ANNO TRICESIMO NONO & QUADRAGESIMO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. LXXXIV.

An Act to render valid Indentures of Apprenticeſhip of Poor Children and others, made upon improper Stamps, upon certain Conditions, and to indemnify all Perſons who may have incurred Penalties thereby; and for allowing atteſted Copies of Indentures, Leaſes, or Deeds, to be ſtamped after the ingroſſing, writing, or printing thereof.

[28th *July* 1800.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS divers Indentures of Apprenticeſhip, made for the binding Poor Children and others, have through Miſtake and Inadvertency, and without any Intention to defraud the Revenue, been made out and executed upon Stamps of a different Denomination and Value than is required by the ſeveral Acts relating to the Stamp Duties charged and payable upon Indentures of Apprenticeſhip, and by Reaſon thereof great Inconvenience has ariſen and may ariſe to the Maſters and Miſtreſſes of ſuch Apprentices, and to ſuch Apprentices, by Reaſon that ſuch Indentures are not valid or binding upon any of the Parties thereto: And whereas it is expedient that the ſame ſhould be rectified: For Remedy whereof, May it 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 upon Payment, on or before the Firſt Day of *January* One thouſand eight hundred and one, of the full Rate or Duty payable in reſpect of any ſuch Indenture, or on the Production at the Head Office

Indentures of Apprenticeſhip improperly ſtamped, on Payment

by *Jan.* 1, 1801 of the full Duty payable thereon, or ſuch as have been ſtamped with a Stamp of a higher Value, ſhall be ſtamped with the proper Stamp, without Payment of any Penalty, and ſhall then be valid.

Office of Stamps of any ſuch Indentures of Apprenticeſhip where the ſame ſhall have been ſtamped with any Stamp of a higher Value though of a different Denomination than is required by Law, every ſuch Indenture ſhall, on being tendered at the proper Place in the Stamp Office where ſuch Indentures are ſtamped, during the Time of Office Hours, be ſtamped with the proper Stamp for ſuch Indentures, without the Payment of any Penalty whatever; and every ſuch Indenture being ſo ſtamped as aforeſaid with the proper Stamp (whether the ſame ſhall be ſo ſtamped during the Time mentioned in any ſuch Indenture, or after the Expiration thereof) ſhall thereupon be good, valid, and available in Law and Equity, and ſhall be binding upon all the Parties thereto, and ſhall be deemed to have been in full Force from the Execution thereof, and ſhall and may be given in Evidence in any Court or Courts whatſoever, and the ſeveral Clerks, Apprentices, or Servants, therein reſpectively named, ſhall be capable of following and exerciſing their reſpective intended Profeſſion, Trade, Employment, or Buſineſs, as fully as if the ſaid Indenture had been properly ſtamped at or after the Execution thereof; and all and every Perſon and Perſons who hath or have incurred any Penalty or Forfeiture by any ſuch Neglect or Omiſſion as aforeſaid, ſhall be acquitted and diſcharged of and from, and indemnified againſt the ſame, except only in ſuch Caſes where any Proſecution ſhall be now depending; any Thing in any Act or Acts to the contrary thereof notwithſtanding.

Copies of Indentures or other Deeds liable to the Duties granted by 37 *Geo.* III, C. 90, and Cap. 72, of this Seſſion, may be ſtamped within 60 Days after Date of Atteſtation, on Payment of the Duty only.

II. And whereas by an Act paſſed in the Thirty-ſeventh Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, certain Stamp Duties were granted upon every Copy purporting to be a true Copy, or atteſted to be a true Copy, of any Indenture, Leaſe, or other Deed, or any Part thereof, for the Security or Uſe of any Perſon other than the Perſon having or being entitled to the Cuſtody of ſuch Indenture, Leaſe, or other Deed: And whereas by an Act, paſſed in this Seſſion of Parliament, intituled, *An Act to amend ſeveral Laws relating to the Duties on ſtamped Vellum, Parchment, and Paper*, the ſaid Stamp Duties were repealed as to certain Copies in the ſaid Act deſcribed, and other Duties granted in lieu thereof: And whereas it would greatly tend to increaſe the Number of Copies of Indentures, Leaſes, and other Deeds liable to the ſaid Duties, if the ſame were allowed to be ſtamped after the ingroſſing, writing, or printing thereof, to the great Increaſe of the ſaid Stamp Duties thereon; be it therefore enacted, That in caſe any Copy, purporting to be a true Copy, or atteſted to be a true Copy, of any Indenture, Leaſe, or other Deed, and liable to either of the Duties granted by either of the ſaid recited Acts, ſhall, within Sixty Days after the Date of the Atteſtation of ſuch Copy, be brought to the Head Office of the ſaid Commiſſioners of Stamps to be ſtamped with either of the ſaid Duties, according to the Nature and Deſcription of ſuch Copy, then and in ſuch Caſe it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized to cauſe the ſame to be ſtamped with the proper Stamp, upon Payment of the Duty only, and without any Penalty whatſoever.

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