen Shillings. For 1,500, 3 l. 15 s.

And for and upon One thouſand ſix hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to One thouſand ſeven hundred Ounces, the Sum of Four Pounds. For 1,600, 4 l.

And for and upon One thouſand ſeven hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to One thouſand eight hundred Ounces, the Sum of Four Pounds Five Shillings. For 1,700, 4 l. 5 s.

And for and upon One thouſand eight hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to One thouſand nine hundred Ounces, the Sum of Four Pounds Ten Shillings. For 1,800, 4 l. 10 s.

And for and upon One thouſand nine hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Two thouſand Ounces, the Sum of Four Pounds Fifteen Shillings. For 1,900, 4 l. 15 s.

And for and upon Two thouſand Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Two thouſand one hundred Ounces, the Sum of Five Pounds. For 2,000, 5 l.

For 2,100 Ounces, 5 *l.* 5 *s.* And for and upon Two thousand one hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Two thousand two hundred Ounces, the Sum of Five Pounds Five Shillings.

For 2,200, 5 *l.* 10 *s.* And for and upon Two thousand two hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Two thousand three hundred Ounces, the Sum of Five Pounds Ten Shillings.

For 2,300, 5 *l.* 15 *s.* And for and upon Two thousand three hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Two thousand four hundred Ounces, the Sum of Five Pounds Fifteen Shillings.

For 2,400, 6 *l.* And for and upon Two thousand four hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Two thousand five hundred Ounces, the Sum of Six Pounds.

For 2,500, 6 *l.* 5 *s.* And for and upon Two thousand five hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Two thousand six hundred Ounces, the Sum of Six Pounds Five Shillings.

For 2,600, 6 *l.* 10 *s.* And for and upon Two thousand six hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Two thousand seven hundred Ounces, the Sum of Six Pounds Ten Shillings.

For 2,700, 6 *l.* 15 *s.* And for and upon Two thousand seven hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Two thousand eight hundred Ounces, the Sum of Six Pounds Fifteen Shillings.

For 2,800, 7 *l.* And for and upon Two thousand eight hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Two thousand nine hundred Ounces, the Sum of Seven Pounds.

For 2,900, 7 *l.* 5 *s.* And for and upon Two thousand nine hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Three thousand Ounces, the Sum of Seven Pounds Five Shillings.

For 3,000, 7 *l.* 10 *s.* And for and upon Three thousand Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Three thousand one hundred Ounces, the Sum of Seven Pounds Ten Shillings.

For 3,100, 7 *l.* 15 *s.* And for and upon Three thousand one hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Three thousand two hundred Ounces, the Sum of Seven Pounds Fifteen Shillings.

For 3,200, 8 *l.* And for and upon Three thousand two hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Three thousand three hundred Ounces, the Sum of Eight Pounds.

And for and upon Three thousand three hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Three thousand four hundred Ounces, the Sum of Eight Pounds Five Shillings. For 3,300 Ounces, 8 *l.* 5 *s.*

And for and upon Three thousand four hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Three thousand five hundred Ounces, the Sum of Eight Pounds Ten Shillings. For 3,400, 8 *l.* 10 *s.*

And for and upon Three thousand five hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Three thousand six hundred Ounces, the Sum of Eight Pounds Fifteen Shillings. For 3,500, 8 *l.* 15 *s.*

And for and upon Three thousand six hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Three thousand seven hundred Ounces, the Sum of Nine Pounds. For 3,600, 9 *l.*

And for and upon Three thousand seven hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Three thousand eight hundred Ounces, the Sum of Nine Pounds Five Shillings. For 3,700, 9 *l.* 5 *s.*

And for and upon Three thousand eight hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Three thousand nine hundred Ounces, the Sum of Nine Pounds Ten Shillings. For 3,800, 9 *l.* 10 *s.*

And for and upon Three thousand nine hundred Ounces, and any greater Quantity not amounting to Four thousand Ounces, the Sum of Nine Pounds Fifteen Shillings. For 3,900, 9 *l.* 15 *s.*

