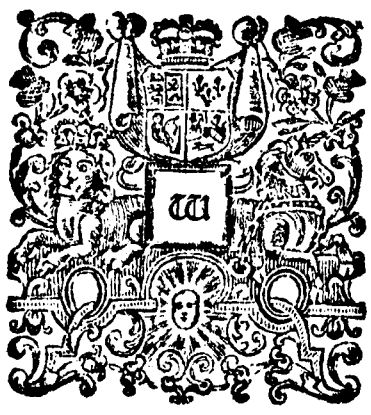
Anno ſecundo

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. XXIX.

An Act to amend ſo much of an Act made in the Firſt Year of the Reign of King *James* the Firſt, intituled, *An Act for the better Execution of the Intent and Meaning of former Statutes made againſt Shooting in Guns, and for the Preſervation of the Game of Pheaſants and Partridges, and againſt the Deſtroying of Hares with Hare Pipes, and Tracing Hares in the Snow*; as relates to the Preſervation of Houſe Doves and Pidgeons, by making the Manner of convicting ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall offend therein, more eaſy and expeditious.



WHEREAS by an Act made in the Firſt Year of the Reign of His Majeſty King James the Firſt, intituled, An Act for the better Execution of the Intent and Meaning of former Statutes made againſt Shooting in Guns, and for the Preſervation of the Game of Pheaſants and Partridges, and againſt the Deſtroying of Hares with Hare Pipes, and Tracing Hares in the Snow; it is amongſt other Things therein enacted, That all and every

Preamble, reciting Clauſe in the Act 1 *Jac.* I.

Person, and Persons who shall kill or destroy any House Dove, or Pidgeon, and shall be thereof convicted by the Confession of the Party, or by the Testimony of Two sufficient Witnesses, upon Oath before Two or more Justices of the Peace, of the County, City, or Town Corporate, wherein the Offence shall be committed, or the Parties apprehended, such Justices shall commit every such Offender so apprehended, to the Common Gaol of the said County, City, or Town Corporate, where the Offence shall be committed, or the Party apprehended, there to remain for Three Months without Bail or Mainprize, unless that the said Offender do or shall forthwith upon the said Conviction pay, or cause to be paid, to the Churchwardens of the said Parish where the said Offence shall be committed, or the Party apprehended, to the Use of the Poor of the said Parish, the Sum of Twenty Shillings for every House Dove or Pidgeon which every such Person or Persons, so offending and convicted as aforesaid, shall take, kill, or willingly destroy, contrary to the true Purport and true Meaning of that Act; or after One Month after his Commitment, together with Two sufficient Sureties, become bound by Recognizance in the Sum of Twenty Pounds apiece, to the King's Majesty's Use, His Heirs, and Successors, with Condition that he the said Party so offending, shall not at any Time thereafter shoot at, kill, take, or destroy, any House Dove or Pidgeon, by any such Means as in the said Act are mentioned; which said Recognizance shall be taken by any Two or more Justices of Peace, of the said County, City, or Town Corporate, where the Offender shall be so imprisoned as aforesaid, and shall be returned to the then next Quarter Sessions, and there to remain of Record as other Recognizances taken for the Peace, as by the said in part recited Act, relation for greater Certainty being thereunto had, may more fully appear: And whereas the Method of convicting Offenders against the above recited Act, hath hitherto been found, in a great Degree, ineffectual, to answer the good Intentions of the said Act: Therefore for more speedy convicting and punishing Persons who shall be guilty of the said mischievous Practice of wilfully killing

or deſtroying Houſe Doves or Pidgeons, belonging to other Perſons; May it pleaſe 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 after the Twenty fourth Day of June, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty two, if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall ſhoot at, with an Intent to kill, or ſhall by any Means whatever, kill or take, with a wilful Intent to deſtroy, any Houſe Dove or Pidgeon, and ſhall be thereof convicted by the Confeſſion of the Party offending, or the Oath of One or more credible Witneſs or Witneſſes, before One or more Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace of the County, City, Town Corporate, Diviſion, Riding, or Place (which Oath ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices are hereby authorized to adminiſter) wherein any ſuch Offence or Offences ſhall be committed, or the Party or Parties offending ſhall be apprehended, every Perſon ſo offending, and who ſhall be convicted as aforeſaid of any ſuch Offence, ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Shillings, to the Perſon or Perſons who ſhall inform againſt, and proſecute to Conviction, any ſuch Offender or Offenders; and in caſe the Money ſo forfeited ſhall not be forthwith paid on every ſuch Conviction, it ſhall and may be lawful for ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices to commit any ſuch Offender or Offenders, who ſhall be ſo convicted as aforeſaid, to the Common Gaol of the County, or the Houſe of Correction in the Diviſion or Place where the Party is convicted or apprehended, there to remain and be kept to hard Labour for any Time not exceeding Three Calendar Months, nor leſs than One Calendar Month, as any ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices ſhall order, unleſs the Money forfeited ſhall be ſooner paid.

After 24 *June*, 1762, any Perſon who ſhall wilfully ſhoot at, or deſtroy any Houſe Doves or Pidgeons belonging to other Perſons,

ſhall forfeit, on Conviction, 20 *s.* to the Proſecutor;

and if not forthwith paid,

he may be committed, and kept to hard Labour for any Time not exceeding 3, nor leſs than 1 Month, unleſs the Forfeiture be ſooner paid.

Provided always, and it is hereby alſo enacted, That nothing in this Act contained ſhall be conſtrued, deemed, or taken, to hinder any Owner of a Dove Cote, Pidgeon Houſe, Pidgeon Chamber, or any other Place, built up or erected, or to be built up or erected, for the Preſervation

The Owners of Dove Cotes, or other Places built for the Preſervation or Breeding of Pidgeons, and thoſe appointed by them, excepted,

servation or Breeding of Pidgeons, from taking, killing, or destroying, by himself, or any other Person by him appointed or authorized for that Purpose, all or any House Doves, or Pidgeons, which shall at any Time be taken in the proper Dove Cote, Pidgeon House, Pidgeon Chamber, or any other Place, as aforesaid, for the Preservation or Breeding of Pidgeons of any Owner of such Dove Cote, Pidgeon House, Pidgeon Chamber, or other Place.

Offender is liable only to One Conviction for the same Offence; and Prosecutions are to be commenced, and carried on with Effect, within Two Months after the Offence; and where Persons suffer Imprisonment, they are not liable afterwards to pay the Penalty.

Provided further, and it is hereby also enacted, That no Person who shall be convicted of any Offence against this Act, shall be liable to be convicted for any such Offence under any former or other Act; and that no Person shall be prosecuted for any Offence against this Act, unless the Prosecution for the same shall be commenced and carried on with Effect within the Space of Two Calendar Months after every such Offence shall be committed; and that where any Person shall suffer Imprisonment for Default of Payment of any Penalty imposed under this Act, such Person shall not be liable afterwards to pay such Penalty.

C

FINIS.