

ANNO TRICESIMO NONO & QUADRAGESIMO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

****

CAP. LXXXVII.

An Act for the more effectual Prevention of Depredations on the River *Thames*, and in its Vicinity; and to amend an Act, made in the Second Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, to prevent the committing of Thefts and Frauds by Perſons navigating Bum Boats and other Boats upon the River *Thames*. [28th *July* 1800.]

WHEREAS for the more effectual Prevention of Depredations on the Cargoes, Stores, and Materials of Ships and Veſſels lying and being in the River *Thames*, it may be expedient to eſtabliſh in a convenient Place near the ſaid River, a Publick Office, of the Nature of the ſeveral Offices commonly called *Police Offices*, inſtituted under the Authority of an Act made in the Thirty-ſecond Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for the more effectual Adminiſtration of the Office of a Juſtice of the Peace, in ſuch Parts of the Counties of* Middleſex *and* Surrey *as lie in or near the Metropolis; and for the more effectual Prevention of Felonies:* 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 it ſhall be lawful for His Majeſty to cauſe a Publick Office to be eſtabliſhed at or near *Wapping New Stairs*, in the Pariſh

Preamble.

32 *Geo.* III, Cap. 53, recited.

His Majeſty may cauſe a Publick Office to be eſtabliſh-

ed at or near *Wapping New Stairs*, and appoint Three Special Juſtices for determining Complaints of Offences committed on the River *Thames*.

Pariſh of *Saint John of Wapping*, in the County of *Middleſex*, under the Name of *The Thames Police Office*, and to appoint Three fit and able Perſons, being each of them a Juſtice of the Peace for the Counties of *Middleſex*, *Surrey*, *Kent*, and *Eſſex*, and for the City and Liberty of *Weſtminſter*, and for the Liberty of the Tower of *London*, to ſit and act, by the Special Appointment of His Majeſty, for the Purpoſe of hearing and determining Complaints of Offences committed on the River *Thames*, within the Limits of the aforeſaid Counties, City, and Liberties reſpectively, or elſewhere within the Limits aforeſaid, and of executing all other Powers appertaining to the Office of a Juſtice of the Peace, and ariſing within the ſaid Limits.

Juſtices to attend at certain Hours.

II. And be it further enacted, That One or more of the ſaid Special Juſtices to be appointed as aforeſaid, ſhall diligently attend at the ſaid Publick Office every Day, from Ten in the Morning until Eight in the Evening, and at ſuch other Times and Places as ſhall be found neceſſary; and that Two of the ſaid Juſtices ſo to be appointed as aforeſaid ſhall in like Manner attend together at the ſaid Office from Eleven in the Forenoon until One in the Afternoon, and from Six in the Evening until Eight in the Evening of every Day: Provided always, That the Attendance of One of the ſaid Juſtices may be ſupplied during the Hours at which the Attendance of Two is required as aforeſaid, by any other Juſtice of the Peace for the ſaid Counties, City, and Liberties reſpectively.

Account of Fees, &c. taken at the Office to be delivered Monthly to the Receiver, and the Amount paid to him.

III. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Special Juſtices ſo appointed to attend at the ſaid Publick Office as aforeſaid, and their Clerks, ſhall, in Books to be provided for that Purpoſe, keep a full, true, and particular Account of all the Fees taken and received at the ſaid Office, as alſo of all Penalties and Forfeitures which ſhall have been recovered, levied, or received in purſuance of any Adjudication, Conviction, or Order, had or made at the ſaid Publick Office, or any Proceſs or Warrant iſſuing from the ſame, and alſo of all other Sum and Sums of Money which ſhall be at any Time received by the ſaid Juſtices, their Clerks or Officers, under and by virtue of this Act, to which ſaid Books and Accounts, the Receiver to be appointed in Manner herein-after mentioned, ſhall at all Times have free Acceſs, and the ſaid Juſtices ſhall Once in every Month deliver unto ſuch Receiver ſuch Account, verified upon Oath by ſuch Juſtices, or One of them, their Clerk or Clerks, and ſuch other Perſon or Perſons as ſhall be employed in keeping ſuch Accounts reſpectively, or any Part thereof, before ſome Juſtice of the Peace for one of the ſaid Counties of *Middleſex*, *Surrey*, *Kent*, or *Eſſex*, which Oath ſuch Juſtice is hereby authorized and required to adminiſter, and ſhall pay and cauſe to be paid the Amount of all ſuch Fees unto ſuch Receiver, to be applied in Manner herein-after mentioned; any Law, Statute, or Cuſtom to the contrary notwithſtanding.

All Penalties (except to Informers and Parties grieved) recovered at the Office ſhall be paid to the Receiver.

IV. And be it further enacted, That, from and after the Eſtabliſhment of the ſaid Publick Office, all ſuch Penalties and Forfeitures, and Shares of Penalties and Forfeitures, as are or ſhall be limited and made payable to His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, or to any Deſcription of Perſons, other than the Informer or Informers who ſhall ſue for the ſame, or any Party grieved, and which ſhall be recoverable in a ſummary Way before a Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace, and which ſhall be recovered

covered or adjudged before any Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace at the ſaid Publick Office, ſhall be accounted for and paid into the Hands of the Receiver, to be appointed in Manner herein-after mentioned, by the Juſtice, Clerk, Conſtable, Officer, or other Perſon or Perſons who ſhall levy or receive the ſame, to be applied by ſuch Receiver in Manner herein-after mentioned; any Law, Statute, or Cuſtom to the contrary notwithſtanding.