And for and upon Four thousand Ounces, and upwards, the Sum of Ten Pounds. For 4,000, and upwards, 10 *l.*

Which several Rates and Duties shall be paid yearly and every Year, by all Persons and Bodies Politick or Corporate, who on the said Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and fifty six, or afterwards, shall own, use, have, or keep, any Quantity of Silver Plate chargeable by this Act. The Duties payable yearly;

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That such of the said Rates and Duties by this Act granted, as are or shall be so chargeable for and upon Silver Plate in England, Wales, or the Town of Berwick upon Tweed, shall be under the Management of the Commissioners of Excise in England, for the time being; and such of the said Rates and Duties by this Act granted as are or shall be so chargeable for and upon Silver Plate in Scotland, shall be under the Management of the Commissioners of Excise in Scotland, for the time being; which and such of them as are chargeable in *England*, to be under the Management of the Commissioners of Excise in *England*; and those in *Scotland*, under like Commissioners there.

and Officers to be appointed for collecting the Duties,

which are to be paid into the Exchequer,

which Commissioners of Excise in England and Scotland respectively, are hereby impowered to appoint proper Officers for collecting and receiving the said Rates and Duties; and all Monies arising by the said Rates and Duties (the necessary Charges of raising and accounting for the same excepted) shall, from time to time, be paid into the Receipt of His Majesty's Exchequer at Westminster, distinctly and apart from all other Branches of the publick Revenues, and shall for the Purpose aforesaid,

and be made Part of *The Sinking Fund.*

be carried into, and made Part of, the Fund commonly called The Sinking Fund.

Persons liable to the Duties, within the Jurisdiction of the Chief Office of Excise in *London*, to give Notice, and make Entry there, of the Plate for which they are chargeable;

And it is hereby enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Persons, and Bodies Politick or Corporate, who on the said Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and fifty six, shall own, use, have, or keep, any Quantity of Silver Plate, chargeable by this Act in London, Westminster, or in any other Parts within the Limits or Jurisdiction of the Chief Office of Excise in London, shall, within Thirty Days after the said Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and fifty six, give Notice and make true Entry in Writing, at the said Chief Office of Excise, of their owning, using, having, or keeping, such Silver Plate, and of the Number of Ounces of such Plate, chargeable by this Act, wheresoever the same, or any Part thereof, shall be kept, and of the Parish or Place, or Parishes or Places where such Persons shall respectively inhabit, or where such Bodies Politick or Corporate shall respectively be situate, distinguishing in such Notice whether the same be given on their own Account, or on the Account of any other, and what Person or Persons, or Body or Bodies Politick or Corporate; and all Persons and Bodies Politick or Corporate, who after the said Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and fifty six, shall own, use, have, or keep, any Quantity of Silver Plate, chargeable by this Act in London, Westminster, or in any Parts within the Limits or Jurisdiction of the Chief Office of Excise in London, shall, within Twenty Days next after such Persons, or Bodies Politick or Corporate, respectively, shall begin to own, use, have, or keep, any Quantity of Silver Plate, chargeable by this Act, give the like Notice, and make the like Entry at the said Chief

and Persons in other Parts to give like Notice,

Office of Excise; and all Persons and Bodies Politick or Corporate, who on the said Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and fifty six, shall own, use, have, or keep, any Quantity of Silver Plate, chargeable by

this

this Act, in any other Part of Great Britain, shall, within Forty Days, after the said Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and fifty six, give the like Notice, and make the like Entry at the Office of Excise, next to the Place where such Persons shall respectively inhabit, or where such Bodies Politick or Corporate shall respectively be situate; and all Persons and Bodies Politick or Corporate, who after the said Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and fifty six, shall own, use, have, or keep, any Quantity of Silver Plate, chargeable by this Act, in any other Part of Great Britain, shall, within Twenty Days, next after such Persons, or Bodies Politick or Corporate, shall respectively begin to own, use, have, or keep, any Quantity of Silver Plate, chargeable by this Act, give the like Notice, and make the like Entry at the Office of Excise, next to the Place where such Persons shall respectively inhabit, or where such Bodies Politick or Corporate shall respectively be situate; and all Persons, or Bodies Politick or Corporate respectively, shall, at the Time of giving such Notice, and making such Entry, pay down the respective Annual Rates and Duties, chargeable by this Act; and the respective Rates and Duties so to be paid by all such Persons, and Bodies Politick or Corporate, who on the said Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and fifty six, shall own, use, have, or keep, any Quantity of Silver Plate chargeable by this Act, shall annually be computed and deemed payable, from the said Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and fifty six; and the respective Rates and Duties so to be paid by all Persons, and Bodies Politick or Corporate, who after the said Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and fifty six, shall own, use, have, or keep, any Quantity of Silver Plate, chargeable by this Act, shall annually be computed and deemed payable, from the Time of their first beginning to own, use, have, or keep such Silver Plate.

