ANNO TRICESIMO SEXTO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. VI.

An Act to prohibit, for a limited Time, the making of Starch, Hair Powder, and Blue, from Wheat, and other Articles of Food; and for lowering the Duties on the Importation of Starch, and of other Articles made thereof. [1st *December* 1795.]

Preamble. 27 *Geo.* III, Cap. 13, recited.

WHEREAS by an Act, made in the Twenty-ſeventh Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, for repealing the ſeveral Duties of Cuſtoms and Exciſe, and granting other Duties in lieu thereof, and for other Purpoſes, a certain Duty of Cuſtoms of Five Pounds Five Shillings and Eight-pence, is impoſed for every Hundred Weight of Starch imported into *Great Britain*; and a like Duty is alſo impoſed for every Hundred Weight of Hair Powder imported into *Great Britain*; and by the ſaid Act a certain Duty of Exciſe of Three-pence Farthing is impoſed for every Pound Weight Avoirdupois of Starch made in *Great Britain*; and a certain Drawback of the ſaid Duty of Exciſe is granted on the Exportation of every Pound Weight Avoirdupois of ſuch Starch to Foreign Parts: And whereas it is expedient that the making of Starch, and alſo of Hair Powder and Blue, from Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man in this Kingdom, ſhould be prohibited for a limited Time; and alſo that the Duties on Starch and Hair Powder reſpectively imported ſhould be lowered, and the ſaid Drawback on the Exportation of Starch diſcontinued, except as is herein-after excepted: 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,

3*l.* 15*s.* 4*d. per* Cwt. Part of the Duty of Cuſtoms on Starch and Hair Powder imported, and the Drawback of the Duty of Exciſe on Exportation of Starch, except to the *Britiſh* Colonies in *America*, or Settlements in the *Eaſt Indies*, to be diſcontinued.

That, during the Continuance of this Act, Three Pounds Fifteen Shillings and Four-pence *per* Hundred Weight of Starch, Part of the ſaid Duty of Cuſtoms impoſed upon Starch imported into *Great Britain*, and the like Sum of Three Pounds Fifteen Shillings and Four-pence *per* Hundred Weight of Hair Powder, Part of the ſaid Duty of Cuſtoms impoſed upon Hair Powder imported into *Great Britain*, and alſo the Whole of the ſaid Drawback of the ſaid Duty of Exciſe, except on the Exportation of Starch to His Majeſty's Colonies or Plantations in *America*, or to the *Britiſh* Settlements in the *Eaſt Indies*, ſhall be, and the ſame reſpectively are hereby diſcontinued; ſave and except in all Caſes relating to the recovering or paying any Arrears thereof reſpectively which may at any Time remain unpaid of the ſaid reſpective Duties; and alſo ſave and except all Fines, Penalties, or Forfeitures, relating thereto reſpectively, which ſhall reſpectively remain in full Force, as well with reſpect to ſuch Arrears of Duty as aforeſaid as with reſpect to the Duties which ſhall remain due and payable after the paſſing of this Act.

No Starch, Hair Powder, or Blue, to be made from Wheat, or other Article uſed for Food.

II. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That, during the Continuance of this Act, no Starch, Hair Powder, or Blue, ſhall be made or prepared from any Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man, or any Mixture with Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man.

Penalty for making Starch, Hair Powder, or Blue, from Wheat, *&c.*

III. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if, during the Continuance of this Act, any Maker or Makers of Starch, or other Perſon or Perſons whatever, ſhall make, or begin to make, Starch, Hair Powder, or Blue, from any Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man, or any Mixture with Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man, or ſhall put or lay, or cauſe or procure to be put or laid, in any Fat, Trough, or other Utenſil or Veſſel, any Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man, or any Mixture with Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man, for the Purpoſe of making Starch, Hair Powder, or Blue, then, and in each and every ſuch Caſe, ſuch Maker or Makers of Starch, Hair Powder, or Blue, or other Perſon or Perſons ſo offending; and the Perſon or Perſons in whoſe Cuſtody or Poſſeſſion any Fat, Trough, or other Utenſil or Veſſel, which ſhall be made uſe of contrary to the Intention of this Act, ſhall be found, ſhall, ſeverally and reſpectively (over and above all other Penalties impoſed by any Act or Acts of Parliament already in force), forfeit and pay the Sum of Two hundred Pounds; and all ſuch Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man, together with every ſuch Fat, Trough, or other Utenſil or Veſſel, ſhall be forfeited, and the ſame reſpectively ſhall and may be ſeized by any Officer or Officers of Exciſe: Provided always nevertheleſs, that nothing in this Act contained ſhall extend, or be deemed or conſtrued to extend, to ſubject any Starch Maker to the ſaid Penalty of Two hundred Pounds, for or by reaſon of his completing or finiſhing any Operation of Starch-making, from any Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man, openly put in Fermentation in his entered Starch Houſe, on or before the Twentieth Day of *November* One thouſand ſeven

Penalty not to extend to completing Starch from Wheat, *&c.* put in Fermentation on or before *Nov.* 20, 1795.