His Majeſty, by Advice of His Privy Council, may direct Salaries to be paid to the Juſtices, &c.

V. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful for His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, by and with the Advice of His or Their Privy Council, to direct Salaries to be paid to the Juſtices ſo appointed to attend the ſaid Publick Office, for their Time and Trouble, and ſuch further Sums for their Expences in the ſaid Offices, and for the Payment of Clerks and others therein employed, in ſuch Manner as to His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, by and with the Advice of His or their Privy Council, ſhall ſeem meet: Provided always, That the yearly Salary paid to each of the Juſtices ſhall be Four hundred Pounds, clear of all Taxes and Deductions whatever: Provided alſo, That the whole Charges attending the ſaid Office (the ſaid Salaries being included) ſhall not exceed the annual Sum of Eight thouſand Pounds.

Salary to each not to exceed 400 *l.* nor the whole Expence of the Office 8000 *l.*

His Majeſty may appoint a Receiver of all Fees, &c.

Duty of the Receiver.

VI. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful for His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, to appoint any proper Perſon to be the Receiver of the ſaid Publick Office; which ſaid Receiver ſhall receive all Fees, Penalties, Forfeitures, and all and every other Sum and Sums of Money applicable to the Purpoſes of this Act; and from the Produce of ſuch Fees, Penalties, Forfeitures, Sum and Sums of Money, ſhall pay, diſcharge, and diſburſe all the Salaries, Expences, and Charges attending the ſaid Publick Office, and the carrying this Act into Execution, and ſhall make all ſuch Contracts as ſhall from Time to Time be neceſſary for that Purpoſe; and ſhall every Six Months, and oftener if required, deliver to His Majeſty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, but to no other Perſon or Perſons whomſoever, a full and particular Account of all Monies by him received and paid as aforeſaid, with Vouchers for the ſame, which Account ſhall be verified upon Oath before any Juſtice or Baron of any of His Majeſty's Courts of Record at *Weſtminſter*; and ſuch Receiver ſo to be appointed under this Act, ſhall have and be entitled to ſuch Salary and Allowances as His Majeſty ſhall from Time to Time be pleaſed to direct and appoint; and ſhall alſo poſſeſs and exerciſe the ſame Powers and Remedies for recovering all Fees and Penalties, Sum and Sums of Money whatever, to be due and payable to the ſaid Receiver under and by virtue of this Act, as are given by the ſaid Act of the Thirty-ſecond Year of His preſent Majeſty to the Receiver appointed under that Act: Provided always, That if it ſhall appear that the Monies applicable by the ſaid Receiver to be appointed under this Act, in Diſcharge of the Salaries, Expences, and Charges attending the ſaid Publick Office, and the carrying this Act into Execution, ſhall not amount to the annual Sum of Eight thouſand Pounds, the Deficiency ſhall be made up and ſupplied out of the Conſolidated Fund; and if at the End of any Year there ſhall be any Surplus beyond the ſaid Sum of Eight thouſand Pounds in the Hands of ſuch Receiver, he ſhall pay the Amount of ſuch Surplus into the Receipt of His

Receiver to have ſuch Salary as His Majeſty ſhall appoint, and to poſſeſs the ſame Powers as the Receiver under 32 *Geo.* III, Cap. 53.

If the Monies applicable by the Receiver ſhall not amount to 8,000 *l.* the Deficiency ſhall be ſupplied out of the Conſolidated Fund, and if they exceed, he ſhall pay the

Surplus into the Exchequer.

His Majeſty's Exchequer, and the ſame ſhall be carried to and made Part of the Conſolidated Fund.

Juſtices may employ a ſufficient Number of Conſtables, and may ſuſpend or diſmiſs them;

VII. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful to and for ſuch Special Juſtices ſo to be appointed under the Authority of this Act, or any Two of them, as ſoon as conveniently may be after ſuch their Appointment, to appoint, retain, and employ a ſufficient Number of fit and able Men as Conſtables, to be employed on Land, or on board Ships, Lighters, or Craft, in and upon the ſaid River within the Limits aforeſaid, or in Boats to be hired for the Purpoſe; which ſaid ſeveral Perſons ſhall reſpectively take an Oath duly to execute their reſpective Offices, and ſuch Oath ſhall be adminiſtered by one of the ſaid Special Juſtices; and each of ſuch Perſons being ſo appointed and ſworn, ſhall have Power to act as a Conſtable for the Preſervation of the Peace, and for the Security of Property againſt felonious and other unlawful Modes of obtaining and receiving the ſame, as well on the ſaid River within the Limits aforeſaid, as on Land within any and every of the ſaid ſeveral Counties, City, and Liberties aforeſaid; and for apprehending Offenders againſt the Peace, as well by Night as by Day, and within the Limits aforeſaid, every ſuch Conſtable ſhall have all ſuch Powers and Authorities, Privileges and Advantages, as any Conſtable duly appointed now has, or hereafter may have within his Conſtablewick; and ſhall obey all ſuch lawful Commands as he ſhall from Time to Time receive from ſuch Special Juſtices, or any One of them, or from the *Thames* Police Surveyors, as herein-after mentioned, for the apprehending of Offenders, or otherwiſe conducting himſelf in the Execution of ſuch Office of Conſtable; and Two or more of ſuch Special Juſtices may at any Time ſuſpend or diſmiſs from his Employment every ſuch Conſtable whom they ſhall think remiſs or negligent in the Execution of his Office, or otherwiſe unfit for the ſame, and appoint ſuch other fit Perſon in his Stead as to the ſaid Juſtices ſhall ſeem meet; and upon every ſuch Diſmiſſion, all Powers and Authorities, Allowances, Emoluments, Privileges, and Advantages, veſted in the Perſon ſo diſmiſſed, by virtue of his Appointment as aforeſaid, ſhall immediately ceaſe and determine.