and make like Entry, at the next Office of Excise;

and make Payment at the same Time of the Duties.

Respective Times of computing the Duties.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Persons, and Bodies Politick or Corporate, who shall give, or be obliged to give, such Notice as aforesaid, shall, within Thirty Days next after the Commencement of each Year, for which the said Rates and Duties shall be payable, give a fresh Notice in Manner aforesaid, and pay down the respective annual Rates and Duties above-mentioned, according to the Number of Ounces of Silver Plate chargeable by this Act, which they shall then respectively own, use, have,

Fresh Notice to be given and Duties to be paid annually.

or keep, and shall in the same Manner renew such Notice, and make such Payment from Year to Year, as long as they shall respectively continue to own, use, have, or keep, any Quantity of Silver Plate, chargeable by this Act; and if any Person, or Body Politick or Corporate, so owning, using, having, or keeping, any Silver Plate, chargeable by this Act, shall refuse or neglect to give such First Notice, and make such Entry and Payment, as aforesaid, or to renew such Notice, and make such Entry and Payment yearly and every Year, in Manner aforesaid, or shall with Intent to defraud His Majesty of any the Rates and Duties granted by this Act, conceal, or cause or procure to be concealed, any Silver Plate, which he or she, or such Body Politick or Corporate, shall own, use, have, or keep, then and in every such Case, every such Person, or Body Politick or Corporate, acting contrary to the respective Directions of this Act, shall, for every such Offence respectively, forfeit and lose the Sum of Twenty Pounds.

20l. Penalty on not giving regular Notice, and renewing the same, and not making just and regular Payments.

Provided always, That nothing in this Act contained, shall extend to oblige any Person, or Body Politick or Corporate, to give any such fresh Notice, and make any such new Entry or Payment, between the Commencement and Expiration of the Year, for which any such Rates or Duties shall have been paid; although such Person, or Body Politick or Corporate, may have acquired in the mean Time, the Property, Use, Possession, or Custody, of any additional Quantity of Silver Plate; any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

Fresh Notice and Entry not necessary for any new Acquisition of Plate within the Year.

Provided always, and be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in every Case where the Duty or Duties required by this Act to be paid, by any Person or Body Politick or Corporate, chargeable with the same, shall be paid, and Notice given, and Entry made as aforesaid, before any Information laid for not having given such Notice, and made such Entry and Payment, or Prosecution begun for the same, no Person or Body Politick or Corporate, having given such Notice, and made such Entry and Payment, although not strictly within the Time prescribed by this Act, shall be afterwards prosecuted for not having given such Notice, and made such Entry and Payment, within the Time limited as aforesaid; any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

Persons making Entry, and paying the Duties, before Information given, &c.

not liable to Prosecution.

Provided

Provided always, and it is hereby enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That nothing herein contained shall extend to charge with the Duties payable by virtue of this Act, any Persons or Bodies Politick or Corporate, who on the said Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and fifty six, or at any Time afterwards, shall keep and not use any Silver Plate, which hath been, or shall be pledged to, or deposited with them respectively, by any other Person or Persons, or Body or Bodies Politick or Corporate.

