Anno ſecundo

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. XXVIII.

An Act to prevent the committing of Thefts and Frauds by Perſons navigating Bum Boats, and other Boats, upon the River *Thames*.



WHEREAS many ill-diſpoſed Perſons, uſing and navigating upon the River Thames certain Boats commonly called Bum Boats, and other Veſſels, under Pretence of ſelling Liquors of different Sorts; and alſo Slops, Tobacco, Brooms, Fruit, Greens, Gingerbread, and other ſuch-like Ware and Things, to and amongſt the Seamen and Labourers employed in and about Ships, Veſſels, and other Craft there, do frequently take Occaſion to cut, damage, and ſpoil the Cordage, Cables, Buoys, and Buoy Ropes, and the Headfaſts and other Faſts belonging to ſuch Ships, Veſſels, and Craft, and fraudulently carry away the ſame; likewiſe encourage ſuch Seamen and Labourers to diſpoſe of ſuch Cordage, Cables, and Buoys, and ſuch Goods, Preamble.

Merchandizes, Materials, and Stores, ſecretly and unlawfully, whereby great Loſſes are ſuſtained by Merchants, and Owners of ſuch Ships, Veſſels, and other Craft, in the ſaid River: For Remedy whereof, 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 Twenty fourth Day of June, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty two, if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall uſe, lett out to Hire, lend, or navigate, or ſhall be aiding or aſſiſting in uſing or navigating upon the ſaid River, any Bum Boat, or other Boat, for the Purpoſe of ſelling, bartering, exchanging, or expoſing to Sale, to and amongſt the Seamen and Labourers employed in and about Ships, Veſſels, and other Craft, any Liquors, Slops, Tobacco, Brooms, or any Fruit, Greens, Gingerbread, or other ſuch-like Ware; or ſhall ſell, barter, exchange, or expoſe to Sale as aforeſaid, any Sort of Liquor, or any Slops, Tobacco, Brooms, or any Fruit, Greens, Gingerbread, or other ſuch-like Ware or Things in, from, or out of, any Bum Boat, or other Boat (other than and except ſuch Bum Boats and other Boats and Veſſels, as ſhall be entered in the Office of the Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants of the Guild, Fraternity, or Brotherhood, of the moſt Glorious and Undivided Trinity, and of Saint Clement in the Pariſh of Deptford Strond in the County of Kent, in manner herein after mentioned, and ſhall be uſed and navigated for the Purpoſes aforeſaid, in the Day-time, between Sun-riſing and Sunſetting only) or if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall take in Exchange, or by way of Barter, or ſhall unlawfully receive, or procure to be delivered to them, any Ropes, Cordage, Tackle, Apparel, Furniture, Stores, Materials, or any Part of any Cargo or Loading of any Ships or Veſſels in the ſaid River, all and every ſuch Perſon or Perſons reſpectively ſhall, upon Conviction thereof before any Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace of and within any County, City, Diviſion, Liberty, or Place adjoining to the ſaid River, upon the Oath of One or more credible Perſon or Perſons, be deemed guilty of a Misdemeanor; and it ſhall and may be lawful for any Perſon or Perſons to apprehend and detain all Perſons then on board ſuch Boat, and alſo to ſeize, ſearch, and detain, in ſome Place of Safety, ſuch Boat, and the Tackle, Apparel, and Furniture, and Loading thereof; and the Perſon and Perſons ſo apprehended ſhall be (as ſoon as conveniently may be) conveyed before ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices

From and after 24 *June*, 1762, Perſons uſing, letting out to Hire, lending, or navigating, *&c.* Bum Boats, or other Boats, on the River, for the Purpoſe of ſelling Liquors, Slops, Tobacco, Brooms, Gingerbread, or Garden Ware, *&c.*

except ſuch Boats as ſhall be entered at the Office of the *Trinity Houſe*, *&c.*

and Perſons taking in Exchange, or by way of Barter, or unlawfully receiving, *&c.* any Ropes, Cordage, Goods, Stores, or Merchandize, of Veſſels in the River;

being convicted before a Juſtice ſhall be deemed guilty of a Miſdemeanor; and the Boat, with thoſe on Board, may be ſeized and ſearched,

and the Perſons conveyed before a Juſtice;

ſtices of the Peace as aforeſaid; and ſuch Boat, with the ſaid Tackle, Apparel, Furniture, and Loading thereof, ſhall, upon ſuch Conviction as aforeſaid, be forfeited and diſpoſed of as is herein after mentioned.

and the Boat, with her Furniture and Lading, upon ſuch Conviction ſhall be forfeited.