and alſo any Number of Men not exceeding Thirty under the Name of *Thames Police Surveyors*, for inſpecting the Conduct of the Conſtables, &c.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Special Juſtices, or any Two of them, ſhall and may from Time to Time, at their Diſcretion, appoint, retain, and employ any Number of fit and diſcreet Men not exceeding Thirty at any one Time, who, under the Name of *Thames Police Surveyors*, ſhall each of them (being firſt duly ſworn in Manner above mentioned) have the Power, Authority, and Privileges and Advantages of a Conſtable as aforeſaid, within the Limits aforeſaid, for the Purpoſe of directing and inſpecting the Conduct of the ſaid ſeveral Conſtables, and of all Perſons to be employed in and about Ships and Veſſels lying and being in the ſaid River, or in and on the ſeveral Wharfs, Quays, and Landing Places thereto adjacent, and within the Limits of the aforeſaid Counties, City, and Liberties reſpectively, under the Authority or Superintendance of the ſaid Special Juſtices, who may, when they think proper, ſuſpend or diſmiſs any ſuch *Thames* Police Surveyors, and appoint others in their Stead.

The Court of Aſſiſtants of the Trinity

IX. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if the Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants of the Guild, Fraternity, or Brotherhood of

the Moſt Glorious and Undivided Trinity, and of *Saint Clement* in the Pariſh of *Deptford Strond*, in the County of *Kent*, ſhall at any Time be diſſatisfied with the Conduct of any ſuch Conſtable or Surveyor, ſo appointed as aforeſaid, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants, by Order of their Court of Aſſiſtants, to diſmiſs from his ſaid Employment every ſuch Conſtable or Surveyor as aforeſaid, with whoſe Conduct they ſhall reſpectively be diſſatisfied; and every ſuch Conſtable or Surveyor ſo diſmiſſed ſhall, from and after the Time when any ſuch Order ſhall have been produced and made known to him, be incapable of exerciſing either of the ſaid Offices, unleſs and until ſuch Court of Aſſiſtants, who ſhall have made ſuch Order, ſhall think fit to revoke the ſame. House may diſmiſs Conſtables or Surveyors.

XI. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Receiver (out of the Monies applicable by virtue of this Act in Diſcharge of the Salaries, Expences, and Charges attending the ſaid Publick Office), ſhall and may pay to the Conſtables and Surveyors, ſo to be appointed as aforeſaid, for their Trouble and Attendance as aforeſaid, ſuch Salaries and Allowances as the ſaid Juſtices ſhall from Time to Time direct and appoint, with the Approbation and Conſent of His Majeſty's Secretary of State for the Home Department. Receiver to pay the Conſtables and Surveyors ſuch Salaries as the Juſtices ſhall appoint, with the Approbation of the Secretary of State.

XI. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for every ſuch *Thames* Police Surveyor, in virtue of ſuch his Office, (ſubject to the Orders of the ſaid Juſtices to be appointed as aforeſaid), to enter at all Times, as well by Night as by Day, into and upon every Ship, Hoy, Barge, Lighter, Boat, or other Veſſel, (not being then actually employed in His Majeſty's Service), lying or being in the ſaid River, and within the Limits of the aforeſaid Counties, City, and Liberties reſpectively, and into every Part of all ſuch Veſſels, for the Purpoſe of inſpecting, and upon Occaſion directing the Conduct of any Conſtable or Conſtables, who ſhall or may from Time to Time be ſtationed on board ſuch Ships or Veſſels, as alſo for the Purpoſe of inſpecting and obſerving the Conduct of all and every or any other Perſon and Perſons who ſhall from Time to Time be employed on board of any Ship or Veſſel in or about the lading or unlading thereof as the Caſe may be, and for the Purpoſe of taking all ſuch Meaſures as may be neceſſary for providing againſt Fire and other Accidents, as alſo for the Purpoſe of preſerving Peace and good Order on board of any Ship or Veſſel, and for the effectual Prevention in all Caſes of any Felonies or Miſdemeanors being committed on board any Ship or Veſſel, and for the effectual Detection of any Felonies or Miſdemeanors whatſoever which may have been committed, or which the ſaid Surveyor may have reaſonable Cauſe to ſuſpect to have been committed, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act. Duty of the Surveyors.

