ANNO TRICESIMO QUINTO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. XC.

An Act for regulating the ſhipping and carrying Slaves in *Britiſh* Veſſels from the Coaſt of *Africa*.

[22d *June* 1795.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to regulate the ſhipping and carrying Slaves in *Britiſh* Veſſels from the Coaſt of *Africa*, for a limited Time; be it therefore 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 it ſhall not be lawful for any Maſter or other Perſon taking or having the Charge or Command of any *Britiſh* Ship or Veſſel whatever, which ſhall clear out from any Port of this Kingdom from and after the Firſt Day of *Auguſt* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-five, to have on Board at any one Time, or to convey, carry, bring, or tranſport, Slaves from the Coaſt of *Africa* to any Part beyond Sea, in any ſuch Ship or Veſſel, in any greater Number than in the Proportion of Five ſuch Slaves for every Three Tons of the Burthen of ſuch Ship or Veſſel, ſo far as the ſaid Ship or Veſſel ſhall not exceed Two hundred and one Tons; and moreover of One ſuch Slave for every additional Ton of ſuch Ship or Veſſel over and above the ſaid Burthen of Two hundred and one Tons, or Male Slaves who ſhall exceed Four Feet Four Inches in Height, in any greater Number than in the Proportion of One ſuch Male Slave to every One Ton of the Burthen of ſuch Ship or Veſſel, ſo far as the ſaid Ship or Veſſel ſhall not exceed Two hundred and one Tons; and moreover of Three ſuch Male Slaves, who ſhall exceed the ſaid Height of Four Feet Four Inches, for every additional

Preamble.

From *Aug.* 1, 1795, no Veſſel clearing out from *Great Britain*, to carry Slaves from *Africa* in greater Numbers than herein ſpecified.

Veſſels to be deemed of the Tonnage ſet forth in their Certificates of Regiſtry.

additional Five Tons of ſuch Ship or Veſſel, over and above the ſaid Burthen of Two hundred and one Tons; and every ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall be deemed and taken to be of ſuch Tonnage or Burthen as is deſcribed and ſet forth in the reſpective Certificate of the Regiſtry of each and every ſuch Ship or Veſſel, granted in purſuance of an Act, made in the Twenty-ſixth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for the further Increaſe and Encouragement of Shipping and Navigation*; and if any ſuch Maſter, or other Perſon taking or having the Charge or Command of any ſuch Ship or Veſſel, ſhall act contrary hereto, ſuch Maſter or other Perſon as aforeſaid ſhall forfeit and pay the Sum of Thirty Pounds of lawful Money of *Great Britain* for each and every ſuch Slave, exceeding in Number the Proportions herein-before limited; One Moiety whereof ſhall go to His Majeſty, His Heirs or Succeſſors, and the other Moiety thereof ſhall go to any Perſon or Perſons who ſhall firſt ſue for the ſame: Provided always, that if there ſhall be in any ſuch Ship or Veſſel any more than Two Fifth Parts of the Slaves who ſhall be Children, and who ſhall not exceed Four Feet Four Inches in Height, then every Five ſuch Children, over and above the aforeſaid Proportion of Two Fifths, ſhall be deemed and taken to be equal to Four of the ſaid Slaves, within the true Intent and Meaning of this Act: Provided always, that nothing herein contained ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend, to the Caſe of a Ship taking on Board any Number of Slaves that ſhall be found ſhipwrecked, or from on Board any other Ship or Veſſel where, by Reaſon of Mutiny or Inſurrection among the Slaves, or the Crew, or by Failure of Hands, or by any actual Diſtreſs of the Veſſel, the Maſter or Commander ſhall be diſabled from governing the Ship, or continuing the Voyage, the Proof of which ſhall lie upon the Maſter or other Perſon having Charge of ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſo taking on Board ſuch Slaves.

Maſters of Veſſels, before they land any Slaves in the *Weſt Indies*, to give in a written Declaration to the Officer of the Cuſtoms of the Burthen of the Veſſels, &c.

II. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That on the Arrival of any ſuch Ship or Veſſel in any Iſland in the *Weſt Indies*, belonging to or under the Dominion of His Majeſty, His Heirs or Succeſſors, from the Coaſt of *Africa*, carrying or conveying any ſuch Slaves as aforeſaid, the Maſter or other Perſon having or taking the Charge or Command of ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall, before any of the ſaid Slaves ſhall be unſhipped or landed from ſuch Ship or Veſſel, repair to the neareſt Cuſtom Houſe, and there give in a written Declaration to the Collector, or other Chief Officer of the Cuſtoms, who is hereby required to accept and preſerve the ſame, of the Burthen of ſuch Ship or Veſſel, and ſhall, at the ſame Time, ſhew to ſuch Officer the Certificate of the Regiſtry thereof; and ſhall alſo give in a written Declaration to the ſaid Officer, (who is hereby required to accept and preſerve the ſame), containing an exact and true Account of the greateſt Number of ſuch Slaves, (diſtinguiſhing the Number of Males and Females, and ſpecifying the Number of ſuch Slaves as ſhall exceed the aforeſaid Height of Four Feet Four Inches), who are or ſhall have been at any One Time in or on Board ſuch Ship or Veſſel, before, when, or after, ſuch Ship or Veſſel quitted or departed from the Coaſt of *Africa* for that Voyage; and if ſuch Maſter, or other Perſon taking or having the Charge or Command of any ſuch Ship or Veſſel, ſhall unſhip or land, or ſhall cauſe to be unſhipped or landed, or ſhall wilfully permit or ſuffer to be unſhipped or landed, any ſuch Slaves, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, ſuch

If more than Two Fifths of the Slaves be Children, Five of the Surplus to be deemed equal to Four Slaves, &c.

