ANNO DECIMO TERTIO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. LVI.

An Act for the more effectually reſtraining the retailing of diſtilled Spirituous Liquors; and for preventing the forging or counterfeiting any Stamp or Seal uſed for marking Silks, Callicoes, Linens, and Stuffs, to be printed, painted, ſtained, or dyed, in *Great Britain*.

WHEREAS the Laws heretofore made to prevent the immoderate drinking of Spirituous Liquors, have, by reaſon of the Smallneſs of the Penalties by thoſe Acts impoſed, been rendered in a great Meaſure ineffectual, and ill-diſpoſed Perſons are thereby encouraged to retail ſuch Liquors, without being firſt authoriſed and licenſed thereto, whereby His Majeſty is not only defrauded of his Duties, but Victuallers and others, who duly take out and pay for ſuch Licences, are greatly injured: For Remedy whereof, be it enacted by the King's moſt Ex- Preamble.

cellent 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 if at any Time from and after the Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-three, any Person or Persons shall presume by him, her, or themselves, or by any other Person or Persons whatsoever employed by him, her, or them, or for his, her, or their Benefit, to retail any distilled Spirituous Liquors, or Strong Waters, without first taking out a Licence for that Purpose, in Manner as by the several Statutes in that Case made and provided, and now in Force is prescribed and directed, be, he, or they, so offending, shall respectively forfeit and lose the Sum of Fifty Pounds for each Offence.

After *July* 5, 1773, if any Person shall retail Spirituous Liquors, Strong Waters, *&c.* without a Licence,

they shall forfeit, for every Offence, 50*l.*

Provided always, That such Offender who shall be prosecuted for the Penalty by this Act given, shall not be again prosecuted for the same Offence by any former Act and that such Offender as shall be prosecuted for the Penalty given by any former Act, shall not be prosecuted again for the same Offence, by virtue of this present Act, or any Thing herein contained.

If the Offender shall be once prosecuted for the Penalty, he shall not be again prosecuted for the same Offence.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Penalty by this Act imposed, shall and may be sued for, levied, recovered, and mitigated, by any Law of Excise now in Force, or by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of his Majesty's Courts of Record at Westminster; and that One Moiety of every such Penalty or Forfeiture shall be to his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, and the other Moiety to him, her, or them, as shall sue for the same.

Penalties to be sued, prosecuted, and recovered by any Law of Excise now in force;

One Moiety to go to His Majesty,

and the other to the Person who shall sue for the same.

Provided always, That the said Penalty of Fifty Pounds, by this Act imposed, shall not in any Case, either by the Commissioners of Excise or Justices of the Peace, before whom any Offender against this present Act shall be convicted, be mitigated or reduced below the Sum of Five Pounds.

The Penalty of 50*l.* not to be mitigated below 5*l.*

And whereas by an Act passed in the Tenth Year of the Reign of Her late Majesty Queen Anne, (intituled, An Act for laying several Duties upon all Sope and Paper made

Act 10 *Annæ.*

made in *Great Britain*, or imported into the same; and upon chequered and striped Linens imported; and upon certain Silks, Callicoes, Linens, and Stuffs, printed, painted, or stained; and upon several Kinds of Stamped Vellum, Parchment, and Paper; and upon certain printed Papers, Pamphlets, and Advertisements, for raising the Sum of One Million Eight hundred thousand Pounds, by way of a Lottery, towards Her Majesty's Supply; and for licensing an additional Number of Hackney Chairs; and for charging certain Stocks of Cards and Dice; and for better securing Her Majesty's Duties to arise in the Office for the Stamp Duties by Licences for Marriages and otherwise; and for Relief of Persons who have not claimed their Lottery Tickets in due Time, or have lost Exchequer Bills or Lottery Tickets; and for borrowing Money upon Stock (Part of the Capital of the *South Sea Company*) for the Use of the Publick;) it is, amongst other Things, enacted, That there should be raised, levied, collected and paid, to and for the Use of Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, for and upon all Silks, Callicoes, Linens, and Stuffs, of what Kind soever, which at any Time or Times within or during the Term of Thirty-two Years, to be reckoned from the Twentieth Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and twelve, should be printed, stained, painted, or dyed, in Great Britain, such Callicoes, Linens, and Fustians, as should be dyed throughout of one Colour only, and Stuffs made of Woollen, or whereof the greatest Part in Value should be Woollen, (always excepted), the several and respective Rates and Duties therein expressed: And whereas, by an Act passed in the Third Year of the Reign of his late Majesty King George the First, (intituled, An Act for redeeming the Duties and Revenues which were settled to pay off Principal and Interest on the Orders made forth on Four Lottery Acts, passed in the Ninth and Tenth Years of Her late Majesty's Reign; and for redeeming certain Annuities payable on Orders out of the Hereditary Excise, according to a former Act in that Behalf; and for establishing a general yearly Fund, not only for the future Payment of Annuities at several Rates, to be payable and transferable