XII. And whereas divers ill-diſpoſed and ſuſpected Perſons, and reputed Thieves, frequent the ſaid River, and the Quays and Warehouſes near and adjoining thereunto, and the Avenues to the ſame Quays and Warehouſes, and the Streets and Highways leading thereto, with Intent to commit Felony on the Perſons and Property of His Majeſty's Subjects there being; and although their evil Purpoſes are ſufficiently manifeſt, the Power of His Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace to demand of them Securities for their good Behaviour hath not been of ſufficient Effect to prevent them Suſpected Perſons and reputed Thieves frequenting the River, and the Quays, and Warehouſes, *etc.* adjoining, with a felonious Intent, may be apprehended by the Con-

ſtables or Surveyors, and conveyed before the Special Juſtices, or any other Juſtice; and if it ſhall appear that there is juſt Ground to ſuſpect ſuch was their Intent, they ſhall be deemed Rogues and Vagabonds within the Meaning of 17 *Geo.* II, Cap. 5.

them from carrying their evil Purpoſes into Execution; be it enacted, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, it ſhall and may be lawful for any Conſtable or Surveyor appointed under the Authority of this Act within the Limits aforeſaid, to apprehend every ſuch Perſon, and convey him or them before any of the ſaid Special Juſtices to be appointed as aforeſaid, or any other Juſtice of the Peace; and if it ſhall appear before the ſaid Juſtice, upon the Oath of One or more credible Witneſs or Witneſſes, that ſuch Perſon or Perſons is or are a Perſon or Perſons of evil Fame, and a reputed Thief or Thieves, and ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſhall not be able to give a ſatisfactory Account of himſelf or themſelves, and of his or their Way of Living, and it ſhall alſo appear to the Satisfaction of the ſaid Juſtice that there is juſt Ground to believe that ſuch Perſon or Perſons was or were on or in the ſaid River, Quays, or Warehouſes, or in ſuch Avenue, Street, or Highway as aforeſaid with ſuch Intent as aforeſaid, every ſuch Perſon ſhall be deemed a Rogue and Vagabond, within the Intent and Meaning of the Statute made in the Seventeenth Year of His late Majeſty King *George* the Second, intituled, *An Act to amend and make more effectual the Laws relating to Rogues, Vagabonds, and other idle and diſorderly Perſons, and to Houſes of Correction:* Provided always, That if any Perſon ſhall think himſelf aggrieved by the Judgement of ſuch Juſtice as aforeſaid, ſuch Perſon may appeal to the Juſtices of the Peace at the next General or Quarter Seſſions of the Peace to be held for the County or Place wherein the Cauſe of Complaint ſhall have ariſen, ſuch Perſon at the Time of his Conviction entering into a Recognizance, with Two ſufficient Sureties, conditioned perſonally to appear at the ſaid Seſſions to try ſuch Appeal, and abide the further Judgement of the Juſtices at ſuch Seſſions aſſembled; and in caſe ſuch Conviction ſhall be affirmed at ſuch Seſſions, the ſaid Juſtices may adjudge ſuch Perſon to be a Rogue and Vagabond, and proceed againſt ſuch Perſon in the ſame Manner as they might have done if ſuch Rogue and Vagabond had been committed to the Houſe of Correction until ſuch General or Quarter Seſſions: Provided always, That no Perſon convicted under this Act ſhall thereby become liable to any other Puniſhment than Impriſonment to hard Labour for a Term not exceeding Six Months, taking into the Computation any actual Impriſonment which ſuch Perſon ſhall have ſuffered by his Commitment until ſuch Seſſion.

Perſons thinking themſelves aggrieved, may appeal to the Quarter Seſſions.

If the Conviction be affirmed, the Juſtices may proceed againſt the Offender as if he had been committed until the Seſſions.

Perſons convicted, not liable to any other Puniſhment than Six Months Impriſonment.

Penalty for damaging, &c. Boats belonging to the Juſtices.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon ſhall wilfully deſtroy or damage, or endeavour to deſtroy or damage, or be wilfully concerned in deſtroying or damaging, or endeavouring to deſtroy or damage, any Boat or Boats then belonging to, or hired or employed by or by Authority of the ſaid Special Juſtices, or any Part of the Sails, Oars, or other Tackle, Stores, Goods, or Furniture contained in or belonging to any ſuch Boat, every Perſon ſo offending ſhall forfeit and pay, for every ſuch Boat ſo deſtroyed or damaged, or attempted to be deſtroyed or damaged, or of which any of the Tackle or other Contents ſhall have been ſo deſtroyed or damaged, or attempted to be deſtroyed or damaged as aforeſaid, any Sum not exceeding Fifteen Pounds, or ſhall ſuffer Impriſonment for any Time not exceeding Three Months, over and above any ſuch Damages as may be recoverable by Action at Law againſt any ſuch Offender.

Penalty for breaking, &c. Packages,

XIV. And whereas, for the Purpoſe of increaſing the Facility of Depredation, it hath been a common Practice amongſt various Claſſes of Perſons

Perſons concerned in the landing and warehouſing of Merchandize from on board Ships and Veſſels in the ſaid River, wilfully to injure and promote the opening and breaking of Caſks, Bags, and other Packages, and the Spilling of their Contents; for Remedy thereof, be it further enacted, That if any Perſon employed in the landing or warehouſing of any Goods and Merchandizes, or any other Perſon, ſhall wilfully, or through culpable Negligence or Careleſſneſs, cauſe or ſuffer, or be concerned in cauſing or ſuffering to be broken, bruiſed, pierced, ſtarted, cut, torn, or otherwiſe injured, any Caſk, Box, Cheſt, Bag, or other Package, containing, or being deſigned and prepared for containing any ſuch Goods or Merchandizes, while on board of any Barge, Lighter, or other Craft lying or being in the ſaid River, or any Quay, Wharf, or Landing Place adjacent to the ſame, or in, or in the Way to or from any Warehouſe to or from which ſuch Package ſhall have been removed, removing, or about to be removed, with Intent that the Contents of ſuch Package, or any Part thereof, may be ſpilled or dropped from ſuch Package, then and in ſuch Caſe every Perſon ſo offending ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings, nor leſs than Ten Shillings, and ſhall on Conviction be committed for any Term not exceeding One Calendar Month, determinable upon the Payment of ſuch Penalty ſo impoſed; and moreover, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the Juſtice or Juſtices before whom ſuch Conviction ſhall have taken place, at his and their Diſcretion, to cauſe to be publiſhed in ſome Newſpaper or Newſpapers an Account of ſuch Conviction, with the Name and Deſcription of the Offender.