And be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the Twenty fourth Day of June, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty two, every Bum Boat, or other Boat whatſoever, uſed and navigated for the Purpoſes aforeſaid, upon the ſaid River between London Bridge and the Lower Hope Point, ſhall be entered by the Owner or Owners thereof with the Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants at their Office at the Trinity Houſe in Water Lane, London, ſpecifying the Name or Names, and Place or Places of Abode of ſuch Owner or Owners; to the Intent that the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants may regiſter every ſuch Entry, and deliver in Writing to ſuch Owner or Owners a Number to be marked on One or more Part or Parts of every ſuch Bum Boat, or other Boat; and every ſuch Owner or Owners ſhall cauſe the Number ſo delivered to be forthwith marked, together with his, her, or their Chriſtian and Surname or Names, and Place or Places of Abode, upon ſuch Part or Parts of the ſaid Boat ſo entered as aforeſaid, in ſuch Manner as the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants ſhall, from time to time, direct and appoint, in purſuance of the Authorities and Directions herein after given for that Purpoſe.

Bum Boats, and others, uſed upon the River for the Purpoſes aforeſaid, are to be entered by the Owners, at the Office of the *Trinity Houſe* in *Water Lane*,

and a Number thereupon is to be given them,

to be marked, with their Chriſtian and Surnames and Places of Abode, on the ſaid Boats, as the *Trinity Company* ſhall direct.

Provided alſo, That every Time, and ſo often as the Property of any ſuch Bum Boat, or other Boat, ſhall be varied or altered, the new Owner or Owners ſhall forthwith make a freſh Entry of the ſame, and cauſe the Number delivered in purſuance thereof to be marked on the ſaid Boat, together with his, her, or their Chriſtian and Surname or Names, and Place or Places of Abode, upon ſuch Part or Parts of the ſaid Boat, and in like Manner as is herein before directed, at the firſt entering of any ſuch Boat.

A freſh Entry is to be made, and every thing elſe to be done, as above directed, by the new Owner, every Time the Property of ſuch Boat ſhall be altered.

And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants, ſhall, and they are hereby impowered and required, to receive and regiſter every ſuch Entry in a Book or Roll to be provided and kept for that Purpoſe, and to deliver out a Number, in Writing, to ſuch Owner or Owners, to be marked on One or more Part or Parts of ſuch Boat, in ſuch Manner as ſhall be directed and appointed in purſuance of this Act; for the regiſtering which Entry, and delivering out ſuch Number, the Sum of Five Shillings ſhall be paid, and no more; and the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſ-

The ſaid Company is to receive and regiſter all ſuch Entries, and deliver out Numbers to be marked on the Boats,

upon being paid 5*s.* for the ſame;

and they are to make Orders, &c. for aſcertaining the Manner in which the Number and the Names and Abode of the Owners, are to be marked on the Boat, and on what Part thereof the ſame ſhall be done, and how renewed, and kept legible; which after Publication in the *London Gazette*, and Copies thereof affixed at the proper Places, ſhall be obſerved by the Owners of ſuch Boats.

ſiſtants, are hereby authorized and impowered to take and receive the ſame, and, from time to time, to make ſuch Orders, Rules, and Regulations, as they ſhall think requiſite and proper, for the aſcertaining the Part or Parts of ſuch Boat on which the ſaid Number, and the Names and Place or Places of Abode of the Owner or Owners thereof, ſhall be marked, and in what Manner, and of what Dimenſions the Figure or Figures and Letters, compoſing ſuch Number, and Names and Place or Places of Abode, ſhall be made, and how the ſame ſhall be, from time to time, renewed, and kept fair and legible; and that all ſuch Orders, Rules, and Regulations, after One Publication thereof in the *London Gazette*, and printed Copies of the ſame being affixed at Iron Gate, the Hermitage, Execution Dock, Shadwell Dock, Rotherhithe Old Stairs, Deptford, Radcliffe Croſs, and Blackwall, ſhall be obſerved by, and binding upon, every Owner or Owners of ſuch Boats ſo entered as aforeſaid.