ſeven hundred and ninety-five, ſo that ſuch Operation ſhall be continued without wilful Delay; any Thing in this Act contained to the contrary in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

Wheat, &c. found in Starch Houſes forfeited, and the Poſſeſſors to forfeit 200*l.*

IV. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man, ſhall, during the Continuance of this Act, be found in any Starch Houſe, or in any Place wherein Starch ſhall be preparing or making, or wherein any Starch ſhall have been prepared or made, or which ſhall have been, or ſhall be, entered for making or preparing of Starch, all ſuch Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man, reſpectively, ſhall be forfeited, together with the Veſſels, Sacks, Bags, and other Things containing the ſame, and the ſame ſhall and may be ſeized by any Officer or Officers of Exciſe; and the Perſon or Perſons in whoſe Poſſeſſion ſuch Starch Houſe or Place ſhall be, ſhall for every ſuch Offence reſpectively forfeit the Sum of Two hundred Pounds.

Perſons authoriſed, and Officers of Exciſe, may enter Starch Houſes and inſpect Materials;

V. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That, during the Continuance of this Act, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for any Perſon or Perſons who ſhall be authoriſed for that Purpoſe, by the Commiſſioners of Exciſe for the Time being, or any Two or more of them, within the Limits of the Chief Office of Exciſe in *London*, or by One or more Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace in any other Part of *Great Britain*, at any Time or Times, with any Officer or Officers of Exciſe, or for any Officer or Officers of Exciſe, to enter into any Starch Houſe, or any other Place whatever, wherein any Starch, Hair Powder, or Blue, ſhall be, or ſhall be ſuſpected to be, preparing or making, or prepared or made, and every ſuch Officer of Exciſe, and Perſon ſo authoriſed as aforeſaid, ſhall have free Admittance into, and may inſpect all the Materials, Veſſels, and Utenſils, contained in any ſuch Starch Houſe or other Place (giving thereby as little Interruption as may be to the lawful Buſineſs which ſhall be there carrying on); and in caſe any ſuch Officer of Exciſe ſhall have Reaſon to ſuſpect that any Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man, is mixed in any Waters or Liquids, or with any other Materials or Preparations whatſoever, or is otherwiſe in Operation for preparing or making Starch, Hair Powder, or Blue, it ſhall be lawful for ſuch Officer, at any Time or Times during the Continuance of this Act, upon Payment of Three-pence *per* Pound Weight, (if demanded), to take a Sample, not exceeding Fifty Pounds Weight, of any ſuch Mixtures in Waters or Liquids, or other Materials or Preparations, which ſhall be found in any ſuch Starch Houſe or other Place aforeſaid; and in caſe any Maker of Starch, Hair Powder, or Blue, or the Owner or Occupier of any ſuch Starch Houſe or Place, or any Workman or Servant belonging to any ſuch Maker or Makers, or Owner or Occupier, ſhall refuſe to admit ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall be ſo authoriſed, or any Officer or Officers of Exciſe, into any ſuch Starch Houſe or Place, or ſhall obſtruct or hinder any ſuch Officer, or Perſon or Perſons, in making ſuch Inſpection as aforeſaid, or ſhall not allow any ſuch Officer to take ſuch Sample, after the ſaid Sum of Three-pence *per* Pound Weight ſhall be paid or tendered for the ſame, every ſuch Maker, Owner, or Occupier, ſhall for every ſuch Offence reſpectively forfeit the Sum of Two hundred Pounds; and it ſhall be lawful for any ſuch Officer of Exciſe, or other Perſon or Perſons authoriſed as aforeſaid, having a Warrant

and Officers may take Samples of Mixtures, paying for the ſame, if they ſuſpect Wheat, &c. to be mixed therein.

Penalty of 200*l.* for refuſing Admiſſion, or preventing the Inſpection of Materials, &c.