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at the Bank of *England*, and redeemable by Parliament, but also to raise Monies for such Proprietors of the said Orders as shall chuse to be paid their Principal and Arrears of Interest in ready Money; and for making good such other Deficiencies and Payments as in this Act are mentioned; and for taking off the Duties on Linseed imported, and *British* Linen exported); the said several Rates and Duties, and the Powers, Authorities, Penalties, and Forfeitures, for securing the same, are made perpetual. And whereas by an Act of Parliament, made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of her late Majesty Queen Anne, (intituled, An Act for laying additional Duties on Sope and Paper, and upon certain Linens, Silks, Callicoes, and Stuffs; and upon Starch and exported Coals; and upon Stamped Vellum, Parchment, and Paper, for raising One million four hundred thousand Pounds, by way of a Lottery, for Her Majesty's Supply; and for Allowances on exporting made Wares of Leather, Sheepskins, and Lambskins; and for Distribution of Four thousand Pounds due to the Officers and Seamen for Gun Money; and to adjust the Property of Tickets in former Lotteries; and touching certain Shares of Stock in the Capital of the *South Sea Company*; and for appropriating the Monies granted to Her Majesty); it is, among other Things, enacted, That there should be raised, levied, collected, and paid unto and for the Use of Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, for and upon all Silks, Callicoes, Linens, and Stuffs, of what Kind soever, which should at any Time or Times within or during the Term of Thirty-two Years, to be reckoned from the Second Day of August, One thousand seven hundred and fourteen, should be printed, stained, painted, or dyed, in Great Britain, (such Callicoes, Linens, and Fustians, as shall be dyed throughout of one Colour only, and Stuffs made of Woollen, or whereof the greatest Part in Value shall be Woollen, always excepted), the several and respective Rates and Duties therein expressed: And whereas, by an Act of Parliament made in the Sixth Year of the Reign of his said late Majesty King George the First, (intituled, An Act for enabling the *South Sea Company*

Act 12 *Annæ.*

Act 6 *Geo.* I.

to increase their present Capital Stock and Fund, by redeeming such publick Debts and Incumbrances as are therein mentioned; and for raising Money to be applied for lessening several of the publick Debts and Incumbrances; and for calling in the present Exchequer Bills remaining uncancelled; and for making forth new Bills in lieu thereof, to be circulated and exchanged, upon Demand, at or near the Exchequer: the said several Rates and Duties, and the Powers, Authorities, Penalties, and Forfeitures, for securing the same, are made perpetual: And whereas, for the better securing the said Rates and Duties, it was by the said Act of the Tenth of Queen Anne enacted, That the Commissioners to be appointed for managing the said Duties should, at a Time therein mentioned, provide proper Seals or Stamps for marking such of the said Silks, Callicoes, Linens, and Stuffs, to be printed, painted, stained, or dyed, in Great Britain, during the Continuance of the said Act; which said Stamps, or any of them, should or might be altered or renewed from Time to Time, as Her Majesty, Her Heirs or Successors, should think fit: And it was thereby further enacted, That if any Person or Persons whatsoever should, at any Time or Times thereafter, counterfeit or forge any Stamp or Seal, to resemble any Stamp or Seal which should be provided or made in pursuance of that Act, or should counterfeit or resemble the Impression of the same upon any of the said Commodities chargeable by that Act, thereby to defraud Her Majesty, Her Heirs or Successors, of any of the Duties thereby granted; then every such Person so offending, being thereof convicted in due Form of Law, should be adjudged a Felon, and should suffer Death as in Cases of Felony, without Benefit of Clergy: And whereas some Doubts have arisen, whether Persons counterfeiting or forging any Stamp or Seal, to resemble any Stamp or Seal renewed or altered by the Commissioners of Excise, in pursuance of the Authority of the said Act of the Twelfth Year of Queen Anne, or counterfeiting or resembling the Impression of such renewed or altered Stamp or Seal, are subject to the Penalties

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nalties and Pains of Death in the said Acts enacted and declared; and evil-minded Persons have thereby been encouraged to counterfeit such renewed and altered Stamps and Seals: Now, for obviating all such Doubts, be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-three, if any Person or Persons whatsoever shall, at any Time or Times hereafter, counterfeit or forge any Stamp or Seal already provided by the said Commissioners, or which shall hereafter be by them provided, renewed, or altered, or shall counterfeit or resemble the Impression of the same, upon any of the said Commodities chargeable by the said Acts, thereby to defraud His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, of any of the said Duties thereby granted; then every such Person so offending, being thereof convicted in due Form of Law, shall be adjudged a Felon, and shall suffer Death, as in Cases of Felony, without Benefit of Clergy.

After *July* 5, 1773, Persons counterfeiting Stamps or Seals, to be punished as Felons, without Benefit of Clergy.

FINIS.