with an Intent that the Contents may be ſpilled.

XV. And be it further enacted, That if for the Purpoſe of preventing the Seizure or Diſcovery of any Materials, Furniture, Stores, or Merchandizes belonging to, or having been Part of the Cargo of any Ship or Veſſel lying in the ſaid River, or of any other Articles unlawfully obtained from any ſuch Ship or Veſſel, any ſuch, or any other Article or Articles, ſhall be wilfully let fall, or thrown into the River, or in any other Manner, directly or purpoſely, conveyed away, or endeavoured to be conveyed away, from any Ship or Veſſel, Boat, Barge, Lighter, Craft, Wharf, Quay, or other Landing Place, every Perſon being Party or Acceſſary to ſuch letting fall, throwing, or Conveyance, or to any previous Inſtructions or premeditated Deſign ſo to let fall, throw, or convey away, any ſuch Article or Articles, with any ſuch Purpoſe as aforeſaid, ſhall be deemed and adjudged guilty of a Miſdemeanor; and if any Article or Articles whatever of apparent Value ſhall be wilfully let fall, thrown, conveyed away, or endeavoured to be conveyed away, from any Ship or Veſſel, into any Boat, Barge, Lighter, or Craft, or from any Boat, Barge, Lighter, or Craft, or from any Wharf, Quay, or other Landing Place, without the Order, Aſſent, or Privity of the Perſon or Perſons being the Owner, or having the lawful Charge of ſuch Article or Articles, then and in ſuch Caſe, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for any ſuch Conſtable or Surveyor as aforeſaid, or for any Conſtable of the City of *London*, within the Juriſdiction of the ſaid City, to ſeize, apprehend, and ſecure, any ſuch Boat, Barge, Lighter, or other Craft, and every or any Perſon therein, or who, by reaſon of his or her Nearneſs to the Place where ſuch Offence ſhall be committed, ſhall be reaſonably ſuſpected by ſuch Conſtable or Surveyor of being Party or Acceſſary thereto, and forthwith to convey every ſuch Perſon ſo apprehended before the ſaid Juſtices, or ſome other Juſtices in whoſe Juriſdiction ſuch Offences ſhall be committed; and if upon Examination

Perſons letting fall, &c. any Articles for the Purpoſe of preventing the Seizure or Diſcovery of any unlawfully obtained, guilty of a Miſdemeanor; and if any of apparent Value ſhall be let fall into any Boat, &c. without the Privity of the Owner, the Boat may be ſeized, and every Perſon therein, or ſuſpected Perſon near thereto, conveyed before the Special Juſtices, or Juſtices of the Juriſdiction; and if not made appear that it did not proceed from a fraudulent Deſign, the Parties ſhall be deemed guilty.

Examination it ſhall not be made appear, to the Satisfaction of the ſaid Juſtices, that ſuch letting fall, throwing, or conveying away, or Endeavour to convey away, proceeded either from mere Accident, or from ſome lawful Cauſe, and not from any ſuch fraudulent or evaſive Deſign as aforeſaid, every Perſon ſo appearing to be Party, privy, or acceſſary as aforeſaid, ſhall be deemed and adjudged guilty of a Miſdemeanor, and ſhall ſuffer as herein-after mentioned.