Wheat, &c. ſo found, may be ſeized.

Warrant for that Purpoſe from any Two or more of the Commiſſioners of Exciſe, or any Juſtice or Juſtices reſpectively, as aforeſaid, to ſeize, take, and carry away, all ſuch Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man, and alſo all ſuch Mixtures, or Waters, or Liquids, or other Materials or Preparations, as ſhall be found in any ſuch Starch Houſe, or other Place, together with all the Veſſels, Sacks, Bags, and other Things in which the ſaid Commodities, or any of them, ſhall be contained.

Makers of Starch, &c. may keep in their Houſes Wheat, &c. not exceeding Eight Buſhels:

VI. Provided always, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful for any Maker or Makers of Starch, Hair Powder, or Blue, to have or keep, for his, her, or their neceſſary Uſe, in any Dwelling Houſe, Room, or Place, (not being an entered Houſe, Room, or Place, for making or preparing of Starch), any Quantity of Wheat, Barley, Rice, Grain, Potatoes, Flour, or Meal, not exceeding, at any One Time, the Quantity of Eight Buſhels of Wheat, Barley, Rice, Grain, Potatoes, Flour, and Meal; and that if any ſuch Maker or Makers ſhall, during the Continuance of this Act, be poſſeſſed of, or have in his, her, or their Cuſtody or Poſſeſſion, or in the Cuſtody or Poſſeſſion of any Perſon or Perſons in Truſt or for the Uſe or Benefit of ſuch Maker, more than Eight Buſhels of Wheat, Barley, Rice, Grain, Potatoes, Flour, or Meal, at any One Time, in any One or more Place or Places, every ſuch Maker or Makers ſhall for every ſuch Offence reſpectively forfeit all ſuch Wheat, Barley, Rice, Grain, Potatoes, Flour, and Meal, exceeding the ſaid Quantity of Eight Buſhels, and alſo the Sum of Five Pounds for every Buſhel ſo forfeited: Provided always nevertheleſs, that this Act ſhall not extend to inflict the ſaid laſt-mentioned Forfeiture or Penalty, or either of them, upon any Maker of Starch who ſhall be the actual Grower of Wheat, Barley, or other Grain, and ſhall be poſſeſſed of any Quantity of ſuch Wheat, Barley, or other Grain, in the Straw, grown by him, or after ſuch Wheat, Barley, or other Grain, is threſhed out or ſeparated from the Straw: Provided, that ſuch Wheat, Barley, or other Grain, ſhall not be kept in his Poſſeſſion, or in the Poſſeſſion of any other Perſon or Perſons in Truſt for him, for a greater Space of Time than Twenty Days after the ſame ſhall be threſhed or ſeparated from the Straw, and ſo as ſuch Wheat, Barley, or other Grain, be not kept in any Place uſed for making, preparing, or keeping Starch: Provided alſo, that this Act ſhall not extend to inflict the ſaid laſt-mentioned Forfeiture and Penalty, or either of them, upon any Maker of Starch who practices the Trade of a Miller, and who was poſſeſſed of, and as a Miller worked, any Mill or Mills for the grinding of Wheat, Barley, or other Grain, on or before the Third Day of *November* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-five, for or upon Account of any Quantity of Wheat, Barley, or other Grain, which ſhall, during the Time herein-before limited, be found not wetted or ſteeped in any ſuch Mill or Mills; any Thing herein contained to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Penalty for having more than that Quantity;

but not to extend to Starch Makers, being Growers of Wheat, or Millers, in certain Caſes.

On Oath of Ground of Suſpicion that more than Eight Buſhels of Wheat, &c. is kept in any Storehouſe, &c. Officers of Exciſe, and

VII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That in caſe any Officer or Officers of Exciſe, or any other Perſon or Perſons, ſhall at any Time or Times have cauſe to ſuſpect that any Wheat, Barley, Rice, Grain, Potatoes, Flour, or Meal, exceeding the Quantity of Eight Buſhels of ſuch Wheat, Barley, Rice, Grain, Potatoes, Flour, and Meal, belonging to any Maker or Makers of Starch, Hair Powder, or Blue, ſhall be laid or kept in any Storehouſe, Warehouſe, Granary,

