ANNO TRICESIMO SEPTIMO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. LXXXIV.

An Act to permit Goods, the Product or Manufacture of certain Places within the *Levant* or *Mediterranean Seas*, to be imported into *Great Britain*, in *Britiſh* or Foreign Veſſels, from any Place whatſoever, for a limited Time. [19th *June* 1797.]

Preamble. 12 *Car.* II, Cap. 18.

WHEREAS by an Act of Parliament, made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of King *Charles* the Second, intituled, *An Act for the encouraging and increaſing of Shipping and Navigation*, all Goods or Commodities of the Growth, Production, or Manufacture of *Africa*, *Aſia*, or *America*, or any Part thereof, are to be imported and brought into the Kingdom of *England*, *Ireland*, or *Wales*, the Iſlands of *Guernſey* and *Jerſey*, or Town of *Berwick upon Tweed*, in *Engliſh*-built Shipping, or other Shipping belonging to ſome of the aforeſaid Places, whereof the Maſter and Three-fourths of the Mariners at leaſt are *Engliſh*, and are not to be ſhipped and brought from any other Place or Places, Country or Countries, but only from thoſe of the ſaid Growth, Production, or Manufacture, or from thoſe Ports where the ſaid Goods and Commodities can only, or are or uſually have been firſt ſhipped for Tranſportation, and from none other Places or Countries, under the Penalty and Forfeiture of the Ship and Goods, excepting

ing in ſome particular Caſes provided by the ſaid Act: And whereas, by the ſaid in Part recited Act, it is alſo enacted, that no Goods or Commodities of the Growth, Production, or Manufacture of *Muſcovy*, or of any of the Countries, Dominions, or Territories to the Great Duke or Emperor of *Muſcovy* or *Ruſſia* belonging, as alſo that no Sorts of Maſts, Timber, or Boards, no Foreign Salt, Pitch, Tar, Roſin, Hemp, or Flax, Raiſins, Figs, Prunes, Olive Oil, no Sort of Corn or Grain, Sugar, Pot Aſhes, Wines, Vinegar, or Spirits called *Aqua Vitæ*, or Brandy Wine, ſhall be imported into *England*, *Ireland*, *Wales*, or Town of *Berwick upon Tweed*, in any Ship or Ships, Veſſel or Veſſels, but in ſuch as do truly and without Fraud belong to the People thereof, or ſome of them, as the true Owners and Proprietors thereof, and whereof the Maſter and Three-fourths of the Mariners at leaſt are *Engliſh*; and that no Currants or Commodities of the Growth, Product, or Manufacture, of any of the Countries, Iſlands, Dominions, or Territories, to the *Ottoman* or *Turkiſh* Empire belonging, ſhall be imported into any of the fore-mentioned Places in any Ship or Veſſel but which is of *Engliſh* Built, and navigated as aforeſaid, and in no other, except only ſuch Foreign Ships and Veſſels as are of the Built of that Country or Place of which the ſaid Goods are the Growth, Production, or Manufacture reſpectively, or of ſuch Port where the ſaid Goods can only be, or moſt uſually are firſt ſhipped for Tranſportation, and whereof the Maſter and Three-fourths of the Mariners at leaſt are of the ſaid Country or Place, under the Penalty and Forfeiture of Ship and Goods: And whereas ſeveral of the Articles in the ſaid Act, and herein-before particularly enumerated, being the Growth or Production of ſome of the Places or Countries within the *Levant* or *Mediterranean* Seas, cannot be now imported directly from thence in *Britiſh* Veſſels, without great Hazard of Capture by the Enemies, and much Expence of Inſurance to the Merchants trading to this Kingdom; and it has been found neceſſary, during the Continuance of Hoſtilities between this Kingdom and any of the Powers with which this Kingdom is at preſent at War, by temporary Laws which are now in Force, to ſuſpend in ſome Degree the ſtrict Regulations preſcribed by the ſaid recited Act; and it is further expedient, for the Encouragement of Trade and the Increaſe of the Publick Revenue, to permit, for a limited Time under certain Reſtrictions, various Articles of the Growth, Production, or Manufacture of *Turkey* or *Egypt*, and other Goods and Commodities which are enumerated in the before recited Act, which are of the Growth, Product, or Manufacture of Places or Countries within the *Streights* or *Levant* Seas, to be imported into this Kingdom in Foreign Veſſels, although ſuch Goods are not ſhipped and brought directly from the Place or Country of their Growth, Production, or Manufacture, or from the Ports or Places from whence ſuch Goods are or uſually have been firſt ſhipped for Tranſportation: 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, from and after the paſſing of this Act, it ſhall and may be lawful for any Perſon or Perſons admitted into and made free of the Company of Merchants of *England*, trading into the *Levant* Seas, commonly called or known by the Name of *The Turkey Company*, to import into *Great Britain* any