Maſters of Veſſels to forfeit 30*l.* for every Slave exceeding the limited Number.

and if they land Slaves contrary hereto, to forfeit 500*l.*

Maſter or other Perſon as aforeſaid ſhall forfeit and pay the Sum of Five hundred Pounds of lawful Money of *Great Britain* for every ſuch Offence, and One Moiety of the ſaid Forfeiture ſhall go to His Majeſty, His Heirs or Succeſſors, and the other Moiety ſhall go to the Perſon or Perſons who ſhall firſt ſue for the ſame; and it ſhall and may be lawful for ſuch Collector or other Chief Officer of the Cuſtoms, and he is hereby required to ſearch, or to cauſe Search to be made, in every Part of ſuch Ship or Veſſel, to ſee and to take an Account of the Number of ſuch Slaves on Board ſuch Ship or Veſſel, and to ſpecify in ſuch Account the Number of Males and Females, and alſo the Number of Slaves not exceeding Four Feet Four Inches in Height, and without Delay to tranſmit ſuch Account, atteſted under his Hand and Seal, to the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms in *London*, under the Penalty of Five hundred Pounds: Provided always, that in caſe the ſaid Collector or other Chief Officer of the Cuſtoms ſhall be abſent, or that there ſhall be no ſuch Officer in any ſuch Iſland where the ſaid Ship ſhall arrive as aforeſaid, or in caſe there ſhall be no other Officer of the Revenue, then any Civil Officer in the ſaid Iſland ſhall be, and he is hereby authorized and required, upon Application as aforeſaid, to receive and preſerve the ſaid Declaration of the Burthen of ſuch Ship as aforeſaid, and to perform all the other Duties aforeſaid which the ſaid Collector or other Chief Officer of the Cuſtoms is hereby required to perform.

Officers of the Cuſtoms to take an Account of the Slaves on Board ſuch Veſſels, *&c.* on Penalty of 500*l.*

Where there is no Officer of the Cuſtoms, any Civil Officer to receive the Declaration of the Maſter, *&c.*

III. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon making any Declaration, by this Act authorized or required to be made, ſhall therein be guilty of wilful Falſehood, or if any Perſon ſhall procure or ſuborn any Perſon to become guilty of ſuch wilful Falſehood, every ſuch Perſon ſhall be deemed guilty of a Miſdemeanour, and ſhall be puniſhed by ſuch Fine as the Court, before whom ſuch Offender ſhall have been tried and convicted, ſhall think fit to order or adjudge, and alſo by Impriſonment for any Time not exceeding Twelve nor leſs than Three Calendar Months from the Time of ſuch Sentence.

Penalty on making falſe Declaration.

IV. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall not be lawful for the Maſter or other Perſon taking or having the Charge or Command of any ſuch Ship or Veſſel as aforeſaid, which ſhall be cleared out from any Port in *Great Britain*, after the Firſt Day of *Auguſt* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-five, to take or have on Board ſuch Ship or Veſſel, or convey, carry, bring, or tranſport, any Slaves from the Coaſt of *Africa* to any Parts beyond the Seas, in any ſuch Ship or Veſſel as aforeſaid, unleſs ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall, at the Time of her ſo clearing out, have been entered for ſuch Purpoſe at the Cuſtom Houſe of the Port from whence ſuch Ship or Veſſel cleared out, and unleſs the Surgeon of or belonging to ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall have given Bond to His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, and ſhall have left the ſame in the Hands of the Collector or Comptroller of the Cuſtoms in the Port from whence ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall depart for ſuch Voyage to the Coaſt of *Africa*, in the penal Sum of One hundred Pounds, with Condition that ſuch Surgeon ſhall keep a regular and true Journal, containing an Account of the greateſt Number of Slaves which ſhall have been, at any Time during ſuch Voyage, on Board ſuch Ship or Veſſel, from the Time of the Arrival of ſuch Ship or Veſſel on the Coaſt of *Africa* as aforeſaid, until her Arrival at the Port of her Delivery, diſtinguiſhing the

No Veſſel to carry any Slaves, unleſs entered for that Purpoſe at clearing out, nor unleſs the Surgeon give Bond to keep a Journal of the Slaves during the Voyage;