The Maſter and Wardens of the ſaid Company, or Perſons deputed by them, alſo all Owners or Maſters of Veſſels in the River, or Perſons authorized by 7 or more of them,

And be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants, or ſuch Perſon or Perſons as they ſhall from time to time depute and appoint under the Seal of their Corporation, and for all Owners or Maſters of Ships or Veſſels, either in Whole or in Part, in the ſaid River reſpectively, or for ſuch Perſon and Perſons as the ſaid Owners and Maſters, or any Seven or more of them, by Writing under their Hands and Seals, ſhall, for that Purpoſe, nominate, depute, and appoint (and which it ſhall be lawful for them, from time to time, to do) at any Time or Times from and after the Twenty fourth Day of June, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty two, to ſtop, ſearch, and detain, in ſome Place of Safety, any Boat, which there ſhall be reaſon to ſuſpect has any Ropes, Cordage, Tackle, Apparel, Furniture, Stores, Materials, or any Part of any Cargo or Lading, ſtolen, or unlawfully procured, from or out of any Ship or Veſſel in the ſaid River; and alſo to apprehend and detain, or cauſe to be apprehended and detained, any Perſon or Perſons who may be reaſonably ſuſpected of having or conveying any ſuch Goods, Stores, or Things, in ſuch Boat; and ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo apprehended, ſhall be (as ſoon as conveniently may be) conveyed before One or more Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace for any County, City, Diviſion, Liberty, or Place, adjoining to the ſaid River: And if ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſhall not produce the Party or Parties, from whom he, ſhe, or they, bought or received ſuch Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, or Things, aforeſaid, or ſome credible Perſon, to depoſe upon

may ſtop and ſearch any Boat ſuſpected to have Ropes and Stores, or other Materials, &c. ſtolen, or unlawfully procured from out of Veſſels in the River; and carry the Perſons ſuſpected of being concerned therein before a Juſtice.

upon Oath, the Sale or Delivery thereof, or shall not give an Account to the Satisfaction of such Justice or Justices, how he, she, or they, came by the same; that then the said Person or Persons so apprehended shall be deemed and adjudged guilty of a Misdemeanor; and such Boat, with her Tackle, Apparel, Furniture, and Loading, shall, upon such Conviction, be forfeited and disposed of as is herein after directed.

and they not giving a satisfactory Account how they came by the same, shall be adjudged guilty of a Misdemeanor; and the Boat and Loading, &c. shall be forfeited.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Constable, Headborough, and Beadle, and every Watchman (during such Time as he shall be on Duty) of every Parish and Place where he shall be an Officer, shall and may apprehend and detain, or cause to be apprehended and detained, all and every Person and Persons, who may reasonably be suspected of having or carrying, or any ways conveying, any Ropes, Cordage, Tackle, Apparel, Furniture, Stores, Materials, or any Part of any Cargo or Lading, stolen or unlawfully procured from or out of any Ship or Vessel in the said River Thames, and also shall and may seize and detain in some Place of Safety such Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, and Things aforesaid, and shall, as soon as conveniently may be, convey, or cause the Person or Persons so apprehended to be conveyed, before any One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace, for any County, City, Division, Liberty, or Place, adjoining to the said River; and if such Person or Persons shall not produce the Party or Parties from whom he, she, or they, bought or received the same, or some credible Person, to depose upon Oath the Sale or Delivery thereof, or shall not give an Account, to the Satisfaction of such Justice or Justices, how, he, she, or they, came by the same, that then the said Person and Persons so apprehended shall be deemed and adjudged guilty of a Misdemeanor.

Constables and Beadles, and Watchmen when on Duty, may seize all Ropes, Stores, or other Goods suspected to be stolen, or unlawfully procured from out of Vessels in the River, and carry the Persons concerned therein before a Justice,

and they, not giving a satisfactory Account how they came by the same, shall be adjudged guilty of a Misdemeanor.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for any Justice of the Peace, upon Information made to him on Oath, by any credible Person or Persons, that there is Cause to suspect that any Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, or Things (suspected to have been stolen or unlawfully come by, or taken from some Ship or Vessel in the said River) are concealed in any Dwelling-house, Warehouse, Outhouse, Yard, Garden, or other Place, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to cause every such Dwelling-house, Warehouse, Outhouse, Yard, Garden, and Place, to be searched in the Day-time; and if any such Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, or Things, shall be found therein, to cause the same to be deposited and kept in some Place of Safety;

Justices, upon Information on Oath of a Suspicion of the Concealment of stolen Goods or Merchandizes,

may grant a Search Warrant;

and the Goods thereupon found, are to be secured;

and the Persons of the House, &c. are to be brought before a Justice:

Safety; and also to cause the Person or Persons in whose House, Warehouse, Outhouse, Yard, Garden, or other Place, the same shall be found, to be brought before him, or any other Justice or Justices of the Peace for the same County, City, Division, Liberty, or Place; and if such Person or Persons shall not give an Account to the Satisfaction of such Justice or Justices, how he, she, or they, came by the same, or shall not within some reasonable and convenient Time, to be set by such Justice or Justices, produce the Party or Parties of or from whom he, she, or they, bought or received the same Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, or Things, that then the Person or Persons in whose House, Warehouse, Outhouse, Yard, Garden, or other Place, the same shall be found, shall be deemed and adjudged guilty of a Misdemeanor.

and they, not giving a satisfactory Account how they came by the same,

shall be adjudged guilty of a Misdemeanor;

Where Persons shall be convicted of either of the last-mentioned Misdemeanors, the Justice may cause the Goods to be deposited with the Churchwardens, &c.

And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That upon any Person or Persons being convicted of either of the said last-mentioned Misdemeanors, it shall and may be lawful for such Justice or Justices, before whom such Person or Persons was or were convicted, to cause such Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, or Things, to be deposited in the Custody of the Churchwardens or Overseers of the Poor of the Place where they shall have been so first deposited as aforesaid (who are hereby required to receive the same) or in any other convenient Place, for any Time not exceeding Thirty Days; and to order such Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or One of them, if the same shall happen to be in any of the Parishes or Places within the Bills of Mortality, to insert immediately an Advertisement in some publick News Paper; and if the same shall happen to be in any other Parish or Place, to cause Notice to be immediately given by some publick Cryer, and by affixing on the Church or Chapel Door, a Notice in Writing, describing such Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, or Things, and where the same shall have been so deposited, to the end that Persons having lost any such, or any reputable Person on their Behalf, may come and claim the same, within Thirty Days from the Time of giving and affixing such Notice as aforesaid; and in case any Person or Persons do or shall, within the Space of such Thirty Days, prove his, her, or their Property in and to the said Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, or Things, upon Oath, to the Satisfaction of One or more Justice or Justices as aforesaid, that then such Justice or Justices shall order Restitution of such Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, or Things, to be made to the Owner or Owners thereof, after paying

who are to advertise the same, if within the Bills of Mortality;

and if not, Notice is to be given by the public Cryer, and also affixed on the Church or Chapel Door,

that the Owners may come and make their Claim, within 30 Days;

and they proving their Property therein;

the Justice shall order Restitution thereof,

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ing the reaſonable Charges of ſeizing, removing, depoſiting, and giving publick Notice as aforeſaid, and alſo reaſonable Compenſations to the Perſon or Perſons giving ſuch Information as aforeſaid; ſuch Charges and Compenſations to be ſettled and aſcertained by ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices: But if at the End of the ſaid Thirty Days (Notice having been given as aforeſaid) no ſuch Proof ſhall be made as aforeſaid, the ſaid Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, or Things, ſhall be ſold by the Churchwardens or Overſeers, in whoſe Cuſtody the ſame ſhall have been depoſited as aforeſaid, for the beſt Price that can reaſonably be had; and, after deducting the Charges ſo ſettled as aforeſaid, the Remainder of the Money ariſing from ſuch Sale ſhall be given, One Moiety thereof to the Perſon or Perſons ſo apprehending or giving Information as aforeſaid (as the Caſe ſhall be) of the Party or Parties guilty of the Miſdemeanors as aforeſaid, or either of them, and the other Moiety to the Poor of the Pariſh or Place where ſuch Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, or Things, ſhall have been ſo firſt depoſited as aforeſaid.

upon their paying reaſonable Charges, and Compenſation to the Perſons giving Information;

but if no ſuch Proof be made, the Goods, &c. ſhall be ſold by the Churchwardens;

and the Money, after deducting the Charges aforeſaid, is to go, One Moiety to the Informer,

and the other to the Poor of the Pariſh.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That every Perſon to whom any Goods, Stores, or Things belonging to Ships or Veſſels ſhall be brought and offered to be ſold, pawned, or delivered, ſhall, and he or ſhe is hereby impowered and required (there being reaſonable Cauſe to ſuſpect that ſuch Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, or Things were ſtolen, or unlawfully come by, from or out of any Ship or Veſſel in the ſaid River) to apprehend, ſecure, and carry before a Juſtice of the Peace for the County, City, Diviſion, Liberty, or Place, where the ſame ſhall be ſo brought or offered, the Perſon or Perſons ſo bringing or offering the ſame, and in the mean Time to ſecure ſuch Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, or Things; and ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo apprehended ſhall be dealt with, and ſuch Merchandizes, Goods, Stores, or Things, ſhall be depoſited and diſpoſed of in the ſame Manner as if he, ſhe, or they had been apprehended by the Conſtable, Headborough, Beadle, or Watchman as aforeſaid.

