

ANNO TRICESIMO NONO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

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CAP. VII.

An Act for raiſing the Sum of Three Millions by Way of Annuities. [22d *December* 1798.]

Moſt Gracious Sovereign,

Preamble. WE, Your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Commons of *Great Britain* in Parliament aſſembled, being deſirous to raiſe the neceſſary Supplies which we have chearfully granted to Your Majeſty in this Seſſion of Parliament, have reſolved that the Sum of Three Millions be raiſed by Annuities, in Manner herein-after mentioned; and do therefore moſt humbly beſeech 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 every Contributor towards raiſing the ſaid Sum of Three Millions ſhall, for every One hundred Pounds contributed and paid, be entitled to the Principal Sum of One hundred Pounds, in Conſolidated Annuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*; and alſo to a further Principal Sum of Eighty-ſeven Pounds Nine Shillings and Sixpence in Reduced Annuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, redeemable by Parliament; the ſaid Conſolidated Annuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, to commence from the Fifth Day of *January* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-nine; and the ſaid Reduced Annuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, to commence from the Tenth Day of *October* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-eight; and that the ſaid Conſolidated Annuities after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum*, and the ſaid Reduced Annuities after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum* reſpectively, in reſpect of each One hundred Pounds ſo to be contributed as aforeſaid, ſhall be charged and chargeable upon, and are hereby charged upon and made payable out of, the Conſolidated Fund, and ſhall be payable and transferrable at the Bank of *England*; and the ſaid Conſolidated Annuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum*, ſhall be paid Half-yearly, on the Fifth Day of *July* and the Fifth Day of *January* in every Year; and the ſaid Reduced Annuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum*, ſhall be paid Half-yearly, on the Fifth Day of *April* and the Tenth Day of *October* in every Year.

Every Contributor of 100*l.* to be entitled to a Principal of 100*l.* in the 3 *per Cent.* Conſols; and a Principal of 87*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* in the 3 *per Cent.* Reduced.

Contributors who have made Depoſits to pay the Remainder of Subſcriptions by Inſtalments.

II. And whereas, purſuant to and upon the Terms and Conditions expreſſed in the ſaid Reſolution, ſeveral Perſons have, in Books opened at the Bank of *England* for that Purpoſe, ſubſcribed together the Whole of the ſaid Sum of Three Millions to be raiſed by Annuities; and made Depoſits of Ten Pounds *per Centum* on the reſpective Sums by them ſo ſubſcribed to the ſaid Sum of Three Millions, to be raiſed by Annuities, with the Caſhiers of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*; be it therefore enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for ſuch Contributors, who have made ſuch Depoſits with the Caſhier or Caſhiers of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, (which Caſhier or Caſhiers is and are hereby appointed the Receiver and Receivers of ſuch Contributions, without any other Warrant to be had in that Behalf), to advance and pay unto the ſaid Caſhier or Caſhiers of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, the ſeveral Remainders of the Sums by them reſpectively ſubſcribed towards the ſaid Sum of Three Millions, at or before the reſpective Days and Times, and in the Proportions herein-after limited and appointed in that Behalf; (that is to ſay), The further Sum of Thirty Pounds *per Centum*, on or before the Twenty-ſecond Day of *January* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-nine; the further Sum of Thirty Pounds *per Centum*, on or before the Eighth Day of *February* then next following; and the remaining Sum of Thirty Pounds *per Centum*, on or before the Twenty-ſecond Day of *February* then next following.

Guardians may ſubſcribe for Infants.

III. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful for any Guardian or Truſtee, having the Diſpoſition of the Money of any Infant, to contribute and pay for or towards advancing the ſaid Sum of Three Millions, to be raiſed by Annuities in Manner aforeſaid; and ſuch Infant, upon the Payment of ſuch Sum or Sums ſubſcribed by ſuch Guardian or Truſtee, ſhall become a Contributor within the Meaning of this Act, and be entitled to have and receive the Annuities, Advantages, and Payments, in reſpect thereof, in ſuch and the like Manner as any other Contributor; and the ſaid Guardian and Truſtee, as to the ſaid Sum or Sums ſo advanced, is hereby diſcharged, ſo as the Name of ſuch Infant be expreſſed in the Receipt or Receipts for ſuch Money.