Number of Males and Females, and of the Deaths of any ſuch Slaves or Crew of the ſaid Ship or Veſſel, and of the Cauſe thereof, during the Voyage from the Firſt Departure of the ſaid Ship or Veſſel to her Arrival on the Coaſt of *Africa*, during her Stay on the ſaid Coaſt, and after her Departure from thence to the ſaid Port of Delivery, or during ſuch Time as ſuch Surgeon ſhall have been on board ſuch Ship or Veſſel; and that the ſaid Surgeon ſhall deliver ſuch Journal to the Collector or other Officer as aforeſaid, at the Firſt *Britiſh* Port where ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall arrive after leaving the Coaſt of *Africa*, and ſhall deliver in a written Declaration of the Truth of ſuch Journal, to the beſt of his Knowledge and Belief, to ſuch Collector or other Officer as aforeſaid; who is hereby required to accept and preſerve the ſame; and ſuch Collector or other Officer as aforeſaid ſhall deliver to ſuch Maſter or other Perſon as aforeſaid, and to ſuch Surgeon reſpectively, Copies of the Declaration of ſuch Maſter or other Perſon, and of ſuch Surgeon as aforeſaid, and alſo of the ſaid Journal, which Copies ſhall ſeverally be atteſted (as true Copies) by ſuch Collector or other Officer as aforeſaid under his Hand and Seal; and Duplicates of the ſaid Copies, atteſted in like Manner, ſhall be tranſmitted by the ſaid Collector, or other Chief Officer, to the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms in *London*; and if ſuch Maſter, or Perſon taking or having the Charge or Command of any ſuch Ship or Veſſel, ſhall carry his Cargo of Slaves to, and land the Whole or any Part in, any Port or Ports not ſubject to the Crown of *Great Britain*, and ſhall afterwards arrive at any *Britiſh* Iſland or Port, having delivered the Whole or any Part of his ſaid Cargo, ſuch Maſter or other Perſon, and alſo the Surgeon of ſuch Ship or Veſſel, ſhall make the ſame Declaration, deliver in the ſame Journal to, and take the ſame Oaths before the Collectors, or other Chief Officers of the Cuſtoms, or Civil Officer of the Iſland or Port, and receive the ſame atteſted Certificate, in like Manner as if he had firſt arrived at ſuch Iſland or Port; and if the ſaid Ship or Veſſel ſhall not arrive at any *Britiſh* Iſland or Port before her Return to *Great Britain*, then the ſaid Maſter or other Perſon, and Surgeon, ſhall make the ſaid Declaration, deliver in the ſaid Journal to, and take the ſaid Oaths before, the Collector or other Chief Officer of the Cuſtoms of the Port where they ſhall firſt land, which the Collector or Chief Officer is hereby empowered and required to receive and adminiſter, and the ſaid Collector or other Chief Officer ſhall forthwith tranſmit the ſame to the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms in *London*; and if ſuch Maſter or Surgeon ſhall act contrary hereto, ſuch Maſter or Surgeon ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, forfeit the Sum of One hundred Pounds, One Moiety whereof ſhall go to His Majeſty, His Heirs or Succeſſors, and the other Moiety thereof ſhall go to any Perſon or Perſons who ſhall ſue for the ſame.

Journal is to be delivered to the Officer of the Cuſtoms, at the Firſt *Britiſh* Port of Arrival, &c.

Officer to deliver to the Maſter a Copy of his Declaration and to the Surgeon a Copy of his Journal, and tranſmit Duplicates to the Commiſſioners of the Cuſtoms.

Maſters or Surgeons acting contrary hereto to forfeit 100*l.*

V. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That in caſe the Maſter or other Perſon having or taking the Charge or Command of any ſuch Ship or Veſſel, ſhall be convicted of any One of the ſaid Offences before mentioned, and ſhall not, within the Space of Fourteen Days, pay, or cauſe to be paid, into the Hands of the proper Officer of the Court wherein the Offence ſhall be proſecuted, in order that the ſame may be applied in Manner herein directed, the Amount of the Penalty on ſuch Conviction, it ſhall and may be lawful for any Admiral, or other Commander at Sea, of any of the Ships of War, or other

If Penalty on Maſter be not paid within 14 Days, their Veſſels may be ſeized and ſold.

Ships having Commiſſion from His Majeſty, or from His Heirs or Succeſſors, or for any Governor of any Iſland or Plantation to His Majeſty belonging in *America* or the *Weſt Indies*, or for any Officer or Officers of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms, to ſeize and detain the ſaid Ship or Veſſel wherever found, and to convey the ſame to the Cuſtom Houſe neareſt to the Place where ſhe ſhall be found; and the Collector, or other principal Officer of the Cuſtoms of ſuch Cuſtom Houſe, ſhall, and he is hereby required to cauſe every ſuch Ship or Veſſel to be ſold publickly by Auction, and the Produce ariſing by ſuch Sale thereof to apply towards ſatisfying the ſaid Penalty; and if there ſhall remain any Overplus, to pay the ſame over to ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall prove his, her, or their Property therein, or to his, her, or their lawful Aſſigns.

On Arrival of Veſſels in *America* or the *Weſt Indies*, the Owners to give Bond for Payment of Penalties.

VI. And whereas it may happen that the Maſter or other Perſon having the Command of ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſo proſecuted and convicted may be unable to pay ſuch Penalty or Penalties incurred; be it enacted, That as ſoon as ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall arrive in any of the ſaid Iſlands, and due Notice of ſuch Arrival ſhall have been given at the Cuſtom Houſe thereof, the Owner or Owners of the ſaid Ship or Veſſel, or his, her, or their Factor or Agent to whom ſuch Ship and Cargo are conſigned, ſhall give Bond in the Penal Sum of Five thouſand Pounds to the Collector or other Officer of the Cuſtoms, for the full and juſt Payment of ſuch Penalty or Penalties as may be awarded againſt ſuch Captain, or other Officer, by the Verdict of a Jury: And it is hereby enacted, That no ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall be permitted or ſuffered to enter or clear inwards, until ſuch Bond ſhall be firſt given; and it ſhall be lawful for any Officer of the Cuſtoms to detain ſuch Ship or Veſſel, with all her Cargo on Board, until ſuch Bond ſhall be entered into as before required: Provided always, that no Suit againſt ſuch Captain, or other Officer, ſhall be proſecuted in any Iſland, unleſs the ſame ſhall be commenced within One Month after due Notice given of the Ship's Arrival to the Collector or other Officer of the Cuſtoms in the ſaid Iſlands.

Veſſels not to be admitted to Entry till Bond is given, &c.

Suits to be commenced within One Month.

Where Penalties may be ſued for.