Perſons to whom any Stores or Ship Goods, &c. ſuſpected to be ſtolen, &c. ſhall be offered to be ſold, pawned, or delivered,

may ſtop the ſame, and carry the Parties before a Juſtice;

and the Goods ſhall be depoſited and diſpoſed of;

and the Parties dealt with, as if they had been apprehended by the Conſtable, &c.

And be it further enacted, That every Perſon deemed and adjudged guilty of any of the Miſdemeanors aforeſaid, ſhall, for every ſuch Miſdemeanor, forfeit, for the Firſt Offence, the Sum of Forty Shillings; for the Second Offence the Sum of Four Pounds, and for every ſubſequent Offence the Sum of Four Pounds; all which ſaid reſpective Forfeitures ſhall and may be levied by Diſtreſs and Sale of the Goods and Chattles of every ſuch Offender (rendering to him, her, or them the Overplus,

Perſons adjudged guilty of any of the Miſdemeanors aforeſaid, forfeit for the 1ſt Offence 40s. and for the 2d and every ſubſequent Offence 4l. to be levied by Diſtreſs and Sale;

after Charges of the ſaid Diſtreſs and Sale deducted) by Warrant under the Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals, of any One or more of ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices before whom ſuch Offender was convicted; which Forfeiture ſhall be paid, One Moiety thereof to the Perſon apprehending ſuch Offender or Offenders, or giving Information, as the Caſe ſhall be, and the other Moiety thereof to the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Corporation, to be diſtributed among the poor decayed Seamen and their Widows, under the Care of the ſaid Corporation; and if the ſaid reſpective Forfeitures ſhall not be paid, nor ſufficient Diſtreſs ſhall be found whereon to levy the ſame, then the ſaid Juſtice or Juſtices ſhall and may commit every ſuch Offender ſo convicted as aforeſaid to the common Gaol or other Priſon or Houſe of Correction within his or their Juriſdiction, without Bail or Mainprize, for the Space of One Month for the firſt Offence, and for the Second Offence for the Space of Two Months, and for every ſubſequent Offence, until ſuch Offender ſhall be diſcharged by Order of the Court of General or Quarter Seſſions.

One Moiety to go to the Apprehender, or Informer,

and the other to the Maſter and Wardens of the *Trinity Houſe* for the Uſe of their Poor;

and for want of Diſtreſs, the Offender to be committed, for the 1ſt Offence One Month; for the 2d Two Months; and for every other Offence, till diſcharged by Order of the Court of Seſſions.

And be it further enacted, That every Conviction of any Offender in any of the ſaid Miſdemeanors ſhall be certified by the Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace making the ſame, to the next General or Quarter Seſſion of the Peace, to be filed and entered amongſt the Records of the ſaid Seſſion; and that ſuch Conviction ſhall and may be drawn up on Parchment, and certified as follows (that is to ſay)

Convictions to be certified to the next Quarter Seſſions,

and filed there.

Form of Conviction.

Middleſex, to wit, { BE it remembered, That on the Day of in the Year *A. B.* was convicted before of the Juſtices of the Peace for the County, City, Diviſion, Liberty, or Place aforeſaid *(as the Caſe ſhall be)* of a Miſdemeanor in One or more of the Inſtances before mentioned, *ſpecifying the ſame particularly in the Words by which the ſame is or are deſcribed in and by this Act, or in any other Form of Words to the like Effect.*

Given under Hand and Seal the Day and Year aforeſaid.

