ANNO TRICESIMO SEXTO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. CVII.

An Act for continuing the Encouragement and Reward of Perſons making certain Diſcoveries for finding the Longitude at Sea, or making other uſeful Diſcoveries and Improvements in Navigation, and for making Experiments relating thereto.

[18th *May* 1796.]

WHEREAS by an Act, made in the Thirtieth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for continuing the Encouragement and Reward of Perſons making certain Diſcoveries for finding the Longitude at Sea, or making other uſeful Diſcoveries and Improvements in Navigation, and for making Experiments relating thereto; and for adding a Commiſſioner to execute the ſeveral Acts for the Diſcovery of the Longitude at Sea*; the Commiſſioners for the Diſcovery of the Longitude at Sea were empowered, whenever they ſhould be ſatisfied of the Probability of any Propoſal or Propoſals, that ſhould be made to them for diſcovering the ſaid Longitude, or making any other uſeful Diſcovery and Improvement in Navigation, ſo as to think it proper to cauſe Experiments to be made thereof, to certify the ſame to the Commiſſioners of the Navy; and alſo in caſe they ſhould adjudge any Perſon or Perſons to have made any Diſcovery for finding the Longitude at Sea, though not of ſo great Uſe as to be entitled to any of the great Rewards ſpecified in an Act, made in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for the Repeal of all former Acts concerning the Longitude at Sea, except ſo much thereof as relates to the Appointment and Authority of the Commiſſioners thereby conſtituted, and alſo ſuch Clauſes as relate to the conſtructing, printing, publiſhing, vending, and licenſing, of Nautical Almanacks, and other uſeful Tables; and for the more effectual Encouragement and Reward of ſuch Perſon and Perſons as ſhall diſcover a Method for finding the ſame, or ſhall make uſeful Diſcoveries in Navigation; and for the better making Experiments relating thereto*; yet that the ſaid Diſcovery was of conſiderable Uſe to the Publick, or to have made any other Diſcovery or Diſcoveries, Improvement or Improvements, uſeful to Navigation, to certify ſuch leſs Reward, or Sum or Sums of Money, as they the ſaid Commiſſioners for the Diſcovery of Longitude ſhould think reaſonable, to be paid to ſuch Perſon or Perſons; and the Commiſſioners of the Navy were thereby authoriſed and required to make out Bills upon the Treaſurer of the Navy for ſuch Sums ſo certified, who was thereby authoriſed to pay the ſame immediately to ſuch Perſon or Perſons:

Preamble.

30 *Geo.* III, Cap. 14, and

14 *Geo.* III, Cap. 66, recited.

And whereas by reaſon of ſeveral Payments made by the Treaſurer of the Navy to ſeveral Perſons in purſuance of the Directions of the ſaid firſt mentioned Act, the ſaid Commiſſioners for the Diſcovery of Longitude have expended the Sum of Five thouſand Pounds granted by the ſaid Act for the Purpoſes aforeſaid: And whereas the continuing the ſaid Encouragement and Rewards for the Purpoſes mentioned in the ſaid firſt mentioned Act will contribute to the Advantage of Trade, and to the Honour of this Kingdom: May it therefore 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 it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Commiſſioners for the Diſcovery of Longitude, and they have hereby full Power and Authority, whenever they ſhall be ſatisfied of the Probability of any Propoſal or Propoſals that ſhall be made to them for the diſcovering the ſaid Longitude, or making any other uſeful Diſcovery and Improvement in Navigation, ſo as to think it proper to cauſe Experiments to be made thereof, to certify the ſame to the Commiſſioners of the Navy; and alſo in caſe they ſhall adjudge any Perſon or Perſons to have made any Diſcovery for finding the Longitude at Sea, which, though of not ſo great Uſe as to be entitled to any of the great Rewards ſpecified in the ſaid Act of the Fourteenth Year of His preſent Majeſty, yet that the ſaid Diſcovery is of conſiderable Uſe to the Publick, or to have made any other Diſcovery or Diſcoveries, Improvement or Improvements, uſeful to Navigation, to certify ſuch leſs Reward, or Sum or Sums of Money, as they the ſaid Commiſſioners for the Diſcovery of Longitude ſhall think reaſonable to be paid to ſuch Perſon or Perſons; and the Commiſſioners of the Navy are hereby authorized and required to make out a Bill or Bills upon the Treaſurer of the Navy for ſuch Sum or Sums as ſhall be ſo certified to them by the ſaid Commiſſioners for the Diſcovery of Longitude; and the ſaid Treaſurer of the Navy is hereby authorized and required to pay immediately ſuch Sum or Sums to the Perſon or Perſons who ſhall be appointed by the ſaid Commiſſioners for the Diſcovery of Longitude, to make ſuch Experiments, or to receive ſuch leſs Reward, or Sum or Sums of Money, for making leſſer Diſcoveries for finding the Longitude at Sea, or any other Diſcoveries and Improvements uſeful to Navigation, out of any Monies which ſhall be in his the ſaid Treaſurer's Hands unapplied to the Uſe of the Navy.

Commiſſioners of Longitude to certify the Probability of Succeſs of any Propoſal for Diſcovery of the Longitude, *etc.* and the Reward, to the Commiſſioners of the Navy,

who are to make out a Bill upon the Treaſurer for the Money.

II. Provided always, and be it enacted, That all ſuch Sum or Sums of Money as ſhall be paid by the Treaſurer of the Navy, by virtue of this Act, for the Purpoſes of making ſuch Experiments as aforeſaid, and in rewarding, in a leſſer Degree, leſſer Diſcoveries for finding the Longitude at Sea, and alſo other Diſcoveries and Improvements uſeful to Navigation, do not all together exceed the Sum of Five thouſand Pounds: Provided alſo, that ſuch Sum or Sums ſhall be certified, and ſuch Bills ſhall be made out, and Payment thereof made, in ſuch Manner, and under the ſame Regulations and Proviſions, as are in and by the ſaid Act of the Fourteenth Year of His preſent Majeſty preſcribed, with regard to the Sum of Five thouſand Pounds by the ſaid Act made applicable to the Encouragement and Reward of ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhould make leſſer Diſcoveries for finding the Longitude at Sea, or make other uſeful Diſcoveries and Improvements in Navigation, and to the better making of Experiments relating thereto.

Sums paid not to exceed 5,000 *l.*, and to be paid agreeably to 14 *Geo.* III, Cap. 66.

FINIS.