or other Place or Places, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, then, and in every ſuch Caſe, upon Oath made by ſuch Officer or Officers, or other Perſon or Perſons, before the Commiſſioners of Exciſe, or any Two or more of them, in *England* for the Time being, or before One or more Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace reſiding near the Place where ſuch Officer or Officers, or other Perſon or Perſons, ſhall ſuſpect the ſame to be laid or kept, ſetting forth the Ground of his or their Suſpicion, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Commiſſioners, or Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace reſpectively, before whom ſuch Officer or Officers, or other Perſon or Perſons, ſhall make Oath as aforeſaid, (if he or they ſhall judge it reaſonable), by Special Warrant under his or their reſpective Hands and Seals, to authorize and empower ſuch Officer or Officers, or other Perſon or Perſons authorized as aforeſaid, by Day or by Night, (but if in the Night, then in the Preſence of a Conſtable or other lawful Officer of the Peace), to enter into all and every Storehouſe, Warehouſe, Granary, or other Place or Places, where he or they ſhall ſo ſuſpect that any Wheat, Barley, Rice, Grain, Potatoes, Flour, or Meal, exceeding the Quantity of Eight Buſhels of Wheat, Barley, Rice, Grain, Potatoes, Flour, and Meal, belonging to any ſuch Maker or Makers, ſhall be laid or kept, and to ſeize, take, and carry away, all ſuch Wheat, Barley, Rice, Grain, Potatoes, Flour, or Meal, as he or they ſhall ſo find, (over and above the ſaid Quantity of Eight Buſhels), together with all the Veſſels, Sacks, Bags, or other Things, wherein the ſame ſhall be contained; and ſuch Maker or Makers, or the Perſon or Perſons in whoſe Cuſtody or Poſſeſſion ſuch Wheat, Barley, Rice, Grain, Potatoes, Flour, or Meal, belonging to ſuch Maker or Makers as aforeſaid, ſhall be found, ſhall for every ſuch Offence reſpectively forfeit and pay the ſaid Penalty of Five Pounds for every Buſhel exceeding the ſaid Quantity of Eight Buſhels; and the ſaid Officer or Officers, and other Perſon or Perſons, is or are hereby empowered by ſuch Warrant, together with ſuch other Perſon or Perſons as he or they ſhall take to his or their Aſſiſtance, to enter ſuch Storehouſes, Warehouſes, Granaries, and other Place or Places, and break open the Doors thereof, in caſe they be not forthwith opened on Demand.

other Perſons, may be authoriſed to ſearch, and may ſeize the Surplus, and the Perſons in whoſe Cuſtody found to forfeit 5*l.* *per* Buſhel.

Doors may be broke open.

VIII. And whereas there may have been Contracts made by Makers of Starch with ſeveral Perſons for Starch or Hair Powder to be delivered and received at future Times after the paſſing of this Act; be it therefore further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That all Contracts or Bargains made by any Maker or Makers of Starch, or by any Maker or Makers of Hair Powder, with any Perſon or Perſons whatever, for any Starch or Hair Powder to be delivered at any Time during the Continuance of this Act, ſhall be, and are hereby declared to be, null and void.

Contracts for Delivery of Starch or Hair Powder during the Continuance of this Act, void.

IX. And whereas, for the Protection of the fair Trader, it is expedient to provide the ſeveral Reſtrictions, Regulations, and Matters, hereinafter mentioned; be it therefore further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, no Hair Powder ſhall be imported or brought from any Part of *Europe*, or, from and after the Twentieth Day of *February* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-ſix, ſhall be imported or brought from any Part of *Aſia*, *Africa*, or *America*, into *Great Britain*, or into any Port, Harbour, Haven, or Creek thereof, in any Ship or Veſſel, otherwiſe than in Caſk, Cheſt, Caſe, Bag, or other Package, each Caſk, Cheſt, Caſe, Bag, or other Package whereof, ſhall contain Two hundred and twenty-four Pounds Neat of Hair Powder at

No Hair Powder to be imported after certain Periods in leſs Packages than 224 *lb.* &c. on Penalty of Forfeiture, and 50 *l.*

at the leaſt, to be ſtowed openly in the Hold of ſuch Ship or Veſſel importing the ſame, on Pain to forfeit all the Hair Powder ſo imported or brought contrary to this Act, together with the Caſk, Cheſt, Caſe, Bag, or other Package containing the ſame, which ſhall and may be ſeized by any Officer of the Cuſtoms or Exciſe; and the Maſter, Mate, or other Perſon, taking the Charge or Command of ſuch Ship or Veſſel, ſhall forfeit the Sum of Fifty Pounds.

In Entries of Starch or Hair Powder imported, the Number of Packages, &c. to be inſerted, on Penalty of Forfeiture.

X. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That in every Entry or Report of any Starch or Hair Powder imported or brought into this Kingdom to be made, by the Maſter or Purſer of any Ship or Veſſel, in purſuance of an Act, made in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Years of the Reign of King *Charles* the Second, intituled, *An Act for preventing Frauds, and regulating Abuſes, in His Majeſty's Cuſtoms*, the Number of Caſks, Cheſts, Caſes, Bags, or other Packages, with the particular Numbers and Marks of each of them, on board of each reſpective Ship or Veſſel, ſhall be inſerted, on Pain, for every Neglect or Refuſal thereof, to forfeit ſuch Starch or Hair Powder reſpectively, with the Caſk, Cheſt, Caſe, Bag, or other Package wherein the ſame ſhall be contained, which ſhall and may be ſeized by any Officer or Officers of the Cuſtoms or Exciſe; any Law, Cuſtom, or Uſage, to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

Starch or Hair Powder imported, when weighed, to be depoſited, &c. as the Officers of Exciſe ſhall direct.

XI. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That whenever any Starch or Hair Powder reſpectively imported or brought into this Kingdom, ſhall, in order to aſcertain the Duties payable thereon, have been weighed by the proper Officer or Officers of the Cuſtoms, the proper Officer or Officers of the Cuſtoms ſhall ſecure the ſame, until the Delivery thereof into the Charge and Cuſtody of the proper Officer or Officers of Exciſe; and upon the Delivery thereof into the Cuſtody of the proper Officer or Officers of Exciſe, the Importer or Importers, Proprietor or Proprietors, or Conſignee or Conſignees thereof, ſhall, at his, her, and their own proper Coſts and Charges, remove all ſuch Starch and Hair Powder reſpectively to, and depoſit the ſame in, ſuch convenient Houſe, Warehouſe, or Place, as the proper Officer or Officers of Exciſe ſhall direct, and thereupon ſuch Importer or Importers, Proprietor or Proprietors, or Conſignee or Conſignees, ſhall, on being required by the proper Officer or Officers of Exciſe ſo to do, immediately wrap all ſuch Starch and Hair Powder reſpectively, in Papers of the Colours, or One of them, herein-after mentioned, and no other, each ſuch Paper containing not leſs than Four Pounds Weight, nor more than Seven Pounds Weight of Starch, nor leſs than One Pound Weight, nor more than Seven Pounds Weight of Hair Powder; and alſo tie up every ſuch Wrapper with Strings, croſſing each other on that Side of the Wrapper where the Ends of the Paper containing ſuch Starch or Hair Powder reſpectively ſhall be folded, and alſo ſtrongly affix, or paſte with warm Paſte made with Glue, on the Outſide of every ſuch Wrapper, after the ſame ſhall be ſo tied, a Label of very thin Paper, Three Inches long, and Three Inches broad, at the leaſt, and of a different Colour from the Paper in which the Starch or Hair Powder reſpectively ſhall be wrapped; that is to ſay, if ſuch Starch or Hair Powder ſhall be wrapped in Blue or Brown Paper, the ſaid Label ſhall be White; and if ſuch Starch or Hair Powder ſhall be wrapped in White Paper, ſuch Label ſhall be Blue; and ſhall alſo affix and paſte every ſuch Label on the Foldings of both Ends of the Paper incloſing ſuch Quantity of Starch or Hair Powder reſpectively,

tively, and in ſuch a Manner as to prevent the opening of the ſaid Paper containing ſuch Starch or Hair Powder reſpectively, without tearing ſuch Label; and the proper Officer or Officers of Exciſe ſhall attend to ſee ſuch Starch and Hair Powder reſpectively papered and tied in Manner aforeſaid, and ſuch Label affixed and paſted on every ſuch Paper containing ſuch Starch or Hair Powder reſpectively; and ſuch Officer or Officers ſhall cauſe every ſuch Label affixed and paſted on every ſuch Paper containing Starch or Hair Powder reſpectively, to be ſtamped or ſealed with ſuch Stamp or Seal as ſhall be provided by the Commiſſioners of Exciſe in *England* and *Scotland* reſpectively for that Purpoſe; and if any ſuch Importer or Importers, Proprietor or Proprietors, or Conſignee or Conſignees, of Starch or Hair Powder imported or brought into this Kingdom, ſhall neglect or refuſe ſo to remove any ſuch Starch or Hair Powder, or to depoſit the ſame as aforeſaid, or to wrap any ſuch Starch or Hair Powder in Paper as aforeſaid, or to tie up any ſuch Paper as aforeſaid, or to affix or paſte any ſuch Label as aforeſaid, all and every ſuch Importer or Importers, Proprietor or Proprietors, or Conſignee or Conſignees, ſo offending, ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, forfeit the Sum of One hundred Pounds.

