ANNO TRICESIMO OCTAVO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

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C A P. LXVI.

An Act for empowering His Majesty, for a Time and to an Extent to be limited, to accept the Services of such Parts of His Militia Forces in this Kingdom as may voluntarily offer themselves to be employed in *Ireland*. [21st *June* 1798.]

WHEREAS an unnatural and wicked Rebellion has unhappily broken out against His Majesty's Government in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, whereby the Lives and Properties of His Majesty's faithful and loyal Subjects are exposed to great Hazard, and the Continuance of which must be highly prejudicial to the most important Interests of the *British* Empire: And whereas, from an ardent Zeal for the Interests of His Majesty, and of their Country, and from an affectionate Concern for their loyal Fellow Subjects in *Ireland*, the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Privates, of divers of His Majesty's Regiments of Militia in this Kingdom, have submitted to His Majesty the dutiful and voluntary Offer of their Services to be employed in *Ireland*, in Aid of His Majesty's Forces in that Kingdom, for the Suppression of the said unnatural and wicked Rebellion: And whereas it may materially conduce to the Protection and Security of His Majesty's faithful Subjects in *Ireland*, and also to the Defence of this Kingdom against the Designs of the Enemy, as well as to the general Interests and Security of the *British* Empire, that His Majesty may be empowered to avail himself of this new and distin- **Preamble.**

guiſhed Inſtance of publick Spirit: 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 ſo much of the Act of the Twenty-ſixth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for amending, and reducing into One Act of Parliament, the Laws relating to the Militia in that Part of* Great Britain *called* England, or of any other Act or Acts now in Force, as prohibits the carrying out of the Kingdom of *Great Britain* any Part of the Militia Forces thereof, ſhall, during the Continuance of this Act, be ſuſpended, in ſo far only as may relate to any Part of the ſaid Forces not exceeding in the Whole Twelve thouſand Men, whom His Majeſty may think proper to permit to ſerve in *Ireland* for the Suppreſſion of the preſent Rebellion there, in conſequence of ſuch voluntary Offer as may have been or as ſhall be made by them to that Effect, and duly certified by their Commanding Officer.

So much of 26 *Geo.* III, Cap. 107, or any other Act, as prohibits carrying out of *Great Britain* the Militia, ſuſpended, ſo far as may relate to 12,000 Volunteers to ſerve in *Ireland*.

II. Provided always, That previous to the certifying ſuch Offer the Commanding Officer ſhall have explained to the Perſons making the ſame, that the ſame, if made, is purely voluntary on their Part, and that no Perſon ſerving in the Militia of this Kingdom can be compelled to make ſuch Offer, or to engage to ſerve out of this Kingdom, except by his own Conſent ſo ſignified.

Previous to certifying any voluntary Offer, the Commanding Officer ſhall explain to the Men that they cannot be compelled to make ſuch Offer.

III. Provided alſo, That no County, Riding, City, or Place, ſhall, during the Continuance of this Act, be drawn to fill any Vacancy ariſing from the Death, Deſertion, or Diſcharge of any ſuch Non-commiſſioned Officer, Drummer, or Soldier, belonging to ſuch Militia Forces, whilſt ſerving in *Ireland*.

No Place to be drawn to fill Vacancies whilſt ſerving in *Ireland*.

IV. And be it enacted, That this Act ſhall continue in force till the Expiration of One Calendar Month after the Day of the Commencement of the next Seſſion of Parliament.

Continuance of Act.

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