ANNO TRICESIMO OCTAVO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

C A P. XXXVI.

An Act to empower His Majeſty to ſecure and detain ſuch Perſons as His Majeſty ſhall ſuſpect are conſpiring againſt His Perſon and Government.

[21ſt *April* 1798.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS His Majeſty's Enemies are making Preparations with conſiderable and increaſing Activity for the Invaſion of His Majeſty's Dominions: And whereas theſe Deſigns are encouraged by the traitorous Practices of wicked and diſaffected Perſons within this Realm: Therefore, for the better Preſervation of His Majeſty's ſacred Perſon, and for ſecuring the Peace and the Laws and Liberties of this Kingdom; 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 every Perſon or Perſons that are or ſhall be in Priſon within the Kingdom of *Great Britain* at or upon the Day on which this Act ſhall receive His Majeſty's Royal Aſſent, or after, by Warrant of His ſaid Majeſty's moſt Honourable Privy Council, ſigned by Six of the ſaid Privy Council, for High Treaſon, Suſpicion of High Treaſon, or treaſonable Practices, or by Warrant, ſigned by any of His Majeſty's Secretaries of State, for ſuch Cauſes as aforeſaid, may be detained in ſafe Cuſtody, without Bail or Mainprize, until the Firſt Day of *February* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-nine; and that no Judge or Juſtice of the Peace ſhall bail or try any ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo

Perſons impriſoned for High Treaſon, *&c.* may be detained till *Feb.* 1, 1799, *&c.*

committed, without Order from His ſaid Majeſty's Privy Council, ſigned by Six of the ſaid Privy Council, till the ſaid Firſt Day of *February* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-nine; any Law or Statute to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Act in *Scotland* of 1701, for preventing wrongous Impriſonment, ſo far as may relate to Treaſon, &c. ſuſpended till *Feb.* 1, 1799, &c.

II. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the Act made in *Scotland* in the Year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and one, (intituled, *An Act for preventing wrongous Impriſonment, and againſt undue Delays in Trials*), in ſo far as the ſame may be conſtrued to relate to Caſes of Treaſon and Suſpicion of Treaſon, be ſuſpended until the ſaid Firſt Day of *February* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-nine; and that until the ſaid Day no Judge, Juſtice of Peace, or other Officer of the Law in *Scotland*, ſhall liberate, try, or admit to bail, any Perſon or Perſons that is, are, or ſhall be, in Priſon within *Scotland*, for ſuch Cauſes as aforeſaid, without Order from His ſaid Majeſty's Privy Council, ſigned by Six of the ſaid Privy Council.

From *Feb.* 1, 1799, Perſons committed to have the Benefit of all Laws providing for the Liberty of the Subject, *etc.*

III. Provided always, That, from and after the ſaid Firſt Day of *February* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-nine, the ſaid Perſons ſo committed ſhall have the Benefit and Advantage of all Laws and Statutes any Way relating to or providing for the Liberty of the Subjects of this Realm; and that this preſent Act ſhall continue until the ſaid Firſt Day of *February* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-nine, and no longer.

Privileges of Parliament not invalidated by this Act.

IV. Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing in this Act ſhall be conſtrued to extend to invalidate the ancient Rights and Privileges of Parliament, or to the Impriſonment or Detaining of any Member of either Houſe of Parliament during the Sitting of ſuch Parliament, until the Matter of which he ſtands ſuſpected be firſt communicated to the Houſe of which he is a Member, and the Conſent of the ſaid Houſe obtained for his Commitment or Detaining.

Perſons againſt whom Indictments for High Treaſon are already found, to be tried thereon.

V. Provided nevertheleſs, That any Perſon or Perſons in Priſon at the Time of paſſing this Act, againſt whom any Bill or Bills of Indictment for High Treaſon have been already found, ſhall and may be tried on the ſaid Indictment, as if this Act had never paſſed.

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