ANNO TRICESIMO SEPTIMO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. XLVI.

An Act for making certain Annuities, created by the Parliament of the Kingdom of *Ireland*, transferrable, and the Dividends thereon payable, at the Bank of *England*; and for the better Security of the Proprietors of ſuch Annuities, and of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*.

[3d *May* 1797.]

WHEREAS by an Act of Parliament of the Kingdom of *Ireland*, made and paſſed in the Thirty-ſeventh Year of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, intituled, *An Act for ſecuring the Payment of the Annuities, and of the Intereſt upon the Principal Sums therein provided, for and towards the Diſcharge of ſuch Principal Sums in ſuch Manner as therein is directed; and for enabling the Officers of His Majeſty's Treaſury to receive certain Sums for a limited Time in Manner therein mentioned; and for granting to His Majeſty a certain Sum of Money out of the Conſolidated Fund; and for applying a certain Sum of Money therein mentioned, for the Service of the Year One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-ſeven, and for other Purpoſes*, reciting (among other Things) that by a Reſolution of the Houſe of Commons of *Ireland*, of the Eighteenth Day of *October* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-ſix, it was reſolved, That whatever Sum or Sums of Money ſhould be advanced or paid into His Majeſty's Treaſury in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, not exceeding in the Whole the Sum of Five hundred

Preamble.

Act of the Parliament of *Ireland*, 37 Geo. III, recited.

hundred thouſand Pounds, to be applied by his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, to defray ſuch extraordinary Expences as the then preſent Circumſtances rendered neceſſary, and which had not been provided for by Parliament for the Service of the then current Year, ſhould be made good, ſuch Sum to be raiſed by iſſuing Debentures or Stock of One hundred Pounds, bearing an Intereſt not exceeding Five Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, and not redeemable for Fifteen Years, to the Amount of Five hundred thouſand Pounds, together with ſuch Annuities for each One hundred Pounds as ſhould be agreed on by his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, not exceeding the loweſt Rate which ſhould be offered by any Perſon or Perſons propoſing to pay and advance ſuch Sums, ſuch Annuity to continue for Fifteen Years, or by Sale of Annuities of One hundred Pounds each, not exceeding in the Whole the Sum of Sixty thouſand Pounds *per Annum*, for Fifteen Years or for One Life, to the Perſon or Perſons offering the greateſt Number of Years Purchaſe for ſuch Annuity, or partly by iſſuing ſuch Stock or Debentures, and partly by Sale of ſaid Annuities, in ſuch Manner as ſhould be directed by his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, or other Chief Governor or Governors of the ſaid Kingdom of *Ireland*; and alſo reciting that, in purſuance of the ſaid Reſolution, the Sum of Three hundred and twenty-five thouſand Pounds, being Three hundred thouſand Pounds *Britiſh* Currency, Part of the ſaid Sum of Five hundred thouſand Pounds, had been ſubſcribed for in *England*, to be paid into His Majeſty's Treaſury in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, and had been made Stock, transferrable in Transfer Books, agreed to be kept by the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, for which Sum an Intereſt of Five Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, from the Twenty-fifth Day of *September* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-ſix, was payable in the City of *London*; and that the ſaid Sum was due and unpaid; and for effectuating the raiſing of the ſaid Sum of Three hundred and twenty-five thouſand Pounds, Annuities of Four Pounds and Fifteen Shillings, by the Year, for each Sum of One hundred Pounds, for Thirteen Years and a Half, from the ſaid Twenty-fifth Day of *September* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-ſix, amounting to Fifteen thouſand four hundred and thirty-ſeven Pounds Ten Shillings *Iriſh* Currency, transferrable at the Bank of *England*, had been appointed to be paid in *London* to the Perſon or Perſons who advanced and paid the ſaid Sum; it was enacted, (amongſt other Things), That for the ſaid Sum of Three hundred and twenty-five thouſand Pounds made Stock, transferrable at the Bank of *England*, there ſhould be paid in the City of *London*, at the End of every Six Calendar Months, to the Perſon or Perſons who paid or lent or ſhould have become entitled to the ſame reſpectively, his, her, or their Executors, Adminiſtrators, or Aſſigns, an Intereſt at the Rate of Five Pounds *per Centum per Annum* *Iriſh* Currency, ſuch Intereſt to be paid without any Fee or Charge, and free from all Deductions whatſoever, until ſuch Time as they ſhould be reſpectively paid their Principal Money at One entire Payment: And it was further enacted, That the ſeveral Annuities granted in purſuance of the ſaid Reſolution of the Eighteenth Day of *October* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-ſix, ſhould be regularly paid at the City of *London*, to the Perſons thereunto reſpectively entitled, as the ſame ſhould become due, according to the true Intent and Meaning of the ſaid Act: And whereas the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England* have conſented and agreed that the Annuities and Intereſt upon the ſaid Principal