VII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the ſeveral Penalties and Forfeitures inflicted by this Act ſhall and may be ſued for, proſecuted, and recovered, in any Court of Vice Admiralty in any Part of *America*, or in any Iſland in the *Weſt Indies*, wherein any ſuch Offence ſhall have been committed, or wherein any ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall have diſpoſed of the Whole or any Part of her Cargo, or in any of His Majeſty's Courts of Record at *Weſtminſter*, or in the Court of Exchequer at *Edinburgh*.

The upper and lower Cabin, and the Space between Decks, to be allotted to the Slaves, &c.

VIII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That in every ſuch Ship or Veſſel, the upper as well as the lower Cabin, and the Space between Decks, ſhall be allotted and properly prepared for the Reception of ſuch Slaves; and that after any ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall have taken Two Third Parts of her Complement of Slaves on Board, in the Proportions herein-before limited, no Goods, Wares, or Merchandize, ſhall ever be ſtowed or put in any ſuch Cabin or Place in which any ſuch Slaves ſhall be.

IX. And

If any Perſon take the Command of a Veſſel, who is not qualified as herein directed, he and alſo the Owner ſhall forfeit 500*l.*

IX. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That, from and after the Firſt Day of *Auguſt* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-five, it ſhall not be lawful for any Perſon to become a Maſter, or take or have the Command or Charge of any ſuch Ship or Veſſel, at the Time he ſhall clear out from any Port of *Great Britain*, for purchaſing and carrying Slaves from the Coaſt of *Africa*, unleſs ſuch Maſter, or Perſon taking or having the Charge or Command of any ſuch Ship or Veſſel, ſhall have made Oath, and delivered in to the Collector or other Chief Officer of the Cuſtoms, at the Port where ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall clear out, a Certificate, atteſted by the reſpective Owner or Owners, that he has already ſerved in ſuch Capacity during One Voyage, or ſhall have ſerved as Chief Mate or Surgeon during the Whole of Two Voyages, or either as Chief or other Mate during Three Voyages, in purchaſing and carrying Slaves from the Coaſt of *Africa*, under Pain that ſuch Maſter or other Perſon taking or having the Charge or Command of any ſuch Ship or Veſſel, and alſo the Owner or Owners who ſhall hire or employ ſuch Perſon, ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, reſpectively forfeit and pay the Sum of Five hundred Pounds.

Former Acts, recited,

X. And whereas by an Act, made in the Thirty-third Year of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, and ſeveral preceding Acts, it is enacted, that, from and after the Firſt Day of *Auguſt* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-three, it ſhould not be lawful for any Owner or Owners of any Ship or Veſſel to inſure any Cargo of Slaves, or any Part thereof, on Board the ſame, againſt any Loſs or Damage, ſave and except the Perils of the Sea, Piracy, Inſurrection, or Capture by the King's Enemies, Barratry of the Maſter and Crew, and Deſtruction by Fire; and that all and every Policy of Inſurance thereafter made contrary to the ſaid Act ſhould be, and the ſame are thereby declared to be null and void to all Intents and Purpoſes whatſoever: And whereas the Owners of Ships and others concerned in the Trade to *Africa*, underſtanding that it was merely intended by the above-mentioned Proviſion of the ſaid Act, to preſcribe and ſpecify the particular Kinds of Loſs and Damage for which alone an Indemnity ſhould thereafter be recoverable in reſpect to Cargoes of Slaves, and not to interfere with or vary the particular Forms of the Policies of Inſurance, whereby ſuch Inſurances had been theretofore effected, have continued to make Inſurances on the Perils and Dangers allowed to be inſured by the ſaid Act in the ſame general Terms as are contained in the common Policies theretofore uſed in other Inſurances on Ships and Goods: And whereas Doubts have ariſen reſpecting the Validity of ſuch Inſurances ſo made on Cargoes of Slaves, on Account of the Policies whereby the ſame are effected not being expreſsly reſtrained to the particular Peril and Dangers which are by the ſaid Proviſion of the ſaid Act alone ſaved and excepted as the Subjects of lawful Inſurance: For Remedy whereof, and for the more effectual Security of ſuch Perſons, be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That nothing in the ſaid Act, or any former Act contained, ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend, to make void any Inſurance already made, or which hereafter ſhall be made, upon Ships, Slaves, Goods, and Merchandize, in the ſame general Terms with the Policies now commonly made uſe of in all other Inſurances on Ships and Goods, (that is to ſay), on Account of their expreſſing to be made, "againſt the Riſks and Perils of the Seas, Men of War, Fire,

and nothing therein to make void Inſurances made in the ſame general Terms as other Inſurances, but under them

Enemies, Pirates, Rovers, Thieves, Jettizons, Letters of Mart and Countermart, Surprizals, Takings at Sea, Arreſts, Reſtraints, and Detainments of Kings, Princes, and People, of what Nation, Condition, or Quality, ſoever, Barratry of the Maſter and Mariners, and of all other Perils, Loſſes, and Misfortunes, that have or ſhall come to the Detriment or Damage thereof:" Provided nevertheleſs, that under ſuch Policies of Aſſurance ſo made, or to be made, no Loſs or Damage ſhall be hereafter recoverable on Account of the Mortality of Slaves by natural Death or ill Treatment, or againſt Loſs, by throwing overboard of Slaves, on any Account whatſoever, or againſt Loſs or Damage by Reſtraints and Detainments by Kings, Princes, People, or Inhabitants of *Africa*, where it ſhall be made appear that ſuch Loſs or Damage has been occaſioned through any Aggreſſion for the Purpoſe of procuring Slaves, and committed by the Maſter of any ſuch Ship, or by any Perſon or Perſons commanding any Boat or Boats, or Party or Parties of Men belonging to any ſuch Ship, or by any Perſon or Perſons acting by the Direction of any ſuch Maſter or Commander reſpectively.

no Damages ſhall be recoverable in certain Caſes.