Which ſaid Conviction, in the ſame or the like Form of Words, ſhall be good and effectual in Law, to all Intents and Purpoſes, and ſhall not be quaſhed, ſet aſide, or be adjudged void or inſufficient for want of any other Form or Words whatſoever; nor be liable to be removed by Certiorari into His Majeſty's Court of King's Bench, but

Conviction not to be quaſh'd for want of Form;

nor removeable by *Certiorari.*

shall be deemed and taken to be final, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Twenty fourth Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and sixty two, every Person who shall buy or receive any Part of the Cargo or Loading of, or any Goods, Stores, or Things, of or belonging to, any Ship or Vessel in the said River, knowing the same to be stolen or unlawfully come by; or shall privately buy or receive any such Goods, Stores, or Things, or any Part of such Cargo or Loading, by suffering any Door, Window, or Shutter to be left open or unfastened between Sun-setting and Sun-rising for that Purpose, or shall buy or receive the same, or any of them, at any Time, in any clandestine Manner, from any Person or Persons whomsoever, shall, being thereof convicted by due Course of Law (although the principal Felon or Felons, Offender or Offenders, has or have not been convicted of stealing or unlawfully procuring the same) be transported for Fourteen Years to any of His Majesty's Colonies or Plantations in America, according to the Laws in Force for the Transportation of Felons.

Persons convicted of knowingly buying or receiving stolen Goods from Vessels in the River;

or of privately buying or receiving at any Time any such Goods clandestinely, or by suffering any Door, Window, or Shutter at Night to be left open or unfastened for that Purpose;

shall be transported for 14 Years.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person or Persons shall cut, damage, or spoil, any Cordage, Cable, Buoys, Buoy Rope, Headfast, or other Fast, fixed to any Anchor or Moorings belonging to any Ship or Vessel at Anchor or Moorings in the River Thames, or any Rope used for the Purpose of Mooring or Rafting Masts or Timber, or shall be aiding or assisting therein, with an Intent to steal the same; such Person or Persons shall, being convicted thereof on the Oath of Two or more credible Witnesses, be transported to some of His Majesty's Plantations in America for the Space of Seven Years, according to the Laws now in Force for the Transportation of Felons.

Persons convicted of cutting or spoiling any Cordage, Cable, Buoys, Buoy Ropes, Headfast, or other Fast, or Ropes of Vessels, at Anchor or Moorings, in the River, with Intent to steal the same,

shall be transported, together with their Aiders therein, for 7 Years.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person, being out of Prison, shall, after the Twenty fourth Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and sixty two, by stealing, or unlawfully receiving, any Part of any Cargo or Lading of, or any Goods, Stores, or Things, belonging to, or out of, or from, any Ship or Vessel in the said River, and shall afterwards discover Two or more Persons who shall have bought or received any stolen or unlawfully procured Goods, Stores, or Things, or any Part of any Cargo or Lading of, or belonging to, or by, from, or out of, any Ship or Vessel in the said River, after the Twenty fourth Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and sixty two, knowing the same

Any Person out of Prison concerned in stealing, or unlawfully receiving, Goods or Merchandize from any Vessel in the River,

who shall discover and convict Two others of the like Offence,

ſame to be ſtolen, or unlawfully procured, ſo as Two or more of the Perſons diſcovered ſhall be convicted of ſuch Buying or Receiving; every Perſon ſo diſcovering, ſhall have and be intitled to the Gracious Pardon of His Majeſty, His Heirs, and Succeſſors, for all ſuch Felonies by him or her committed at any Time or Times before ſuch Diſcovery made; which Pardon ſhall be likewiſe a Bar to any Appeal brought for ſuch Felony.

ſhall be intitled to His Majeſty's Pardon.

And be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if after the Publication of any ſuch Orders, Rules, and Regulations, by the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants, any Perſon or Perſons ſhall row or navigate, within the Limits aforeſaid, any ſuch Boat as is herein before directed to be entered, marked, and numbered, not being ſo entered, marked, and numbered, as aforeſaid; or having a falſe Mark or Number, or not having the real Name or Names, and Places of Abode, of the Owner or Owners of ſuch Boat inſcribed thereon, or not having ſuch Names and Figures kept fair and legible, in ſuch Manner as ſhall have been directed and required, from time to time, by ſuch Orders, Rules, and Regulations; in each of the Caſes aforeſaid, every ſuch Perſon, being thereof convicted before One or more Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace of any County, City, Diviſion, Liberty, or Place, near or adjoining to the ſaid River, upon his or her own Confeſſion, or the Oath of One or more credible Perſon or Perſons, ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Forty Shillings; One Moiety whereof to be paid to the Perſon or Perſons who ſhall give Information of, and proſecute to Conviction, ſuch Offender or Offenders as aforeſaid, and the other Moiety to the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Corporation, to be applied by them as aforeſaid: And it ſhall and may be lawful for any Perſon or Perſons, upon Diſcovery of any ſuch Offence or Offences, to ſeize and detain any ſuch Boat, with all the Tackle, Apparel, and Furniture thereunto belonging; and ſhall thereupon, within the Space of Forty eight Hours after ſuch Seizure made, give Information thereof, and of the Nature of the Offence, to any One or more Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace as aforeſaid, who ſhall proceed to hear, and ſhall determine, as ſoon as conveniently may be, upon ſuch Information; and if ſuch Forfeiture ſhall not be paid within the Space of Twenty four Hours after Conviction, then the ſame ſhall be raiſed by Sale of the ſaid Boat, and her Tackle and Appurtenances; and every Juſtice of the Peace, within his Juriſdiction, is hereby authorized and required to iſſue his