If on Information on Oath it ſhall appear to the Juſtices that there is reaſonable Cauſe for ſuſpecting that any of the Cargo of any Veſſel, or any of His Majeſty's Stores, &c. have been unlawfully obtained, and are concealed, they, or any Juſtices in their Juriſdictions, may cauſe the Place to be ſearched, by Day or by Night, and by Force if neceſſary, and if any are found, and it be not made appear by what lawful Means they came depoſited, the Perſon in whoſe Houſe found, and the Perſons appearing to have been privy to the depoſiting, ſhall be deemed guilty of a Miſdemeanor.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That if on Information given on Oath it ſhall appear to the ſaid Juſtices that there is reaſonable Cauſe for ſuſpecting that any Materials, Furniture, Stores, or any Part of the Cargo of any ſuch Ship or Veſſel lying or being in the ſaid River, or any Stores belonging to His Majeſty, or conſigned to any Perſon or Perſons for His Majeſty's Service, have been ſtolen, or unlawfully obtained from or out of any ſuch Ship or Veſſel, or from or out of any Boat, Barge, Lighter, or Craft, lying or being in the ſaid River, or from any Wharf, Quay, or other Landing Place adjacent to the ſame, and within the Limits of the aforeſaid Counties, City, and Liberties, or from or in the Way to or from any Warehouſe, into or from which ſuch Articles had been removing or removed, to or from any ſuch Wharf, Quay, or Landing Place, and that ſuch Articles, after having been ſo ſtolen or unlawfully obtained, are concealed or otherwiſe lodged in any Dwelling Houſe, Warehouſe, Yard, Garden, or any other Place, it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Juſtices, or other Juſtices in their reſpective Juriſdictions, or any One of them, by ſpecial Warrant under their Hands and Seals, directed to any ſuch *Thames* Police Conſtable or Surveyor as aforeſaid, or other Conſtable within their reſpective Juriſdictions, to cauſe every ſuch Place to be ſearched, at any Time of the Day, or by Night, if Power for that Purpoſe be eſpecially given in and by ſuch Warrant; and the ſaid Juſtices, if it ſhould appear to them requiſite and neceſſary, may moreover empower ſuch Conſtable or Surveyor, with any ſuch Aſſiſtance as to them the ſaid Juſtices may appear, or by ſuch Conſtable or Surveyor be found neceſſary (ſuch Conſtable or Surveyor having previouſly made known ſuch his Authority) to uſe Force for the effecting of ſuch Entry, whether by breaking open Doors or otherwiſe; and if upon Search thereupon made, any ſuch ſuſpected Article or Articles ſhall accordingly be found, then and in ſuch Caſe to convey the ſame forthwith to and before the ſaid Juſtices, or to guard the ſame on the Spot while the Offenders are taken before the ſaid Juſtices, or otherwiſe diſpoſe thereof in ſome Place of Safety, ſubject to the Orders of the ſaid Juſtices in Manner as above-mentioned, and moreover to apprehend and convey before the ſaid Juſtices the Perſon or Perſons in whoſe Houſe, Lodging, or other Place as aforeſaid the ſame ſhall ſo have been found, as alſo every ſuch other Perſon ſo found in ſuch Houſe, Lodging, or Place, as ſhall appear to have been privy to the depoſiting of ſuch Articles, or any of them, in ſuch Place, knowing or having reaſonable Cauſe to ſuſpect the ſame to have been ſtolen, or otherwiſe unlawfully obtained; and if ſuch Perſons reſpectively ſhall not immediately, or within ſome reaſonable Time, to be aſſigned by the ſaid Juſtices, make it appear, to the Satisfaction of the ſaid Juſtices, by what lawful Means ſuch Article or Articles came to be depoſited or ſituated in ſuch Place as aforeſaid, without any Default on the Part of ſuch Perſons reſpectively, or that they reſpectively did not know that the ſame were, or by what Means the ſame were depoſited or ſituated in ſuch Place, then and in ſuch Caſe the Perſon or Perſons in whoſe Houſe,

Lodging, or other Place, ſuch ſuſpected Article or Articles was or were found, as alſo every other Perſon ſo appearing to have been privy to the depoſiting thereof, knowing, or having Cauſe to ſuſpect the ſame to have been ſtolen, or otherwiſe unlawfully obtained, ſhall be deemed and adjudged guilty of a Miſdemeanor, and ſhall ſuffer as herein-after mentioned.

Every Perſon who to prevent any Articles from being ſeized on Suſpicion of being ſtolen, or being produced as Evidence, ſhall frame, &c. any falſe Bill of Parcels, ſhall be adjudged guilty of a Miſdemeanor, and may be advertized.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That every Perſon who, for the Purpoſe of protecting or preventing any Goods, Wares, Merchandizes, or other Articles whatſoever from being ſeized, on Suſpicion of their being ſtolen or otherwiſe unlawfully obtained, or of preventing the ſame from being produced or made to ſerve as Evidence of or concerning any Felony or Miſdemeanor, ſhall frame or cauſe to be framed, or be any Ways concerned in framing or cauſing to be framed, any Bill of Parcels containing any falſe Statement in regard to the Name or Abode of any alledged Vendor, the Quantity or Quality of ſuch Goods or Valuables, the Place from whence, or Conveyance by which the ſame were furniſhed, the Price agreed upon or charged for the ſame, or any other Particular or Particulars, knowing ſuch Statement to be falſe, ſhall be adjudged guilty of a Miſdemeanor, and ſhall ſuffer as herein-after mentioned; and may moreover, at the Diſcretion of the ſaid Juſtices, or ſuch other Juſtices in whoſe Juriſdiction ſuch Offences ſhall be committed, be publiſhed and advertiſed as a Fabricator of falſe Bills of Parcels, or as a convicted or reputed Receiver of Goods ſtolen, or otherwiſe unlawfully obtained, as the Caſe may be.

2 *Geo.* III, Cap. 28, recited.