Officer of Exciſe to attend, and cauſe Labels to be ſtamped.

Penalty of 100 *l.* on Importers, &c. neglecting to depoſit, &c. Starch or Hair Powder.

XII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the Commiſſioners of Exciſe, or the major Part of them, in *England* and *Scotland* reſpectively, ſhall provide proper Stamps or Seals for the ſtamping or ſealing the Labels affixed or paſted on Paper containing all Starch and Hair Powder reſpectively, which ſhall be imported or brought into this Kingdom, and papered in purſuance of this Act, and ſhall cauſe ſuch Stamps or Seals to be diſtributed to the proper Officers of Exciſe, for the Purpoſe before mentioned, which Officers are hereby enjoined and required, in uſing the ſame, to do no Hurt or Damage, or the leaſt Hurt or Damage that may be, to the Starch or Hair Powder reſpectively, or to the Paper wherein the ſame ſhall be ſo wrapped; which Stamps or Seals ſhall and may be varied, altered, or renewed, from Time to Time, as the ſaid Commiſſioners of Exciſe reſpectively, or the major Part of them reſpectively, ſhall think fit.

Commiſſioners of Exciſe to provide and diſtribute Stamps.

Officers to do no Hurt in uſing them.

XIII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall at any Time forge or counterfeit any Stamp or Seal, to reſemble any Stamp or Seal, which ſhall be provided in purſuance of this Act, for ſtamping or ſealing Starch or Hair Powder imported; or ſhall counterfeit or reſemble the Impreſſion of the ſame upon any Paper containing any Starch or Hair Powder, thereby to defraud His Majeſty, His Heirs or Succeſſors, of any of the Duties upon Starch or Hair Powder, then every Perſon ſo offending, being thereof convicted in due Form of Law, ſhall be adjudged a Felon, and ſhall ſuffer Death as in Caſes of Felony, without Benefit of Clergy: And if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall at any Time ſell any Starch or Hair Powder with any ſuch forged or counterfeit Stamp, Seal, or Impreſſion thereon, knowing the ſame to be forged and counterfeited, and with an Intent to defraud His Majeſty, His Heirs or Succeſſors, of any of the Duties upon Starch or Hair Powder, or ſhall knowingly, with Intent to defraud His Majeſty, His Heirs or Succeſſors, of any of the Duties upon Starch or Hair Powder, fix, or cauſe to be fixed, the Label of any Paper ſtamped or ſealed according to the Directions of this Act, to any Starch or Hair Powder, other than that which was incloſed in ſuch Paper at the Time when the Label thereof was ſtamped or ſealed by the proper

Perſons counterfeiting Stamps to ſuffer Death;

and Perſons ſelling Starch or Hair Powder with ſuch Stamps, &c. to forfeit 200 *l.*

Officer or Officers of Excise, according to the Directions of this Act, every Person so offending shall, for every such Offence, forfeit the Sum of Two hundred Pounds.

Imported Starch found in any Place belonging to a Starch or Hair Powder Maker, &c. not properly stampt, &c. may be seized, and the Party to forfeit 200 *l.*

XIV. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Starch imported or brought into this Kingdom shall be found in any Place belonging to any Starch Maker or Dealer in Starch, or to any Hair Powder Maker or Dealer in Hair Powder, or in the Custody or Possession of any Person or Persons to or for the Use or Benefit of any such Maker or Makers, or Dealer or Dealers in such Starch or Hair Powder, not being wrapped in Paper as aforesaid, or wrapped in Paper which shall be found not stamped or labelled as aforesaid, all such Starch shall be forfeited, together with all and singular the Casks, Chests, Cases, Bags, or other Packages, containing the same, and such Starch, Casks, Chests, Cases, Bags, and other Packages respectively, shall and may be seized by any Officer or Officers of the Customs or Excise, and the Starch Maker or Dealer in Starch, or Hair Powder Maker or Dealer in Hair Powder, to whom such Place shall belong, and also such other Person or Persons as aforesaid, in whose Possession such Starch shall be found, shall forfeit the Sum of Two hundred Pounds: Provided always nevertheless, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend, or be deemed or construed to extend, to forfeit any such Starch which shall have been imported into this Kingdom, nor any such Cask, Chest, Case, Bag, or other Package, containing the same, for or by Reason of such Starch being found not wrapped in Paper stamped or labelled as last aforesaid, such Starch being made into Hair Powder, or being taken out of the Papers in the Possession of any Hair Powder Maker or Blue Maker for the Purpose of immediately manufacturing the same into Hair Powder or into Blue, or any Quantity of Starch not exceeding Twenty-eight Pounds Weight in the Possession of any Dealer in or Seller of Starch, and taken out of the Papers for immediate or current Sale; any Thing herein before contained to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Act not to extend to such Starch being made into Hair Powder, &c.

