Anno ſecundo

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. XVI.

An Act for the Encouragement of Seamen, and the more ſpeedy and effectual Manning His Majeſty's Navy.

WHEREAS the King of Spain has lately been induced, without any Provocation on His Majeſty's Part, in Effect, to declare War againſt His Majeſty; which has neceſſarily engaged His Majeſty in actual War with the ſaid King of Spain, in Defence of His Subjects, and the Rights and Poſſeſſions of His Crown: And whereas His Majeſty has been pleaſed to notify the ſame by Proclamation, and a public Declaration thereof, on the Second Day of January, in the Year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty two: Now, for the better carrying on the ſaid War with Vigour; and for the Encouragement of the Officers and Seamen of His Majeſty's Ships of War, and the Officers and Seamen of all other Britiſh Ships and Veſſels, having Commiſſions and Letters of Marque, and for inducing all Britiſh Seamen who may be in any Foreign Ser- Preamble.

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vice to return into this Kingdom, and become ſerviceable to His Majeſty; and for the more effectual ſecuring and extending the Trade of His Majeſty's Subjects; 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,

The Officers and Men on Board the King's Ships, are intitled to the ſole Property of ſuch Captures of the Enemy's Veſſels and Effects, during the War with *Spain*, as ſhall be made after 2 *Jan.* 1762, and be adjudged lawful Prize;

That the Flag Officers, Commanders, and other Officers, Seamen, Marines, and Soldiers, on Board every Ship and Veſſel of War in His Majeſty's Pay, ſhall have the ſole Intereſt and Property of and in all and every Ship, Veſſel, Goods, and Merchandizes, which they ſhall take, from and after the Second Day of January, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty two, during the Continuance of this War againſt Spain (being firſt adjudged lawful Prize in any of His Majeſty's Courts of Admiralty in Great Britain, or in His Majeſty's Plantations in America, or elſewhere) to be divided in ſuch Proportions, and after ſuch Manner, as His Majeſty, His Heirs, and Succeſſors, ſhall think fit to order and direct by Proclamation or Proclamations hereafter to be iſſued for thoſe Purpoſes.

to be divided among them as His Majeſty, by Proclamation, ſhall direct.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That any Ship or Ships, Veſſel or Veſſels, Arms, Ammunition, Stores of War, Goods and Merchandizes whatſoever, with all their Furniture, Tackle, or Apparel, taken, or to be taken, during the preſent War with Spain, by or with any private Owner or Owners Ship or Veſſel, according to any Commiſſion or Letter of Marque to be granted as herein after is directed by the Lord High Admiral of Great Britain, or the Commiſſioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain for the time being, or any Three or more of them, or any Perſon or Perſons by him or them impowered and appointed (being firſt adjudged lawful Prize in any of His Majeſty's Courts of Admiralty as aforeſaid) ſhall wholly and entirely belong to, and be divided between and among, the Owner and Owners of ſuch Ship or Veſſel, and the ſeveral Perſons who ſhall be on Board the ſame, and be aiding and aſſiſting to the taking thereof, in ſuch Share and Proportions as ſhall be agreed on with the Owner or Owners of ſuch Ship or Veſſel as ſhall be the Captor thereof, their Agents or Factors, as the proper Goods and Chattles of ſuch Owner or Owners, and the Perſons that ſhall be thus intitled thereto by virtue of ſuch Agreements among themſelves; and that neither His Majeſty, His Heirs, or Succeſſors, or any Admiral, Vice Admiral, Governor, or other Perſon

And all Veſſels, Arms, Ammunition, Stores of War, Goods and Merchandizes, taken by Private Ships duly licenſed,

being firſt adjudged lawful Prize, ſhall belong wholly to the Captors and their Owners;

to be divided as by Agreement among themſelves;

on commiſſioned by, or claiming under, His Majeſty, His Heirs, or Succeſſors, or any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, other than the Owner or Owners of ſuch Ship or Veſſel being the Captain of ſuch Prize Ship or Veſſel, Arms, Ammunition, Stores of War, Goods, and Merchandizes, and the Perſon claiming under him or them, ſhall be intitled to any Part or Share thereof (except as to the Cuſtoms and Duties) any Cuſtom, Statute, or other Law, to the contrary notwithſtanding.

paying only the accuſtomable Duties.

And whereas by an Act made in the Twenty ninth Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King George the Second, intituled, An Act for the Encouragement of Seamen, and the more ſpeedy and effectual Manning His Majeſty's Navy, ſeveral Proviſions and Regulations were eſtabliſhed for the better carrying on the ſalutary Purpoſes by the ſaid Act intended in the Proſecution of the War againſt France: And whereas by another Act made in the Thirty ſecond Year of His ſaid late Majeſty's Reign, intituled, An Act to explain and amend an Act made in the Twenty ninth Year of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, intituled, *An Act for the Encouragement of Seamen, and the more ſpeedy and effectual Manning His Majeſty's Navy*; and for the better preventing of Piracies and Robberies by Crews of Private Ships of War; the ſaid Act made in the Twenty ninth Year of the Reign of His ſaid late Majeſty was explained and amended, and ſeveral further Proviſions and Regulations were eſtabliſhed to continue during the War with France; be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the ſeveral Regulations and Proviſions reſpecting the Grant of Commiſſions or Letters of Marque, the Perſons acting, and the Captures made, under the Authority of ſuch Commiſſions or Letters of Marque, and all other Clauſes, Proviſoes, Matters, and Things, contained in the ſaid Act made in the Twenty ninth Year of the Reign of His ſaid late Majeſty, as the ſame were explained and amended by the ſaid recited Act of the Thirty ſecond Year of His ſaid late Majeſty's Reign; and alſo all Clauſes, Proviſoes, Matters, and Things, contained in the ſaid laſt-mentioned Act of the Thirty ſecond Year of the Reign of His ſaid late Majeſty, ſhall extend, and be conſtrued and deemed to extend, to the Grant of Commiſſions or Letters of Marque to the Perſons acting, and the Captures made, under the Authority of ſuch Commiſſions or Letters of Marque, and all other Matters or Things whatſoever in reſpect of the ſame, during the Continuance of the preſent War with Spain, as fully, amply,

The Proviſions and Regulations in Act 29 *Geo.* II.

as explained and amended by Act 32 *Geo.* II.

reſpecting the granting Commiſſions, or Letters of Marque; the Perſons acting, and Captures made, under Authority thereof;

and alſo the Clauſes and Proviſoes in the laſt mentioned Act;

are extended to the Grant of Commiſſions, or Letters of Marque, &c. under this Act:

amply, and effectually, to all Intents and Purpoſes, as if the ſame Regulations, Proviſions, Clauſes, Proviſoes, Matters, and Things, had been particularly repeated and re-enacted in this Act.

And the Proviſions and Regulations in Act 33 *Geo.* II. reſpecting Prize and Bounty Monies,

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the ſeveral Proviſions and Regulations reſpecting any Prize or Bounty Monies, contained in an Act of the Thirty third Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King George the Second, intituled, An Act for the more effectual ſecuring the Payment of ſuch Prize and Bounty Monies as were appropriated to the Uſe of *Greenwich Hoſpital* by an Act made in the Twenty ninth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for the Encouragement of Seamen, and the more ſpeedy and effectual Manning His Majeſty's Navy*,

are to be in Force during the preſent War with *Spain*,

ſhall be in full Force with regard to any Prizes to be made during the Continuance of the preſent War with Spain, or any Bounty Money to be paid in reſpect of ſuch Prizes.

FINIS.