XVIII. And whereas in and by an Act paſſed in the Second Year of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, intituled, *An Act to prevent the committing of Thefts and Frauds by Perſons navigating Bum Boats and other Boats upon the River* Thames, it is amongſt other Things provided, that a Perſon in whoſe Poſſeſſion Goods ſuſpected of having been ſtolen or otherwiſe unlawfully come by, are found, ſhall be adjudged guilty of a Miſdemeanor, if he do not either give an Account, to the Satisfaction of ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices as are therein mentioned, how he came by the ſame, or elſe produce the Party or Parties from whom he bought or received the ſame, under which Proviſion no Receiver of ſtolen Goods, who ſhall produce a Perſon of whom he received the ſame, can be adjudged guilty, although he ſhall not give ſuch Account to the Satisfaction of ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices as aforeſaid; be it further enacted, That in every Caſe where the Production of the Party from whom any Goods or Things have been bought or received, would at preſent be ſufficient to exempt any Perſon from being adjudged guilty of a Miſdemeanor under the ſaid Act, by reaſon of any ſuch Goods or Things being found in any Way in his or her Poſſeſſion, ſuch Production ſhall not be deemed ſufficient to exempt ſuch Perſon from being adjudged guilty as aforeſaid, unleſs the Account ſo given of the Manner of his or her coming by ſuch Goods or Things ſhall, upon a full Inveſtigation, be ſatisfactory to ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices; and if any Perſon on being ſo produced ſhall declare himſelf or herſelf to have bought, received, or otherwiſe obtained ſuch Goods of ſome other Perſon, ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices are hereby authorized and required to examine every ſuch other Perſon, and alſo every other prior Purchaſer or pretended Purchaſer; and if upon the Whole of the Evidence it ſhall appear to the Satisfaction of ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices, that the Party ſo informed

Where the Production of the Party from whom any Goods have been bought would exempt any Perſon from being adjudged guilty of a Miſdemeanor under the laſt recited Act, ſuch Production ſhall not be deemed ſufficient unleſs the Account given be ſatisfactory to the Juſtice,

who otherwiſe may adjudge the Party guilty of a Miſdemeanor.

formed againſt or ſuſpected did, at the Time of his or her receiving ſuch Goods or Things into his or her Poſſeſſion, believe, or had reaſonable Cauſe to believe, that the ſame were at any Time and by any Perſon unlawfully come by or obtained, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices to adjudge ſuch Party to be guilty of a Miſdemeanor, and ſuch Party ſo convicted ſhall thereupon ſuffer as herein-after mentioned.

Penalties for Miſdemeanors or Offences for which no ſpecial pecuniary Penalty is herein appointed.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That in caſe of every Offence herein-before declared to be a Miſdemeanor, or for which no ſpecial pecuniary Penalty is herein-before appointed, the Offender ſhall forfeit and pay, at the Diſcretion of the ſaid Juſtices to be appointed as aforeſaid, or of ſuch other Juſtice or Juſtices before whom any Conviction ſhall from Time to Time take place, within their reſpective Juriſdictions, any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, nor leſs than Twenty Shillings, or ſhall ſuffer Impriſonment for any Time not exceeding Eight Weeks, nor leſs than Two Weeks, or ſhall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings, nor leſs than Ten Shillings, and ſhall beſides ſuffer Impriſonment for any Time not exceeding Four Weeks, nor leſs than One Week; and if the Payment of ſuch Penalty ſhall not immediately upon Conviction be made or ſecured to the Satisfaction of ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices forthwith, or at any other Time or Times within One Calendar Month after ſuch Conviction, to commit the Offender to any lawful Place of Impriſonment within his or their Juriſdiction, for any Time not exceeding Eight Weeks in the Whole, determinable upon the making or ſecuring ſuch Payment as aforeſaid; and One Moiety of Money recovered on Account of every ſuch Forfeiture or Penalty ſhall be paid to ſuch Receiver as aforeſaid, for the Purpoſes of this Act, and the other Moiety thereof, under the Direction of the Juſtice or Juſtices by whom the ſame ſhall have been levied, ſhall either be paid and applied to the Uſe of the Informer alone, or be diſtributed between or amongſt all ſuch Perſons as ſhall have contributed to the Conviction of the Offender, in ſuch Shares and Proportions as ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices in their Diſcretion ſhall think fit: Provided always, That no Informer or other Perſon ſhall be deemed incompetent to give Evidence touching any ſuch Offence as aforeſaid, by reaſon of any Chance or Expectation of any ſuch Moiety, Share, or Proportion as aforeſaid.

If Penalty be not paid or ſecured the Offender may be committed.

Application of Penalties.

No Perſon to be deemed incompetent Evidence on account of Chance of Share of Penalty.

Where Complaints of Offences declared Miſdemeanors, or for which pecuniary Penalties are appointed, ſhall be heard and determined.

XX. And be it further enacted, That in every Caſe in which Complaint ſhall be made, or Information given of any Offence, by this Act declared to be a Miſdemeanor, or for which any pecuniary Penalty or Forfeiture is herein-before appointed, with or without Impriſonment in addition thereto or in lieu thereof, the Matter of ſuch Complaint or Information, if the Offence ſhall have been committed, or the Offender apprehended within the Limits aforeſaid, ſhall or may be heard and determined either by the ſaid Juſtices to be appointed as aforeſaid, or either of them, or by any other Juſtice or Juſtices acting in and for the County or other Place of ſeparate Juriſdiction within which the Offence ſhall have been committed, or the Offender apprehended; and if any ſuch Offence ſhall have been committed, or the Offender apprehended, within the Juriſdiction of the City of *London*, then the Matter of ſuch Complaint or Information ſhall and may be heard and determined by the Lord Mayor, Recorder, or One of the Aldermen of the ſaid City, and not elſewhere;

and every Conviction thereupon had ſhall be certified, filed, and entered in ſuch Manner as is directed in and by the ſaid Act of the Second Year of His Majeſty's Reign, with reſpect to Convictions under that Act, and may alſo be drawn up in ſuch Form and Manner as is appointed in and by the ſaid Act; and neither ſuch Conviction, or any Proceeding previous thereto, ſhall be removed by *Certiorari* or otherwiſe into any Court of Record, but ſuch Conviction ſhall be final and concluſive to all Intents and Purpoſes whatſoever.