If the Paper containing imported Starch or Hair Powder should be damaged, after being stampt, it may be re papered, &c. under certain Conditions.

XV. And whereas it may happen that the Paper wherein any Starch or Hair Powder imported shall be contained, after the same has been stamped as aforesaid, may, by Accident, be broken or damaged, be it therefore further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That when the Paper wherein any such Starch or Hair Powder shall be contained shall, by any Accident, be broken or damaged, and the Starch Maker or Dealer in Starch, or Hair Powder Maker or Dealer in Hair Powder, to whom the same belongs, shall be desirous of having the same re-papered and re-stamped, such Maker or Dealer shall give to the proper Officer or Officers of Excise, within whose Survey he or she shall be, Twenty-four Hours Notice in Writing, that such Maker or Dealer desires to have such Starch or Hair Powder re-papered and re-stamped, and thereupon, and upon the Production of such broken Paper, with the Label and Stamp, or Seal thereof, to such Officer or Officers, and leaving the same with him or them, it shall be lawful for such Officer or Officers, being satisfied that such Starch or Hair Powder had before been duly stamped or sealed as aforesaid, and that the Paper or Papers containing the same had been broken or damaged by Accident, as soon as is convenient after the Expiration of such Twenty-four Hours, to re-stamp or re-seal such Starch or Hair Powder, the same being re-papered and tied, and such Label as aforesaid being affixed thereon in Manner herein-before directed.

XVI. And

No Hair Powder exceeding 28 *lb* to be removed unleſs marked "Hair-Powder," on Penalty of Forfeiture.

XVI. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That when any Hair Powder, exceeding the Quantity of Twenty-eight Pounds Weight, ſhall be removed or carried by Land or by Water, the Word "Hair-Powder" ſhall be painted or marked, in legible Letters of at leaſt Three Inches in Length, on every Caſk, Cheſt, Caſe, Bag, or other Package wherein ſuch Hair Powder ſhall be contained; and any Hair Powder, exceeding the Quantity of Twenty-eight Pounds Weight, which ſhall be found removing or carrying, or removed or carried, by Land or by Water, in any Caſk, Cheſt, Caſe, Bag, or other Package, not having the Word "Hair-Powder" ſo painted or marked thereon, ſhall be forfeited, together with the Caſk, Cheſt, Caſe, Bag, or other Package containing the ſame, and the Boat or Veſſel, Horſes or other Cattle, Waggon, Cart, or other Carriage, made uſe of in removing or carrying the ſame; and the ſame ſhall and may be ſeized by any Officer or Officers of the Cuſtoms or Exciſe.

Dealers in Hair Powder receiving more than 28 *lb.* unmarked, to forfeit 200 *l.*

XVII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Dealer or Dealers in, or Seller or Sellers of, Hair Powder, ſhall, at any Time, knowingly receive into his, her, or their, Cuſtody or Poſſeſſion, any Quantity of Hair Powder exceeding Twenty-eight Pounds Weight, not having the Word "Hair-Powder" ſo as aforeſaid painted or marked on the Caſk, Cheſt, Caſe, Bag, or other Package containing the ſame, the Perſon or Perſons ſo offending ſhall forfeit the Sum of Two hundred Pounds.

Penalty of 200*l* for obſtructing Officers.

XVIII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall obſtruct or hinder any Officer or Officers of the Cuſtoms or Exciſe in the Execution of any of the Powers and Authorities to him or them given by this Act, the Perſon or Perſons offending therein ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, (for which no other Penalty is by this Act impoſed), forfeit and loſe the Sum of Two hundred Pounds.

Recovery and Application of Penalties ſued for by the Cuſtoms.