XI. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That no ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall be allowed to clear out, unleſs it ſhall appear to the Collector, or other principal Officer of the Cuſtoms at the Port, that there is One Surgeon at leaſt engaged to proceed on Board ſuch Ship or Veſſel, and unleſs ſuch Surgeon ſhall have produced and delivered to ſuch Collector or other principal Officer of the Cuſtoms, a Certificate or Warrant of his having paſſed his Examination at Surgeons Hall, or at ſome Publick or County Hoſpital, or at the Royal College of Phyſicians or Royal College of Surgeons at *Edinburgh*, or ſhall have ſerved as Surgeon or Surgeon's Mate in His Majeſty's Fleet or Armies, of which Certificate or Warrant the ſaid Collector or other principal Officer ſhall give to the ſaid Surgeon an atteſted Copy, *gratis*.

No Veſſel to be cleared out that has not a Surgeon who has paſſed his Examination, *&c.*

XII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if it ſhall be made appear, to the Satisfaction of the Collector or other principal Officer of the Port where ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall be diſcharged, that there ſhall not have died more than in the Proportion of Two Slaves in the Hundred, from the Time of the Arrival of ſuch Ship or Veſſel on the Coaſt of *Africa* to the Time of her Arrival at her Port of Diſcharge in any of the Iſlands of the *Weſt Indies*, belonging to or under the Dominion of His Majeſty, His Heirs or Succeſſors, in ſuch Caſe the Collector or other principal Officer ſhall, and he is hereby authorized and required to make out Certificates, ſpecifying the Number of Slaves that appear to have been taken on Board the ſaid Ship or Veſſel, and the Number that have died within the Period above-mentioned, One of which Certificates ſhall be delivered to the Maſter, and the other to the Surgeon of ſuch Ship or Veſſel, and on Production of ſuch Certificates, the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms in *England* and *Scotland* reſpectively, ſhall, and they are hereby authorized and required to direct the Sum of One hundred Pounds to be paid to the Maſter, and the Sum of Fifty Pounds to be paid to the Surgeon of ſuch Ship or Veſſel, out of any Money that ſhall be in the Hands of the Receiver General of the Cuſtoms of *England* and *Scotland* reſpectively; or if it ſhall be made appear to the Collector or other principal Officer as aforeſaid, that there ſhall not have died more than in the Proportion of Three Slaves in the Hundred, from the Time of the Arrival of ſuch Ship or Veſſel on the Coaſt of *Africa*

If the Officer at the Port of Diſcharge ſhall be ſatisfied that there have not died on the Voyage more than 2 Slaves in the 100, he is to give Certificates to the Maſter and Surgeon, and on Production thereof to the Commiſſioners of the Cuſtoms, they are to order the Maſter 100 *l.* and the Surgeon 50 *l.*

Like Certificates to be given where the Mortality has not been more than 3

in the 100, which is to entitle the Master to 50*l.* and the Surgeon to 25*l.*

Africa to the Time of her Arrival at her Port of Discharge in any of the said *West India* Islands, in such Case the Collector or principal Officer as aforesaid shall, and he is hereby required and authorized to make out like Certificates, and to deliver One to the Master and the other to the Surgeon of such Ship or Vessel, and the Commissioners of the Customs in *England* and *Scotland* respectively shall, and they are hereby authorized and required, on Production of such Certificates, to direct the Sum of Fifty Pounds to be paid to the Master, and the Sum of Twenty-five Pounds to be paid to the Surgeon of such Ship or Vessel.

Before any Vessel is cleared Outwards, the Master, Officer, and Mariners, to execute Articles of Agreement in the Forms hereunto annexed; and no other Form to be used on Penalty of 50*l.*

XIII. And, for the better Regulation, Encouragement, and Preservation of the Health of the Officers and Seamen, employed in Ships or Vessels trading to the Coast of *Africa*, for Slaves, and from thence to the *West Indies*, and *America*; be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That, from and after the First Day of *August* One thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, before any Ship or Vessel shall proceed to Sea, the Master, Officers, and Mariners, shall sign and execute Articles of Agreement, and a Muster-roll, in the Presence of, and witnessed by, the Clearing Officer and One of the Tidesmen of the Port from whence the Ship departs; and a Duplicate of the Articles of Agreement and Muster-roll, duly signed and executed, shall be delivered to the aforesaid Clearing Officer, in order to its being lodged with the proper Officer in the Custom House, according to the Forms hereunto annexed; which Agreement shall be conclusive to all Parties for the Time contracted for; and no other Form whatsoever of Articles of Agreement, or Muster-roll, shall be used, under the Penalty of Fifty Pounds, One Half to be paid to the Use of *Greenwich* Hospital, and the other Half to the Informer, or other Person who shall sue for the same, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record.

Muster Roll to be regularly kept, *&c.*

XIV. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That a Continuation of the Muster-roll shall be regularly and duly kept during the Voyage; also a Log Book, wherein all Penalties, Forfeitures, and Charges, against any Officer or Seaman shall be regularly entered and signed by the Master, Chief Mate, and Surgeon; which said Log Book and the said Muster-roll shall, on the Arrival of the Ship or Vessel at her discharging Port in *Great Britain*, be delivered in to the Collector or other Chief Officer of the Customs, together with the written Declaration of the Truth thereof, which Declaration the Collector, or other Chief Officer as aforesaid, is hereby required to accept and preserve; and if any Master, Chief Mate, or Surgeon, shall be convicted of signing false Muster-rolls, Articles of Agreement, or Log Book, he or they shall forfeit and pay the Sum of One hundred Pounds, and shall also suffer Six Months Imprisonment.