Perſons free of the *Turkey* Company may import Goods, which have been heretofore imported

Goods or Commodities which have heretofore uſually been imported from *Turkey* or *Egypt*, or from any Place within the Dominions of the Grand Seignior within the *Levant* Seas, in any Ship or Veſſel built in or belonging to *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, navigated according to Law, or in any Ship or Veſſel belonging to any Kingdom or State in Amity with His Majeſty, His Heirs or Succeſſors, navigated by foreign Seamen, from any Port or Place whatſoever, upon Payment of the ſame Duties, if imported into *Great Britain* in *Britiſh*-built Ships, as the like Goods would be ſubject and liable to if imported in *Britiſh* Ships directly from the Place of their Growth, Production, or Manufacture; but if ſuch Goods ſhall be imported in any Foreign-built Ship or Veſſel, then and in ſuch Caſe the Goods ſo imported ſhall be ſubject to the Duties which ſuch Goods would have been ſubject and liable to if this Act had not been made; any Thing in the ſaid recited Act, or any other Act or Acts of Parliament, to the contrary notwithſtanding.

from *Turkey*, *Egypt*, &c. from any Place, in Ships built in or belonging to *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, or to any State in Amity with His Majeſty.

II. Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That no Entry ſhall be ſuffered to paſs at the Cuſtom Houſe for any ſuch Goods of the Growth, Production, or Manufacture, of *Turkey* or *Egypt*, or of any of the Dominions of the Grand Seignior, as before the paſſing of this Act might be imported only from ſuch Ports or Places in the *Streights* or *Levant* Seas as are within the Dominions of the Grand Seignior, or for any Drugs which would have been liable to the Payment of Treble Duties when not imported directly from the Place of their Growth or Production, and which, by the Authority of this Act, are permitted to be imported in Manner aforeſaid, until the Perſon importing or entering the ſame ſhall produce to the Collector or other proper Officer of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms at the Port of Importation, a Certificate under the Hand of the Collector of the Duties for the ſaid *Turkey* Company, certifying ſuch Perſon is free of the ſaid Company, and that he has paid the Duties impoſed on ſuch Goods by the ſaid Company, and has conformed, in all Reſpects, to the Rules and Regulations of the ſaid Company relative thereto.

No Entry to paſs at the Cuſtom Houſe until a Certificate be produced that the Importer is free of the *Turkey* Company, &c.

III. And it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, any Goods or Commodities which have been heretofore uſually imported from any Port or Place in *Europe* within the Streights of *Gibraltar*, except ſuch Goods or Commodities as might heretofore be imported only from ſuch Ports or Places as are within the Dominions of the Grand Seignior, ſhall and may, during the Continuance of this Act, be imported and brought by any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever into *Great Britain*, from any Port or Place whatſoever not being within the Dominions of the Grand Seignior, in any Ship or Veſſel built in or belonging to *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, navigated according to Law, or in any Ship or Veſſel belonging to any Kingdom or State in Amity with His Majeſty, His Heirs or Succeſſors, navigated with foreign Seamen, upon Payment of the ſame Duties, if imported into *Great Britain* in *Britiſh*-built Ships, as the like Goods would be ſubject and liable to if imported directly from the Place of their Growth, Production, or Manufacture, except Drugs, which, if imported by any Perſon or Perſons not free of the *Turkey* Company, ſhall be liable to the like Duties as they would have been liable to if not imported directly from the Place of their Growth and Production, if this Act had not been made;

Goods heretofore imported from any Port of *Europe* within the Streights of *Gibraltar*, except ſuch as might be imported only from the Dominions of the Grand Seignior, may be imported from any Place not being within thoſe Dominions, &c.

made; and if any ſuch Goods ſhall be imported in any Foreign-built Ship or Veſſel, then and in ſuch Caſe the Goods ſo imported ſhall be ſubject to the Duties which ſuch Goods would have been ſubject and liable to by Law if this Act had not been made; any Thing in the ſaid recited Act, or any other Act or Acts, to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Goods which have been warehouſed, may be taken out under the Regulations of this Act.

IV. And whereas certain Goods and Commodities as aforeſaid, imported in the Manner herein-before mentioned, have been permitted by His Majeſty in Council to be landed and warehouſed, ſubject to ſuch Duties and Regulations as ſhall be impoſed and made by Parliament reſpecting the ſame: Be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful to take all ſuch Goods and Commodities out of any Warehouſe in which the ſame ſhall have been lodged or depoſited, upon Payment of the like Duties, and ſubject to the ſame Rules and Regulations, as ſuch Goods and Commodities would have been liable unto, if they had been imported by virtue of this Act.

Continuance of Act.

V. And it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That this Act ſhall continue and remain in full Force until Three Months after the Concluſion of the preſent War.

FINIS.