Perſons rowing or navigating ſuch Boats, not being entered, marked, and numbered according to the Order of the *Trinity* Company; or having a falſe or fictitious Number or Mark,

forfeit, on Conviction before a Juſtice, 40 *s.*

One Moiety to the Informer, and the other to the *Trinity* Company for the Uſe of their Poor.

Upon Diſcovery of ſuch Offence, the Boat and Tackle, *&c.* may be ſeized, and within 48 Hours after Information is to be given to a Juſtice, who is to hear and determine thereupon.

If the Forfeiture be not paid within 24 Hours, the ſame ſhall be raiſed by Sale of the Boat, *&c.*

Warrant under his Hand and Seal, directed to the Conſtable, or ſome other Peace Officer of the Pariſh or Place in which ſuch Boat, ſo ſeized as aforeſaid, ſhall be detained, to cauſe Sale to be made thereof, and all her Tackle and Appurtenances, with all convenient Speed, for raiſing the Money forfeited for the ſaid Offence as aforeſaid, rendering to the Offender or Offenders the Overplus (if any there ſhall be) after deducting the Charges of detaining and ſelling ſuch Boat. by Warrant of the Juſtice.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants, ſhall and may, and they are hereby authorized and required, on any Complaint to be made to them by any credible Perſon or Perſons, of any Thefts, Robberies, Frauds, or other illegal Practices being carried on, or reaſonably ſuſpected to be carried on, in any Boat ſo to be numbered and marked as aforeſaid, to ſummon the Owner or Owners thereof to appear before them, or any Five or more of them, at the Trinity Houſe in Water Lane, or other uſual Place of Meeting appointed or to be appointed, at ſuch Time as they ſhall appoint; at which Time and Place the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants, or any Five or more of them, ſhall inquire into the ſaid Complaint in a ſummary Way; and in caſe the ſaid Complaint ſhall be proved to their Satisfaction, and they ſhall ſo think fit, they the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants, or any Five or more of them, being a Majority of the Members then preſent, may thereupon take away and totally abolith the ſaid Number ſo given to the ſaid Boat as aforeſaid; and alſo may, for the future, refuſe to enter, as before directed, any Boat of or belonging to ſuch Owner or Owners; any thing herein before contained to the contrary notwithſtanding. Upon Complaint to the Maſter and Wardens of the Company, of any Thefts or illegal Practices being carried on in any Boat, or ſuſpected to be carried on, they may ſummon the Owner to appear, and inquire into ſuch Complaint in a ſummary Way; and, on Conviction, may take away his Number, and refuſe to enter any Boat of his for the future.

And be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That where any Perſon or Perſons ſhall be convicted of any Offence againſt this Act, by which is incurred the Forfeiture of any Boat, with her Tackle and Appurtenances, and concerning which, after ſuch Conviction, no Proviſion is hereby made, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace, before whom ſuch Conviction ſhall be had, or any other Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace of and for any County, City, Diviſion, Liberty, or Place, adjoining to the ſaid River Thames, on Conviction had, and they are hereby reſpectively authorized and required, to cauſe ſuch Boat, with her Tackle and Appurtenances, to be totally burnt and deſtroyed, within Six Days next after ſuch Conviction as aforeſaid, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal, or Where, on Conviction, the Forfeiture of a Boat, &c. is incurred, and no further Proviſion made concerning the ſame, the Juſtice, by his Warrant, may order the ſame to be burnt within 6 Days.