Sum of Three hundred thouſand Pounds Sterling, herein-before ſtated to have been ſubſcribed for in *England*, and by the ſaid Act of Parliament of *Ireland* made payable in *England*, ſhall be payable at the Bank of *England*, and the ſaid Governor and Company have alſo conſented and agreed to keep ſuch Transfer Books thereof as are mentioned in the ſaid Act of Parliament of *Ireland*; but ſuch Agreement cannot be effectually carried into Execution without the Aid of Parliament: May it therefore pleaſe Your Majeſty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted and declared 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 for the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England* to pay the Intereſt and Annuities already due and payable, and hereafter to become due and payable, upon the ſaid Principal Sum of Three hundred thouſand Pounds Sterling; and the ſaid Annuities, and alſo the ſaid Principal Sum or Stock, and any Part or Parcel thereof, ſhall and may be transferrable at the Bank of *England*, in the Manner herein-after deſcribed; and the ſaid Annuities, Principal Sum, or Stock, and the Intereſt payable thereon, ſhall not be liable to any Foreign Attachment by the Cuſtom of *London*, or otherwiſe; any Law, Statute, or Cuſtom, to the contrary notwithſtanding.

The Bank of *England* may pay the Intereſt of 300,000 *l.* ſubſcribed in *England*, which may be transferred at the Bank.

II. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall be lawful for the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England* to authorize and direct their Accountant General for the Time being to keep Books, wherein all Aſſignments or Transfers of the ſaid Annuities and Principal Sums or Stock ſhall be entered and regiſtered, in ſuch Manner as the ſaid Governor and Company ſhall direct; which Entry ſhall be ſigned by the Parties making ſuch Aſſignments or Transfers, or if ſuch Parties be abſent, by their reſpective Attorney or Attornies thereunto lawfully authorized, in Writing, under his, her, or their Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals, to be atteſted by Two or more credible Witneſſes; and that the ſeveral Perſons to whom ſuch Transfers ſhall be made, ſhall reſpectively underwrite their Acceptance thereof by themſelves, or by their reſpective Attorney or Attornies thereunto lawfully authorized in Manner aforeſaid; and that no other Method of aſſigning and tranſferring the ſaid Annuities and Principal Sum or Stock, or any Part thereof, or any Intereſt therein, ſhall be good or available in Law: Provided always, That no Stamp Duties whatſoever ſhall be charged on any of the ſaid Transfers, nor on any Receipt for any Payment in reſpect of the ſaid Annuities or the ſaid Principal Sums or Stock, or the Intereſt thereof; any Law or Statute to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Books to be kept for entering Transfers.

No Stamp Duties to be charged on Transfers or Receipt of Annuities.

III. And whereas for the Prevention of Forgeries and Frauds in reſpect of the Receipts, Payments, and Transfers made or given in purſuance of this Act, it is neceſſary that the like Proviſions ſhould be enacted as by the Laws now in being are already in Force, reſpecting Stocks, Annuities, and other Publick Funds transferrable at the Bank of *England*: Be it therefore further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall forge or counterfeit, or cauſe or procure to be forged or counterfeited, or wilfully act or aſſiſt in the forging or counterfeiting, any Receipt or Receipts for the Whole or any Part or Parts of the ſaid Subſcriptions or Contributions towards the ſaid Princi-

Perſons forging, altering, &c. Receipts or Debentures, to ſuffer Death.