Penalty for signing false Muster Rolls, *&c.*

No Officer, *&c.* to be turned over or discharged, but under the Circumstances herein mentioned.

XV. And be it further enacted, That no Officer, Mariner, or Seaman, shall be turned over or discharged, upon any Pretence whatsoever, unless into His Majesty's Ships of War, or to assist a Ship in actual Distress, which is to be certified by the principal Officers of both Ships concerned, and an Agreement made in Writing with the said Officers or Men so lent, or, upon Preferment, or under ill State of Health, with the Consent of the Party, for which a Certificate shall be given from the Captain of any of His Majesty's Ships or Vessels, if any are present, or, in their Absence, Two Justices of the Peace, or the Collector and Comptroller of the Customs at the Place or Port where such Ship or Vessel shall be, or

ſhall firſt arrive, which Certificate ſhall be returned with the Muſter-roll and Log Book, on the Arrival of the Ship at her delivering Port in *Great Britain*.

No Slops, &c. to be ſupplied beyond One Fourth of the Monthly Wages.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That no Maſter, Commander, or other Perſon, ſhall ſupply the Officers or Mariners, Seamen, or Seafaring Men, with more Slops, Tobacco, Spirits, or any other Article whatſoever, than to the Amount of One Fourth Part of the Monthly Wages of ſuch Officer, Mariner, Seaman, or Seafaring Man.

Regulations with regard to Officers, &c. behaving in a riotous, ſeditious, or mutinous Manner.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That if any Officer, Mariner, or Seaman, ſhall behave in a riotous, ſeditious, or mutinous Manner, it ſhall be lawful for the Commander or Commanding Officer to put ſuch Officer, Mariner, or Seaman, into Confinement, for a Time not exceeding Twenty-four Hours, before the ſame is reported to the Captain or Commander of any of His Majeſty's Ships or Veſſels (being preſent, or within a convenient Diſtance), who is hereby authorized to enquire into the Cauſe of ſuch Complaint, and to examine upon Oath, if found neceſſary, and to grant ſuch Relief or Remedy therein as the Circumſtances of the Caſe may require; and in caſe none of His Majeſty's Ships are preſent, the Cauſe of Complaint ſhall be fully examined into by the Maſter and Two Officers, in the Preſence of the Ship's Company; and if it ſhall be judged neceſſary, for the Safety of the Ship and Cargo, to continue the Offender or Offenders in Confinement, ſuch Determination ſhall be drawn up in Writing, with the Reaſons for coming to ſuch Reſolution ſtated at large, and ſigned by the Maſter and Two Officers, which they are hereby enjoined, under the Penalty of Fifty Pounds, to report, without Delay, to the Captain or Commander of the Firſt Ship or Veſſel belonging to His Majeſty they may fall in with, and in Default thereof to report the ſame to the Governor or Chief Officer of any *Britiſh* Fort on the Coaſt of *Africa*, or to the Governor of any of the *Weſt India* Iſlands, on their Arrival at any Port or Road therein, that ſuch Meaſures may be taken to bring the Offender or Offenders to Juſtice as the Nature of the Caſe will admit.

Maſter to cauſe a printed Abſtract of this Act, &c. to be hung up in the moſt publick Place in his Veſſel, on Penalty of 20 *l.*

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That the Maſter or other Perſon having or taking the Charge or Command of every ſuch Ship or Veſſel, ſhall cauſe a printed Abſtract of this Act, and alſo a Copy of the Schedule (A) and of the Muſter-roll, reſpectively annexed to this Act, to be hung up and affixed to the moſt publick Place of ſuch Ship or Veſſel, and ſhall cauſe the ſame to be conſtantly kept and renewed, ſo that at all Times they may be acceſſible to the Officers and Seamen on Board of ſuch Ship or Veſſel, upon Pain that every ſuch Maſter, or other Perſon having or taking the Charge or Command of every ſuch Ship or Veſſel, who ſhall neglect to affix and renew the ſame, ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, forfeit the Sum of Twenty Pounds.

If mutinous Officers, &c. be taken into Cuſtody in *Africa* or the *Weſt Indies*, a Statement upon Oath, to be lodged with the Governor, &c. and if the Witneſſes do not appear at

XIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Officer, Mariner, or Seaman, charged with Mutiny or Sedition, ſhall be delivered over or taken into Cuſtody by the Order of the Governor or Chief Officer of any Fort on the Coaſt of *Africa*, or the Governor of any of the Iſlands in the *Britiſh Weſt Indies*, a full Statement, upon Oath, which they are hereby empowered to adminiſter, ſhall be made out and lodged with the ſaid Governor, together with the Names of the Witneſſes who are to ſupport the Charge alleged againſt the Priſoner or Priſoners, in order to their being ſent Home for Trial at the next Admiralty Seſſions, for the Offence

the Trial, they shall incur a Penalty.

fence or Offences alleged against him or them; and in case the said Witness or Witnesses shall neglect to appear at the Trial, upon being duly summoned, he or they shall incur such Penalty as the Court shall adjudge.

Officers, &c. to continue in Pay till the Vessel is cleared Inwards.

Wages of Run Men to go to *Greenwich Hospital*, &c.