XIX. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That all Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures, created or impoſed by this Act, and which ſhall be ſued for or proſecuted under or by virtue of the Order or Permiſſion of the Commiſſioners of the Cuſtoms in *England* and *Scotland* reſpectively, or by any Officer or Officers of the Cuſtoms, ſhall and may be ſued for, proſecuted, recovered, and diſpoſed of, in ſuch Manner, and by ſuch Ways, Means, and Methods, as any Fines or Penalties incurred, or any Goods forfeited, for any Offence againſt the Laws of Cuſtoms, may now legally be ſued for, proſecuted, recovered, and diſpoſed of; and the Officer or Officers of the Cuſtoms concerned in any ſuch Seizure or Proſecution ſhall be entitled to and receive ſuch Share of the Produce ariſing from the Seizures as they are now by Law entitled to upon Proſecutions of Seizures for unlawful Importations, and to ſuch Share of the Produce ariſing from any pecuniary Penalty or Compoſition paid for any Offence againſt this Act, as they are now by any Law or Regulation entitled to upon Proſecutions for pecuniary Penalties.

Recovery and Application of Penalties ſued for by the Exciſe.

XX. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That all Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures, impoſed by this Act, and which ſhall be proſecuted or ſued for by Order of the Commiſſioners of Exciſe in *England* or *Scotland* reſpectively, or by any Officer or Officers of Exciſe, ſhall be ſued for, recovered, levied, or mitigated, by ſuch

Ways, Means, or Methods, as any Fine, Penalty, or Forfeiture, may be ſued for, recovered, levied, or mitigated, by any Law or Laws of Exciſe, or by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majeſty's Courts of Record at *Weſtminſter*, or in the Court of Exchequer in *Scotland*, reſpectively; and that One Moiety of every ſuch Fine, Penalty, or Forfeiture, ſhall be to His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, and the other Moiety to him, her, or them, who ſhall inform, diſcover, or ſue for the ſame.

Limitation of Actions in *England*.

XXI. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Action or Suit ſhall be commenced againſt any Perſon or Perſons for any Thing done in purſuance of this Act, ſuch Action or Suit ſhall be commenced within the Space of One Calendar Month next after the Offence ſhall be committed; and if ſuch Action or Suit ſhall be commenced or proſecuted in that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, the Defendant or Defendants in any ſuch Action or Suit 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, the Jury ſhall find for the Defendant or Defendants; and if the Plaintiff ſhall be nonſuited, or diſcontinue his Action after the Defendant or Defendants ſhall have appeared, or if Judgement ſhall be given upon any Verdict or Demurrer againſt the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants ſhall and may recover Treble Coſts, and have the like Remedy for the ſame as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have in other Caſes by Law; and if ſuch Action or Suit be commenced or proſecuted in that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, the Court before whom ſuch Action or Suit ſhall be brought ſhall allow the Defender to plead this Act in his Defence, and the Purſuer ſhall not inſiſt on his Action; or if Judgement ſhall be given againſt ſuch Purſuer, the Defender ſhall and may recover the full and real Expences he may have been put to by any ſuch Action or Suit.

General Iſſue.

Treble Coſts.

In Actions in *Scotland*, the Defender may plead this Act, &c.

His Majeſty may permit the making of Starch from Wheat, &c.

XXII. Provided always, and be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That in caſe His Majeſty, at any Time or Times after the paſſing of this Act, ſhall, in His Royal Diſcretion, judge it to be moſt for the Benefit and Advantage of this Kingdom to permit the making of Starch from Wheat, Barley, Rice, Grain, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man, that then it ſhall and may be lawful to and for His Majeſty, by His Royal Proclamation or Proclamations, to be iſſued by and with the Advice of His Privy Council, or by His Majeſty's Order in Council, to be publiſhed in the *London Gazette*, from Time to Time to permit and ſuffer all and every Perſon and Perſons, Natives and Foreigners, (but not any particular Perſon or Perſons), at any Time or Times after the paſſing of this Act, to make Starch from Wheat, Barley, Rice, Potatoes, Flour, Meal, or any other Article or Thing uſed for the Food of Man; any Thing herein contained to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Commencement and Continuance of Act.

XXIII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That this Act ſhall commence and take Effect as to all ſuch Matters and Things therein contained, in reſpect whereof no ſpecial Commencement is hereby directed or provided, from and immediately after the paſſing of this Act, and ſhall be and remain in Force until and upon the Firſt Day of *February* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-ſeven.

FINIS.