Persons receiving Plate in Pledge, without using the same, not liable to Duties;

Provided nevertheless, That the true Owner or Owners of such Plate so pledged or deposited, shall, during all such Time as such Plate shall be so kept, and not used by the Person or Persons, or Body or Bodies Politick or Corporate, to whom such Plate shall be so pledged, or with whom the same shall be so deposited, be liable to pay the Rates and Duties chargeable by this Act, in respect of such Plate, and to give such Notice, and make such Entry and Payment as aforesaid.

Owners to enter, and pay Duty for such pledged Plate.

Provided also, and it is hereby enacted, That this Act shall not extend to charge with any of the respective Rates and Duties granted by this Act, any Silver Plate which shall belong to any Place of Religious Worship, and which is, or shall be used therein only, nor the Stock in Trade of any Goldsmith, Silversmith, Manufacturer, Seller of, or Dealer in Silver Plate.

Church Plate, and Stock in Trade, not liable to Duties.

Provided nevertheless, That every such Goldsmith, Silversmith, Manufacturer, Seller of, or Dealer in Silver Plate, shall give such First Notice, and make such Entry and Payment, as aforesaid, and from time to time renew such Notice, and make such Entry and Payment yearly and every Year, in Manner herein before directed, for and in respect of all such Silver Plate, as shall be used by him, or in his Family, on Pain to forfeit for every Neglect, or Refusal to give any such Notice, and make such Entry or Payment, as aforesaid, the Sum of Twenty Pounds.

Dealers to enter, and pay for Plate in use.

Provided also, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person having given due Notice, and made due Entry and Payment of the Duty, for any Quantity of Silver Plate, chargeable by this Act, according to the true Intent and Meaning thereof, shall die before the End of the Year for which such Payment shall be made, in every such Case, it shall and may be lawful for the Person or Persons, Body or Bodies Politick or Corporate, in whom the Property of such

Persons who have made Entry and Payment dying within the Year,

their Successors not liable to pay for the Residue of the Year.

Silver Plate shall immediately be vested upon such Death, to use, have, and keep, such Silver Plate, for or in respect whereof such Duty shall have been paid as aforesaid, during the Residue of the Year for which such Payment shall have been made, in like Manner as such deceased Person might have done if living.

Upon Payment of the Duties, Entry to be made by the Officer, of the Persons and Quantity of Plate chargeable.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That upon the Payment of the said respective Rates and Duties so hereby granted at the said respective Offices of Excise, the Names, Stiles, and Titles of the respective Persons, Bodies Politick or Corporate, by whom or on whose Account the same shall be so paid, and the Number of Ounces of Silver Plate chargeable by virtue of this Act on such Persons, or Bodies Politick or Corporate respectively, and the Names of the Parish or Place, or Parishes or Places, where such Person shall respectively inhabit, or such Bodies Politick or Corporate shall respectively be situate, shall be entered in a Register to be kept at the said respective Offices of Excise for that Purpose, by the Person so receiving the same; and a Receipt (of which an indented Duplicate shall be kept by the Person so receiving the said Money) shall be given to every Person so paying such respective Rates and Duties by the said Person so receiving the same, which Receipt shall contain the Number of the said Register, the Number of the Ounces of Silver Plate so respectively paid for, the Sum so paid, and the Time for which such Sum shall have been so paid, and be a Discharge to the respective Persons, Bodies Politick or Corporate, who shall so own, use, have, or keep such Silver Plate, for the Rates and Duties payable for such Number of Ounces of Silver Plate, wheresoever the same shall be respectively used or kept.

Receipt to be given for Duties paid:

Form thereof.

Prosecutions for Recovery of the Duties or Forfeitures, determinable in *Westminster Hall*,

and Court of Exchequer in *Scotland* respectively,

or by the Commissioners of Excise, if within the Jurisdiction of *London*,

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Prosecutions for the Recovery of the Rates and Duties hereby granted, and for Forfeitures and Offences incurred and committed against this Act, or any Clause or Article therein contained, shall and may be heard, adjudged, and determined, either by Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at Westminster, or in the Court of Exchequer in Scotland, if such Forfeiture shall be incurred there; or in such Manner and Form as hereafter is directed; that is to say, All Prosecutions for Forfeitures and Offences incurred and committed within the Limits or Jurisdiction of the Chief Office of Excise in London, shall and may be