Conviction to be certified, &c. as directed by the laſt recited Act, and may be drawn up in the Form appointed thereby, and ſhall be final.

XXI. And whereas the Puniſhments for Miſdemeanors, provided in and by the ſaid Act of the Second Year of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, have been found inſufficient for the preventing of ſuch Offences; be it enacted, That every Perſon who ſhall be guilty of any of the ſeveral Offences reſpectively made and declared to be Miſdemeanors in and by the ſaid Act, ſhall and may be puniſhed at the Diſcretion of the Juſtice or Juſtices by or before whom the ſaid Offender ſhall be convicted, either with the Puniſhment appointed in and by the ſaid Act, or by ſuch other Puniſhment or Puniſhments as is and are hereby appointed for and in Caſes of Offences declared to be Miſdemeanors in and by this preſent Act.

Miſdemeanors may be puniſhed as appointed by the laſt recited Act, or by this Act.

XXII. And whereas in and by the ſaid laſt-mentioned Act, Perſons guilty of certain Offences are puniſhable by Tranſportation for Fourteen Years, but the ſaid Offences not being by the ſaid Act declared to be Felony, the Trial thereof may in all Caſes be put off, by Means of a Traverſe, to the next Seſſions after the finding of the Bill of Indictment for the ſame, and the Offender be in the mean Time liberated, on being admitted to Bail, whereby Juſtice has been in many Inſtances eluded; for Remedy thereof, be it further enacted, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, whenever any Indictment ſhall be found againſt any Perſon or Perſons for the ſaid Offences, or any of them, the Perſon or Perſons ſo indicted ſhall plead to the ſame Indictment without having Time to traverſe the ſame, as is uſual in Caſes of Miſdemeanors.

Perſons guilty of Offences puniſhable by laſt recited Act by Tranſportation for 14 Years, ſhall plead to Indictments without having Time to traverſe.

XXIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act ſhall extend to deprive the Lord Mayor, Commonalty, and Citizens of the City of *London*, of any Right, Privilege, or Juriſdiction heretofore lawfully claimed, exerciſed, or enjoyed, within the Town and Borough of *Southwark*, or the Liberties thereof, or to prevent the ſaid Lord Mayor for the Time being, or the Aldermen of the ſaid City for the Time being, and the Recorder of the ſaid City for the Time being, from acting as Juſtices of the Peace within the ſaid Town and Borough of *Southwark* and the Liberties thereof, in ſuch and the like Manner as they could or might have done in caſe this Act had not been made; nor to deprive the Lord Mayor and Commonalty, and Citizens of the ſaid City, of any Right, Privilege, Immunity, or Juriſdiction which they have heretofore lawfully claimed, exerciſed, or enjoyed upon the River *Thames*, or the Lord Mayor of the ſaid City for the Time being as Conſervator of the ſaid River; nor to prevent the ſaid Lord Mayor for the Time being, and the Aldermen and Recorder of the ſaid City, from acting as Juſtices of the Peace upon the ſaid River, or taking Cognizance of Offences committed upon or within the Limits of the ſame, in ſuch Manner

Nothing herein to deprive the Lord Mayor, &c. of their Rights.

Manner as they might or would have done in caſe this Act had not been made.

Certain Clauſes of recited Acts to extend to this Act.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That all the Clauſes and Proviſoes mentioned and contained in the ſaid Act of the Thirty-ſecond Year of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, touching and concerning the Prohibition relative to the taking of Fees to the Uſe of Individuals, the Incapacity of the Juſtices with regard to their ſitting in Parliament, and the Reſtrictions and Penalties impoſed on the Juſtices, Receiver, and Conſtables, with regard to their interfering in Parliamentary Elections; and alſo all the Clauſes and Proviſoes mentioned and contained in the ſaid Act of the Second Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, reſpecting the ſearching and detaining of Boats on the ſaid River, or the ſeizing and detaining of Goods ſuſpected to be ſtolen, and the Perſons ſuſpected to be guilty of ſtealing the ſame, and the Mode of Proceeding with reſpect thereto, and reſpecting the Diſcovery, Apprehenſion, and Puniſhment of Offenders, and reſpecting the obſtructing the Execution of the ſaid Act, and reſpecting the commencing or proſecuting of Actions againſt Juſtices or their Officers, ſhall be deemed, conſtrued, and taken to be, and the ſame are hereby declared to extend to and to be Parts of this Act, as if the ſame were herein ſpecially repeated and re-enacted; and that all Juſtices to be from Time to Time appointed under and by virtue of this Act, and all Conſtables and Surveyors to be from Time to Time appointed by the ſaid Juſtices, ſhall have all ſuch Powers, Privileges, and Protections, in all Reſpects whatſoever, in the Execution of the ſaid Acts and of this Act, as any Juſtice, Conſtable, or other Officers or Perſons could or might by Law have under the ſaid Acts, or either of them, except in as far as the ſame are varied in and by this preſent Act.

Publick Act.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That this Act ſhall be deemed, adjudged, and taken to 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.

Continuance of Act.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That this Act ſhall be and continue in force from the paſſing thereof until the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* which ſhall be in the Year of our Lord One thouſand eight hundred and ſeven, and no longer.

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