pal Sum of Three hundred thouſand Pounds Sterling, or any Debenture or Debentures, purporting to entitle any Perſon or Perſons, or Body Politick or Corporate whatſoever, to any Principal Sum, or the Intereſt thereon, or any Annuity or Part of any Principal Sum, Intereſt, or Annuity, payable under the ſaid Act of Parliament of *Ireland*, either with or without the Name or Names of any Perſon or Perſons, or Body Politick or Corporate being inſerted therein, as the Subſcriber or Subſcribers, or Contributor or Contributors, or Payer or Payers towards the ſaid Principal Sum of Three hundred thouſand Pounds Sterling, or any Part or Parts thereof, or ſhall alter any Number, Figure, or Word therein, or utter or publiſh as true, any ſuch falſe, forged, counterfeited, or altered Receipt or Receipts, Debenture or Debentures, with Intention to defraud the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, or any Body Politick or Corporate, or any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, ſuch Receipt or Receipts, Debenture or Debentures, concerning ſome Part or Share of or in the Principal Sums or Stock, or the Annuities, by this Act made or declared transferrable at the Bank of England, every ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo forging or counterfeiting, or cauſing or procuring to be forged or counterfeited, or wilfully acting or aſſiſting in the forging or counterfeiting, or altering, uttering, or publiſhing as aforeſaid, ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as a Felon or Felons without Benefit of Clergy.

Perſons forging Letters of Attorney, &c. or perſonating Proprietors, to ſuffer Death.

IV. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall forge or counterfeit, or procure to be forged or counterfeited, or knowingly and wilfully act or aſſiſt in the forging or counterfeiting, any Letter of Attorney, or other Authority or Inſtrument, to transfer, aſſign, ſell, or convey, any Part or Share of or in the Principal Sums or Stock, or the Annuities, by this Act made or declared transferrable at the Bank of *England*, or to receive any Annuity or Annuities, or Intereſt, or Dividend or Dividends, in purſuance of this Act, payable at the Bank of *England*, or any Part thereof, or ſhall forge or counterfeit, or procure to be forged or counterfeited, or knowingly and wilfully act or aſſiſt in the forging or counterfeiting, any the Name or Names of any the Proprietor or Proprietors of any ſuch Part or Share of or in ſuch Principal Sum or Stock, or Annuities, Intereſt, Dividend or Dividends, as aforeſaid, in or to any ſuch pretended Letter of Attorney, Inſtrument, or Authority, or ſhall knowingly and fraudulently demand or endeavour to have any ſuch Part or Share of or in ſuch Principal Sum or Stock, or Annuities, Intereſt, Dividend or Dividends, or any Part thereof, tranſferred, aſſigned, ſold, or conveyed, or ſuch Annuity or Annuities, Intereſt, Dividend or Dividends, or any Part thereof, to be received by virtue of any ſuch counterfeit or forged Letter of Attorney, Authority, or Inſtrument, or ſhall falſely and deceitfully perſonate any true and real Proprietor or Proprietors of the ſaid Shares of or in the ſaid Principal Sum or Stock, Annuities, Intereſt, Dividend or Dividends, or any of them, or any Part thereof, and thereby transferring or endeavouring to transfer any Part or Share of or in the ſaid Principal Sum or Stock, or Annuities, or receiving or endeavouring to receive the Money of ſuch true and lawful Proprietor or Proprietors, as if ſuch Offender or Offenders were the true and lawful Owner or Owners thereof, then and in every

or any ſuch Caſe, ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as a Felon or Felons without Benefit of Clergy.

Perſons forging Dividend Warrants, &c. to ſuffer Death.

V. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall forge, counterfeit, or alter any Dividend Warrant, or Warrant for Payment of any Annuity, Intereſt, or Money, payable in purſuance of this Act at the Bank of *England*, or any Indorſement thereon, or ſhall offer or diſpoſe of or put away any ſuch forged, counterfeited, or altered Dividend Warrant, or Warrant for Payment of any Annuity, Intereſt, or Money, payable as aforeſaid, or the Indorſement thereon, or demand the Money therein contained, or pretended to be due thereon, or any Part thereof, of the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, or any their Officers or Servants, knowing ſuch Dividend Warrant, or Warrant for Payment of any Annuity, Intereſt, or Money, payable as aforeſaid, or the Indorſement thereon, to be forged, counterfeited, or altered, with Intent to defraud the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, or their Succeſſors, or any other Body Politick or Corporate, or any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, every Perſon or Perſons ſo offending, ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as a Felon or Felons without Benefit of Clergy.

Officers of the Bank embezzling Notes, &c. to ſuffer Death.