be heard, adjudged, and determined by any Three or more of the Commissioners of Excise in England, for the time being; and in case of Appeal from the Judgement of the said Commissioners (and not otherwise) shall be heard, adjudged, and determined by the Commissioners for Appeals, for the time being, or the major Part of them, whose Judgement therein shall be final; and all Prosecutions for Forfeitures and Offences incurred and committed within all or any other the Counties, Shires, Stewartries, Cities, Towns, or Places within the Kingdom of Great Britain, shall and may be heard, adjudged, and determined, by any Two or more of the Justices of the Peace residing near to the Place where such Forfeiture shall be incurred, or Offence committed; and if either the Informers or Defendants shall think themselves aggrieved by the Judgement given by such Justices, it shall and may be lawful for every such Informer or Defendant to appeal to the Justices of the Peace at the next Quarter Sessions to be holden in and for the County, Shire, Stewartry, City, Town, or Place where the Forfeitures shall be incurred, who are hereby authorized and impowered to hear, adjudge, and determine the same, and whose Judgement therein shall be final; and the said Commissioners for Excise, and Commissioners for Appeals (in case of Appeal) and all Justices of the Peace aforesaid respectively, are hereby authorized and required, upon Complaint or Information upon Oath exhibited and brought before them respectively, for any Forfeiture incurred, or Offence committed by any Person or Persons contrary to this Act (which Oath the said Commissioners and Justices of the Peace respectively, are hereby authorized to administer) to summon the Party or Parties accused; and in case of any such Complaint or Information exhibited against any Body Politick or Corporate, to summon the Chief Officer or Officers of such Body Politick or Corporate, and upon the Appearance or Contempt of any such Person so summoned, to proceed to the Examination of the Matter of Fact; and upon due Proof made thereof either by the voluntary Confession of the Person or Persons so summoned, or by the Oath of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses (which Oath they the said Commissioners and Justices respectively, have hereby Power to administer) to give Judgement or Sentence thereupon; and to award and issue out Warrants under their Hands respectively, for the levying of such Forfeitures and

and in case of Appeal from them by the Commissioners of Appeals;

or in other Places by Two or more neighbouring Justices.

Informer or Defendant aggrieved, may appeal to the Quarter Sessions.

Upon Complaint or Information on Oath, the Parties to be summoned and heard by the Commissioners or Justices respectively,

and Judgement to be given thereupon.

Forfeitures to be levied by Distress and Sale.

Penalties as are by this Act imposed, upon the Goods and Chattles of such Person or Persons, or Body or Bodies Politick or Corporate, and to cause Sale to be made of such Goods and Chattles, if they shall not be redeemed within Fourteen Days, rendering to such Person or Persons, Body or Bodies Politick or Corporate, the Overplus (if any be) and for want of sufficient Distress, otherwise than in the Case of a Body Politick or Corporate, to imprison the Party or Parties offending, till Satisfaction be made.

For want of Distress, Offender to be committed.

One Moiety of the Forfeitures to go to the Crown,

the other to the Informer.

And it is hereby further enacted, That all Forfeitures and Penalties which shall be recovered for any Offences committed against this Act (all necessary Charges for the Recovery thereof being first deducted) shall be distributed One Moiety thereof to and for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, and the other Moiety thereof to him, her, or them, who shall inform or sue for the same.

Persons sued upon Account of this Act, may plead the General Issue;

and recover Treble Costs.

And it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person or Persons shall be sued, molested, or prosecuted for any Thing done by virtue or in pursuance of this Act, or any the Clauses herein contained, such Person or Persons shall and may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the Special Matter in Evidence, for his, her, or their Defence; and if afterwards on a Trial, a Verdict shall pass for the Defendant or Defendants, or the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall discontinue his, her, or their Action or Actions, or be Nonsuited, or Judgement shall be given against him, her, or them upon Demurrer, or otherwise, then such Defendant or Defendants shall have Treble Costs to him, her, or them, awarded against such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs.

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FINIS.