Hands and Seals of ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices, directed to the Conſtable or other Peace Officer of the Pariſh or Place adjoining to the ſaid River, or where ſuch Conviction ſhall be had; which ſaid Conſtable, or other Peace Officer, ſhall thereupon cauſe ſuch Boat, Tackle, and Appurtenances, to be ſo burnt and deſtroyed, within the Time aforeſaid.

Any Perſons may apprehend an Offender,

And be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful for any Perſon or Perſons, by the Authority of this Act, and without any other Warrant, to apprehend any Offender or Offenders committing any of the Offences herein before mentioned, and intended by this Act to be redreſſed, and,

and deliver him over to a Conſtable,

with all convenient Speed, to convey or deliver every ſuch Offender or Offenders to a Conſtable or ſome other Peace Officer of the County, City, Diviſion, Liberty, or Place, in or near to which the Offence ſhall be committed, or the Offender or Offenders ſhall be apprehended, in order to be conveyed before ſome Juſtice of the Peace of ſuch County, City, Liberty, or Place,

to be carried before a Juſtice.

there to be dealt with according to Law.

Perſons obſtructing the Execution of this Act, being convicted at the Quarter Seſſions,

And be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That in caſe any Perſon or Perſons acting in the Execution of any of the Powers granted by this Act, ſhall be obſtructed therein, every Perſon ſo obſtructing, and all ſuch as ſhall act in their Aſſiſtance, ſhall, on being thereof convicted before the Juſtices of the Peace, at the General or Quarter Seſſion of the County or City adjoining to the ſaid River, upon the Oath of Two or more credible Perſons,

ſhall be tranſported for 7 Years.

be tranſported to any of His Majeſty's Plantations in America, for the Space of Seven Years, according to the Law or Laws now in force for the Tranſportation of Felons.

Any Member of the Corporation, or Inhabitant of the Place, where the Offence is committed, may be admitted to give Evidence.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That in all Actions, Suits, Trials, and other Proceedings, which ſhall or may be had in purſuance of this Act, or in relation to any Matter or Thing herein contained, any Member of the ſaid Corporation, or any Inhabitant of the Pariſh, Town, or Place, in which any Offence ſhall be committed, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, or wherein any Conviction ſhall be made purſuant hereto, ſhall be admitted to give Evidence, and ſhall be deemed a competent Witneſs, notwithſtanding his being ſuch Member of the ſaid Corporation, or his or her being ſuch Inhabitant as aforeſaid.

Juſtices to adminiſter Oaths *gratis*.

And be it alſo enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That in all Caſes where an Oath is by this Act directed to be taken by any Perſon or Perſons, it ſhall and may be

lawful for any One or more Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace within the County, City, Diviſion, Liberty, or Place, where the Matter to be ſworn to ſhall ariſe, and he and they is and are reſpectively hereby authorized and required to adminiſter the ſame, without Fee or Reward.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Action or Suit ſhall be commenced or brought againſt any Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace, or the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants, or any of them, or other Officer or Perſon whatſoever, acting in the Execution of any of the Powers in them hereby veſted, for doing, or cauſing to be done, any Thing in purſuance of this Act, concerning any of the ſaid Offences, the ſame ſhall be laid in the County of Middleſex or City of London, and not elſewhere; and ſhall be commenced within Six Months next after ſuch Cauſe of Action accrued; and the Defendant or Defendants therein may plead the General Iſſue, and give this Act, and the Special Matter, in Evidence, at any Trial to be had thereupon, and that the ſame was done in purſuance and by the Authority of this Act: And if it ſhall appear ſo to have been done, or that ſuch Action or Suit was brought after the Time before limited, or in any other Place; that then the Jury ſhall find for the Defendant or Defendants; and if upon ſuch Action a Verdict ſhall be given for the Defendant or Defendants; or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs ſhall become nonſuited, or diſcontinue his, her, or their Action or Suit, after the Defendant or Defendants ſhall have appeared; or if, upon Demurrer, Judgement ſhall be given againſt the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, then the Defendant or Defendants ſhall and may recover Treble Coſts, and have ſuch Remedy for the ſame, as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have in any Caſe by Law. Limitation of Actions. General Iſſue. Treble Coſts.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That this Act ſhall be deemed, adjudged, and taken to be a Publick Act; and be judicially taken Notice of as ſuch, by all Judges, Juſtices, and other Perſons whomſoever, without the ſame being ſpecially pleaded. Publick Act.

FINIS.