VI. And be it further enacted, by the Authority aforeſaid, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, if any Officer or Servant of the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, being intruſted with any Note, Bill, Dividend Warrant, or Warrant for Payment of any Annuity or Intereſt, or Money, or any Security Money, or other Effects of or belonging to the ſaid Governor and Company, or having any Note, Bill, Dividend Warrant, or Warrant for Payment of any Annuity or Intereſt, or Money, or any Security Money, or other Effects of any other Perſon or Perſons, Body Politick or Corporate, lodged or depoſited with the ſaid Governor and Company, or with him as an Officer or Servant of the ſaid Governor and Company in purſuance of this Act, or of the due Execution thereof, ſhall ſecrete, embezzle, or run away with any ſuch Note, Bill, Dividend or other Warrant, Security Money, or other Effects as aforeſaid, or any Part thereof, every ſuch Officer or Servant ſo offending, ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as a Felon without Benefit of Clergy.

Perſons making Transfers in other than Proprietors Names, to ſuffer Death.

VII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall wilfully make or aſſiſt in making any Transfer of any Intereſt, Part, or Share of or in any Principal Sum or Stock, Annuity or Annuities, by this Act made or declared transferrable at the Bank of *England*, in any of the Books of the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England* in which Transfers of Principal Sums, Stock, or Annuities, as aforeſaid, are, or in purſuance of this Act ſhall be made, in the Name or Names of any Perſon or Perſons not being the Owner or Owners, or Proprietor or Proprietors of ſuch Principal Sum or Stock, or Annuity or Annuities transferrable as aforeſaid, with Intent to defraud the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, or any other Body Politick or Corporate, or any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo making or aſſiſting in making ſuch Transfer as aforeſaid, ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as a Felon or Felons without Benefit of Clergy.

VIII. And

Perſons forging Transfers to ſuffer Death.

VIII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, if any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever ſhall falſely make, forge, or counterfeit, or cauſe or procure to be falſely made, forged, or counterfeited, or ſhall wilfully act or aſſiſt in the falſely making, forging, or counterfeiting of any Transfer of any Intereſt, Part, or Share of or in any Principal Sum or Stock, or Annuity or Annuities, by this Act made or declared transferrable at the Bank of *England*, or ſhall utter or publiſh as true any ſuch falſe, forged, or counterfeited Transfer as aforeſaid, knowing the ſame to be falſe, forged, or counterfeited, with Intent to defraud the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, or any other Body Politick or Corporate, or any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, all and every Perſon or Perſons whatſoever ſo offending, ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as a Felon or Felons without Benefit of Clergy.

Perſons making falſe Entry in the Books of the Bank, to ſuffer Death.

IX. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, if any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever ſhall wilfully make or aſſiſt in making, any falſe Entry, or ſhall wilfully alter, or aſſiſt in altering, any Word or Figure in any Entry in the Books of Account kept, or in purſuance of this Act to be kept by the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, wherein the ſeveral Accounts of the Owners or Proprietors of Principal Sums or Stock or Annuities by this Act made or declared transferrable at the Bank of *England* are, or in purſuance of this Act ſhall be, entered and kept, or ſhall in any Manner wilfully falſify the Account or Accounts of any ſuch Owner or Proprietor in the Books of the ſaid Governor and Company, wherein ſuch Accounts are, or in purſuance of this Act ſhall be, entered and kept, with Intent to defraud the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, or any other Body Politick or Corporate, or any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, every ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo offending ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as a Felon or Felons without Benefit of Clergy.

Officers of the Bank making out falſe Dividend Warrants to be tranſported.

X. And whereas, in order to cover and conceal Forgeries and Frauds in Transfers, Dividend Warrants have been ſometimes made out for different Sums than the Sums really due; be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Clerk, Officer, or Servant of, or other Perſon or Perſons employed or entruſted by, the ſaid Governor and Company, ſhall, from and after the paſſing of this Act, knowingly or wilfully make out or deliver, or cauſe or procure to be made out or delivered, or wilfully act or aſſiſt in the making out or delivering of any Dividend Warrant, or Warrant for Payment of any Annuity, or Intereſt, or Money payable in purſuance of this Act at the Bank of *England*, for a greater or leſs Amount than the Perſon or Perſons on whoſe Behalf, or pretended Behalf, ſuch Dividend Warrant, or Warrant for Payment of any Annuity, or Intereſt, or Money payable as aforeſaid, ſhall be made out, is or are entitled to, with Intent to defraud the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, or any other Body Politick or Corporate, or any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, all and every ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo offending, being in due Form of Law convicted of any ſuch Offence or Offences as aforeſaid, ſhall be tranſported for Seven Years.

FINIS.