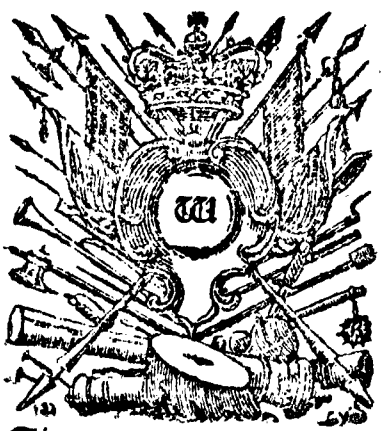
Anno tertio

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. VIII.

An Act to enable such Officers, Mariners, and Soldiers, as have been in the Land or Sea Service, or in the Marines, since the Twenty second Year of His late Majesty King *George* the Second, to exercise Trades.



WHEREAS there have been, and are, divers Officers, Mariners, Soldiers, and Marines, who have served His late Majesty, or His present Majesty, in the late Wars by Sea and Land, some of which are Men that used Trades, others that were Apprentices to Trades, who had not served out their Times, and others, who by their own Industry, have made themselves apt and fit for Trades; many of which, the Wars being now ended, would willingly employ themselves in those Trades which they were formerly accustomed to, or which they are apt or able to follow Preamble.

make use of, for the getting their Living by their own Labour, but are or may be hindered from exercising those Trades in certain Cities and Corporations, and other Places within this Kingdom, because of certain By-laws and Customs of those Places, and of the Statute 5 *Eliz.* made in the Fifth Year of Queen Elizabeth, prohibiting the Use of certain Trades by any Person who hath not served as an Apprentice to such Trade for the Space of Seven Years: 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 all such Officers, Mariners, Soldiers, and Marines, who have been at any Time employed in the Service of his late Majesty, or of his present Majesty, since the Twenty ninth Day of November, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and forty eight, and have not since deserted the said Service; and also the Wives and Children of such Officers, Mariners, Soldiers, and Marines; may set up and exercise such Trades as they are apt and able for, in any Town or Place within the Kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, without any Let, Suit, or Molestation, of any Person or Persons whatsoever, for or by reason of the using of such Trade; nor shall such Officers, Mariners, Soldiers, or Marines, or their Wives or Children, during the Time they shall exercise such Trades, be removable from such respective Place or Places, to his, her, or their last legal Place of Settlement, by virtue of any Law now in being relative to the Settlement of the Poor, until such Person or Persons shall become actually chargeable to such Parish or Place; and if any such Officer or Officers, Mariner or Mariners, Soldier or Soldiers, Marine or Marines, or the Wife or Child of any such Officer, Mariner, Soldier, or Marine, who shall be sued, impleaded, or indicted in any Court whatsoever, within this Kingdom, for using or exercising any such Trades as aforesaid, then the said Officer or Officers, Mariner or Mariners, Soldier or Soldiers, Marine or Marines, or any Wife or Child of any such Officer, Mariner, Soldier, or Marine, making it appear to the same Court, where they are so sued, impleaded, or indicted,

Officers, Mariners, Soldiers, and Marines, who have been at any Time employed in the King's Service since 29 *Nov.* 1748, and have not since deserted, and also the Wives and Children of such, are authorized to set up and exercise Trades within any Parts of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, without Let;

and without being liable to be removed from thence to their last legal Place of Settlement, until they become actually chargeable to the Parish;

and if sued, upon pleading the General Issue, they shall be acquitted,

indicted, that they have served His late or present Majesty as aforesaid, or that he, she, or they, is or are the Wife or Wives, Child or Children, of such Officer or Officers, Mariner or Mariners, Soldier or Soldiers, Marine or Marines, who shall have so served His late or present Majesty, shall, upon the General Issue pleaded, be found Not Guilty in any Plaint, Bill, Information, or Indictment, exhibited against them; and such Persons who, notwithstanding this Act, shall prosecute the said Suit, by Bill, Plaint, Information, or Indictment, and shall have a Verdict pass against him, or become Nonsuit therein, or discontinue their said Suit, such Person or Persons shall pay unto such Officer or Officers, Mariner or Mariners, Soldier or Soldiers, Marine or Marines, or the Wife or Child of such Officer, Mariner, Soldier, or Marine, respectively, Double Costs of Suit, to be recovered as any other Costs at Common Law may be recovered; and all Judges and Jurors, before whom any such Suit, Information, or Indictment, shall be brought, and all other Persons whatsoever, are to take Notice of this present Act, and shall conform themselves thereto; any Statute, Law, Ordinance, Custom, or Provision, to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

and be paid Double Costs of Suit.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for any Two or more Justices of the Peace for the County, Town, or Place, where any such Officer, Mariner, Soldier, or Marine, shall set up and exercise any Trade as aforesaid, to cause such Officer, Mariner, Soldier, or Marine, to be summoned before them in the Town or Place where such Officer, Mariner, Soldier, or Marine, shall set up and exercise such Trade as aforesaid, in order to make Oath of the Place of his last legal Settlement (which Oath the said Justices are hereby impowered to administer) and such Officer, Mariner, Soldier, or Marine, are hereby directed to obey such Summons, and to make Oath accordingly; and such Justices are hereby required to give an attested Copy of such Affidavit so made before them, to the Person making the same, in order that he may produce it when required; which attested Copy shall at any Time be admitted as Evidence as to such last legal Settlement,

Where any Two Justices for the County or Place where they shall so set up, shall summon them to give Evidence as to the Place of their last legal Settlement;

they shall make Oath accordingly;

an attested Copy whereof shall be given them,

which shall be admitted as Evidence at the Quarter Sessions;

d

before any of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace at any General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace.

and if summoned again,

Provided always, That in case any such Officer, Mariner, Soldier, or Marine, shall again be summoned to make Oath as aforesaid, then on such attested Copy of the Oath by him formerly taken, being produced by him or by any other Person on his Behalf, such Officer, Mariner, Soldier, or Marine, shall not be obliged to take any other or further Oath with regard to his legal Settlement, but shall leave a Copy of such attested Copy of his Examination, if required.

they shall not be obliged to take a fresh Oath, but produce the former, or leave a Copy thereof.

Privileges of the Two Universities reserved.

Provided always, That this Act shall not in any wise be prejudicial to the Privileges of the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford, or either of them; or extend to give Liberty to any Person to set up the Trade of a Vintner, or to sell any Wine or other Liquors within the said Universities, without Licence first had and obtained from the Vice Chancellor of the same respectively. 3

FINIS.