XX. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That upon the Arrival of every Ship or Vessel at her discharging Port in *Great Britain*, the Officers and Seamen therein shall be continued in full Pay and Provisions until the Ship is cleared Inwards, or their Accounts are settled and paid; and that all Wages due to Run Men shall be forfeited and paid, One Half to the Use of *Greenwich Hospital*, and the other Half to the Merchants Hospital of the Port to which such Ship belongs; and all other Forfeitures shall be applied as is specified in the Articles of Agreement; any Custom, Law, or Usage, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Where Offences may be tried, and Penalties sued for.

XXI. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That any Offence committed in Breach or Violation of this Act, may be tried in any Court of Oyer and Terminer, in any County in *England* wherein any such Offence shall have been committed, or, in case any such Offence shall have been committed on the Seas, or in Parts beyond the Seas, then in such County within which the Ship on Board which such Offence shall have been committed shall have cleared out, or in the County of *Middlesex*; and any Penalty or Forfeiture, inflicted by this Act, may be prosecuted, sued for, and recovered, in any Court of Record in *Great Britain*, and in every such Action or Suit the Party against whom Judgement shall be given (whether Plaintiff or Defendant) shall pay Double Costs of Suit; and every such Action shall and may be brought at any Time within Three Years after the Offence committed, and not afterwards; and every such Action shall be carried on without wilful Delay.

Limitation of Actions.

Delivery of Writs on Board Vessels, to be deemed legal Service.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That if any Master or other Person, having or taking the Charge or Command of any Ship or Vessel, shall be prosecuted on Account of any Offence committed against this Act, and the Officer, whose Business it shall be to serve the Writ or Process issuing out of the Court in which such Master or other Person shall be prosecuted, shall not be able to find the said Master or other Person so prosecuted either on Board the said Vessel, or on Shore or elsewhere, of which such Officer shall give publick Notice in such Court, then, and in all such Cases, the Delivery of the said Writ or Process on Board the said Ship or Vessel of which the said Person shall have had the Charge or Command, shall be deemed due and legal Service of the said Writ or Process.

Persons taking false Oaths, to incur the Pains of Perjury, &c.

XXIII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person, taking any Oath by this Act authorized or required to be taken, shall thereby commit wilful Perjury, or if any Person shall unlawfully procure or suborn any Person to take any Oath, by this Act authorized or required to be taken, whereby such Person shall commit wilful Perjury, every such Person shall incur and suffer the like Pains and Penalties as are by Law inflicted upon Persons committing wilful and corrupt Perjury, or Subornation of Perjury.

Continuance of this Act.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall continue in force until the First Day of *August* One thousand seven hundred and ninety-six, and no longer, except for the Purpose of trying or suing any Person in consequence of any Offence or Offences committed in Breach or Violation of this Act.

SCHEDULE (A).

ARTICLES of Agreement between the Maſter, Officers, Mariners, Seamen, and Seafaring Men, of the Ship bound from the Port of upon an intended Voyage to the Coaſt of *Africa* for from thence to the *Weſt Indies*, or *America*, and afterwards to in *Great Britain*, or to her delivering Port in *Europe*.

FIRST, The Maſter does hereby covenant, agree, and engage, with the ſaid Officers, Seamen, Seafaring Men, Landſmen, and Boys, That he will pay, or cauſe to be paid, to each and every of them, at the Rate of the Wages *per* Month, Sterling Value, as againſt each Perſon's Name is expreſſed in the Muſter Roll.

Secondly, The ſaid Maſter does further agree and engage with the ſaid Officers, Mariners, Seamen, Seafaring Men, Landſmen, and Boys, that they ſhall be daily and regularly ſupplied with good and wholeſome Victuals, and a Portion of Wine or Spirits, as hereafter ſpecified; the ſaid Proviſions to be iſſued and dreſſed in the uſual Manner in which it is done on Board His Majeſty's Ships of War, and ſerved out to the Ship's Company in the Manner following; *videlicet*,

Sunday, -	One Pound and an Half of Beef, containing Sixteen Ounces to the Pound, and a Pint of Flour.
Monday, -	One Pound of Pork, containing Sixteen Ounces to the Pound, and Half a Pint of Peaſe.
Tueſday, -	One Pint of Oatmeal, and Two Ounces of Butter, and Four Ounces of Cheeſe; or, One Pound of Stock Fiſh, with One Eighth of a Pint of Oil, and a Quarter of a Pint of Vinegar, in lieu of Butter and Cheeſe.
Wedneſday, -	The ſame as Monday.
Thurſday, -	The ſame as Sunday.
Friday, -	The ſame as Tueſday.
Saturday, -	The ſame as Monday.

Each Perſon, beſides, to have Six Pounds of Bread *per* Week; and a Quarter of a Pint of Spirits, or Half a Pint of Wine, together with of Water *per* Day, during the Voyage.

In lieu of Peaſe and Oatmeal may be ſerved Rice, Indian Corn, Yams, or Calavances.

In caſe of being put to Short Allowance, the Maſter, Officers, and Seamen, are to be at the ſame Allowance of Proviſions and Water, and to be allowed Short Allowance Money, at the Rate of Three-pence *per* Day if at Two Thirds Allowance, and Four-pence Halfpenny *per* Day, *per* Man, if at Half Allowance, and to be paid their Short Allowance Money Ten Days before the Veſſel ſails from the *Weſt Indies* or *America*.

