ANNO TRICESIMO SEPTIMO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. LXXIV.

An Act to enable the *East India* Company to pay the Expences of Two Regiments of Infantry to be raiſed for the Defence and Protection of the Houſe and Warehouſes of the ſaid Company, and for ſuch Publick Services as are mentioned in an Act, made in the Thirty-fourth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for encouraging and diſciplining ſuch Corps or Companies of Men as ſhall voluntarily enroll themſelves for the Defence of their Counties, Towns, or Coaſts, or for the general Defence of the Kingdom, during the preſent War.* [6th *June* 1797.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS by an Act, made and paſſed in the Thirty-third Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for continuing in the* East India *Company, for a further Term, the Poſſeſſion of the* Britiſh *Territories in* India, *together with their excluſive Trade, under certain Limitations; for eſtabliſhing further Regulations for the Government of the ſaid Territories, and the better Adminiſtration of Juſtice within the ſame; for appropriating to certain Uſes the Revenues and Profits of the ſaid Company; and for making Proviſion for the good Order and Government of the Towns of* Calcutta, Madras, *and* Bombay; it was, amongſt other Things, enacted, that during the Continuance of the excluſive Trade to the ſaid Company, the net Proceeds of their Sales of Goods at Home, with the Duties and Allowances ariſing by private Trade, and all other Profits of the ſaid Company in *Great Britain*, after providing for the Payment of Bills of Exchange already accepted by the ſaid Company as the ſame ſhould become due, and for the current Payments of other Debts, Intereſt, and other Outgoings, Charges, and Expences, of the ſaid Company, (their Bond Debt always excepted), ſhould be applied and diſpoſed of in the Manner in the ſaid Act particularly mentioned: And whereas by an Act, made and paſſed in the Thirty-fourth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for encouraging and diſciplining ſuch Corps or Companies of Men as ſhould voluntarily enroll themſelves for the Defence of their Counties, Towns, or Coaſts, or for the general Defence of the Kingdom, during the preſent War*; it was (amongſt other Things) enacted, that any Corps or Companies of Volunteers who then were, or ſhould thereafter be formed, in any Counties or Towns in *Great Britain*, during the Continuance of the preſent War, under Officers having Commiſſion from His Majeſty, or from the Lieutenants of Counties, or others who might be ſpecially authorized by His Majeſty for that Purpoſe, and who ſhould at any Time, on being called upon by ſpecial Direction of His Majeſty, in caſe of actual Invaſion, or Appearance of Invaſion, voluntarily march out of their reſpective Counties or Towns, or ſhould voluntarily aſſemble within the ſame, to repel ſuch Invaſion, or who ſhould voluntarily march, on being called upon in purſuance of an Order from His Majeſty, or from the Lord Lieutenant or

33 *Geo.* III, Cap. 52, and

34 *Geo.* III, Cap. 31, recited.

Sheriff of the County, to act within the County, or the adjacent Counties, for the Suppreſſion of Riots or Tumults, ſhould in ſuch Caſes be entitled to receive Pay in ſuch Manner, and at ſuch Rates, as the Officers and Soldiers of His Majeſty's regular Forces did then receive, and ſhould, during the Time of their being continued in ſuch Service, and ſo receiving Pay as above, be ſubject to Military Diſcipline, as the Reſt of His Majeſty's regular and Militia Troops; provided, that no Officer or Soldier of any Volunteer Corps ſhould be liable to be tried or puniſhed by any Court Martial, at any Time, unleſs ſuch Court Martial ſhould be compoſed entirely of Officers ſerving in Volunteer Corps formed as aforeſaid; ſuch Court Martial to be aſſembled by Warrant under His Majeſty's Sign Manual, or by Warrant from ſome General or other Officer duly authorized to hold Courts Martial: And whereas the United Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *Eaſt Indies* are deſirous, at their own Expence, to raiſe, form, and maintain, Two Regiments of Infantry Volunteers, under the Proviſions of the ſaid laſt recited Act, to be employed for the Defence and Protection of their Houſe and Warehouſes, and, ſubject thereto, upon ſuch Publick Services as in the ſaid laſt Act are mentioned; and ſuch their Deſire having been ſubmitted to His Majeſty's Royal Conſideration, His Majeſty hath approved thereof, and hath been graciouſly pleaſed to grant Commiſſions to certain Officers for the raiſing, training, and commanding the ſaid Regiments; but, by reaſon of the Appropriation of the Revenues of the ſaid United Company to and for the Purpoſes mentioned in the ſaid recited Act of the Thirty-third Year of His Majeſty's Reign, the ſaid United Company cannot pay the Charges and Expences of the ſaid Two Regiments without the Authority of Parliament: Wherefore Your Majeſty's loyal and dutiful Subjects, the ſaid United Company, moſt humbly beſeech 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 United Company, from Time to Time, to pay all and every the Charges and Expences of raiſing, training, and cloathing, the ſaid Two Regiments, and alſo of their Pay and Allowances whilſt upon Duty and Service, and to charge the ſame amongſt the Ordinary Outgoings, Charges, and Expences of the ſaid United Company, previous to the Application of the net Proceeds mentioned in the ſaid Act, made in the Thirty-third Year of His Majeſty's Reign, to, for, and upon, the Purpoſes in and by the ſame Act directed; any Thing in the ſame Act contained to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

The *Eaſt India* Company may pay the Expences of Two Regiments of Volunteers.

II. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the ſaid Two Regiments ſhall, in the firſt Place, be employed in ſuch Manner as by the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company ſhall be deemed neceſſary for the Protection and Defence of the Houſe of the ſaid United Company, commonly called *The Eaſt India Houſe*, and of the Warehouſes of the ſame Company; and, ſubject thereto, ſhall be employed upon the Services, and for the Purpoſes upon and for which other Volunteer Corps may be called out and employed under and by virtue of the ſaid recited Act, made in the Thirty-fourth Year of His Majeſty's Reign, and during the Time the ſaid Two Regiments ſhall be employed in the Defence and Protection of the ſaid United Company's ſaid Houſe and Warehouſes, they ſhall be ſubject to Military Diſcipline in like Manner as if they were employed in the Services in the ſaid laſt Act mentioned.

Regiments, while employed, to be ſubject to Military Diſcipline.

III. And be it further enacted, That this Act ſhall be a Publick Act, and ſhall be judicially taken Notice of as ſuch, by all Judges, Juſtices, and other Perſons whomſoever, without the ſame being ſpecially pleaded.

Publick Act.

5 FINIS.