And it is hereby further covenanted and agreed by and between the ſaid Parties, That the Maſter of the ſaid Ship, at his or the Owners proper Coſt and Charge, will hire and employ the Natives in their Craft to wood and water the ſaid Ship, during her Continuance on the Coaſt of *Africa*, if ſuch Natives can be procured, under the Direction of a Patroon belonging to the ſaid Ship.

And it is further agreed on the Part of the ſaid Maſter, That whenever the Officers and Seamen are employed trading in Craft up the Rivers, that the ſaid Maſter will, on the Part of the Owners, furniſh the Parties ſo employed with a ſufficient Quantity of painted Canvas, or Tarpawling, for an Awning, and Proviſions for the Time, in the Proportion, *per Diem*, as is ſet forth in the foregoing Article, with proper Utenſils and Fire to dreſs the ſame; and upon Failure thereof, for every ſuch Neglect he ſhall forfeit Double the Value of Proviſions.

The ſaid Maſter does further agree and engage, That there ſhall be a Space reſerved for Half the Ship's Company to ſhelter themſelves, while the Slaves are on Board; if a Frigate-built Ship, it ſhall be under the Half Deck; or in the Steerage, or under a Standing Awning of Wood, well caulked, in any other Ship or Veſſel.

It is hereby further agreed by the ſaid Maſter, That he will not, upon any Pretence whatſoever, turn over or diſcharge any of the Officers or Ship's Company belonging to the ſaid Ship, unleſs on Promotion, or to aſſiſt a Ship actually in Diſtreſs, and not then, unleſs properly certified as before expreſſed in this Act: And the ſaid Maſter does hereby further agree to advance One Month's Pay to the Officers and Ship's Company before the ſaid Ship departs from *Great Britain*, at the Time of ſettling the River or Harbour Pay; and that the Monthly Wages ſhall commence from that Period: And it is further agreed by the ſaid Maſter, That he will pay, or cauſe to be paid, One Month's Pay after the Landing of the Slaves in the *Weſt Indies* or *America*, Ten Days before the Sailing of the ſaid Ship on her Homeward-bound Paſſage: And alſo the ſaid Maſter engages to make the General Signal for ſailing Twenty-four Hours before the Departure of the ſaid Ship; *videlicet*, by looſing the Fore Top Sail and firing a Gun.

And we the Officers, Mariners, Seamen, Seafaring Men, Landſmen, and Boys, in conſideration of the Monthly or other Wages, foregoing Stipulations, and Engagements, do ſeverally promiſe and agree, and bind ourſelves by theſe Preſents to behave with due Subordination and Reſpect, and to obey the lawful Commands of our Commander or ſuperior Officers on Board the ſaid Ship, or Boats thereunto belonging, as becomes good and faithful Seamen and Mariners, and at all Places where the ſaid Ship ſhall touch at, put into, or anchor, during the ſaid Voyage, to do our utmoſt Endeavours for the Preſervation of the ſaid Ship and Cargo; and not to neglect or refuſe doing our Duty, by Night or by Day; nor go out of the ſaid Ship on Board any other Veſſel, or be on Shore, under any Pretence whatſoever, without Leave firſt obtained of our Commander or Commanding Officer on Board: And further, That we will, on no Account whatſoever, leave or deſert the ſaid Ship without the Maſter's Conſent (unleſs to ſerve on Board any of His Majeſty's

jeſty's Ships) till the aboveſaid Voyage be ended, and the ſaid Ship diſcharged, under the Forfeiture of our Wages: And we do further agree, That, when abſent upon Leave, we will immediately repair on Board, when required ſo to do by our Commander or any of our ſuperior Officers, on Failure thereof to forfeit for ſuch Diſobedience Seven Days Pay, to be charged againſt our Wages, for every ſuch Offence: And we do further agree and acknowledge, That Forty-eight Hours Abſence, without Leave, ſhall be deemed a total Deſertion from the ſaid Ship, and our Wages forfeited as above agreed on, unleſs good and ſufficient Cauſe can be aſſigned for ſuch Abſence.

And it is further agreed by us, the ſaid Officers and Mariners belonging to the ſaid Ship, That we will not demand our Wages, or any Part thereof, except the Value of a Fourth Part of our Wages to be ſupplied in Slops or other Neceſſaries, and One Month's Pay, with our Short Allowance Money then due, in the *Weſt Indies* or *America*, until the Arrival of the ſaid Ship at her delivering Port, except we ſhould be impreſſed, or enter on Board any of His Majeſty's Ships, or be diſcharged by mutual Conſent, agreeable to the foregoing Certificate, as ſpecified in the Act.

And it is hereby further agreed by us the ſaid Officers, Mariners, Seamen, Seafaring Men, Landſmen, and Boys, That whatever Stores, Furniture, or Apparel, each or any of us receive into our Charge belonging to the ſaid Ship, ſhall be accounted for; and in caſe any Thing ſhould be loſt or damaged by our Negligence or Careleſſneſs, it ſhall be made good to the Maſters or Owners out of the Wages of ſuch Officers or Seamen by whoſe Negligence it has happened.

SCHE-

SCHEDULE (B).

MUSTER ROLL.

Officers and Men's Names.	Quality.	Where born.	Age.	Years at Sea.	Time of Entry, and Place where.	Time when, and Place where, discharged, died, run, or drowned.	Cause of Discharge, Death, or drowned.	Number of Months and Days on Board.	Wages per Month.	Advance Money.	Hospital Duty.	Amount of Slops supplied.	Amount of DeadMen's Cloaths.	Amount of Short Allowance Money.	Total Amount of Wages due when discharged, &c. &c.	Amount of Run Men's Pay.
									£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.

FINIS.