Contributors entitled to certain Annuities, which ſhall be paid Half-yearly, but not till Subſcriptions are completed.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the ſeveral Subſcribers or Contributors, their Executors, Adminiſtrators, Succeſſors, and Aſſigns, in reſpect of the ſaid Sum of Three Millions, ſhall be entitled to an Annuity, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum*, for every One hundred Pounds by him, her, or them reſpectively advanced and paid, to commence from the Fifth Day of *January* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-nine, until Redemption by Parliament in Manner herein-after mentioned; and ſhall alſo be entitled in reſpect of every ſuch One hundred Pounds ſo advanced and paid, to a further Annuity, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum*, in reſpect of the additional Principal Sum of Eighty-ſeven Pounds Nine Shillings and Sixpence, from the Tenth Day of *October* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-eight, until Redemption by Parliament in Manner herein-after mentioned; which ſaid Annuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum*, and of Three Pounds *per Centum* reſpectively, ſhall be payable and paid, Half-yearly, by even and equal Portions; (that is to ſay), the ſaid Conſolidated Annuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum*, on the Fifth Day *July* and the Fifth Day of *January*, in every Year; and the ſaid Reduced Annuities,

nuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum*, on the Fifth Day of *April* and the Tenth Day of *October*, in every Year; the Firſt Payment upon the ſaid Conſolidated Annuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum*, to be due on the Fifth Day of *July* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-nine, and on the ſaid Reduced Annuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum*, on the Fifth Day of *April* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-nine; but ſhall not be payable until the reſpective Subſcribers or Contributors, their Executors, Adminiſtrators, Succeſſors, or Aſſigns, ſhall have completed the Whole of the Sums by them ſubſcribed for the Purchaſe of the ſaid Annuities.

As ſoon as Subſcriptions are completed, they may be transferred.

V. And be it further enacted, That as ſoon as any Contributors, their Executors, Adminiſtrators, Succeſſors, or Aſſigns, ſhall have completed their Payments of ſuch Part of the whole Sum payable by them reſpectively towards the ſaid Sum of Three Millions, as ſhall be payable in reſpect of the ſaid Conſolidated Annuities after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum*, to which they ſhall become entitled in reſpect of ſuch Subſcriptions, the Principal Sum or Sums in the ſaid Conſolidated Annuities ſhall forthwith be, in the Books of the Bank of *England*, placed to the Credit of ſuch reſpective Contributors, their Executors, Adminiſtrators, Succeſſors, and Aſſigns, completing ſuch Payments; and as ſoon as ſuch Contributors, their Executors, Adminiſtrators Succeſſors, or Aſſigns, ſhall have completed the Payments of ſuch Part of the whole Sum payable by them reſpectively towards the ſaid Sum of Three Millions, as ſhall be payable in reſpect of the ſaid Reduced Annuities after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum*, the Principal Sum or Sums in the ſaid Reduced Annuities ſhall forthwith be, in the Books of the Bank of *England*, placed to the Credit of ſuch reſpective Contributors, their reſpective Succeſſors, Executors, Adminiſtrators, and Aſſigns, completing ſuch Payments; and the Perſons to whoſe Credit ſuch Principal Sums ſhall be ſo placed, their reſpective Executors, Adminiſtrators, Succeſſors, and Aſſigns, ſhall and may have Power to aſſign and tranſfer the ſame, or any Part, Share, or Proportion thereof, to any other Perſon or Perſons, Body or Bodies Politick or Corporate whatſoever, in the Books of the Bank of *England*; and the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England* are hereby required, as ſoon as conveniently may be after the paſſing of this Act, to prepare proper Books for the Purpoſe of entering the Names of all ſuch Contributors, and of placing to their Credit the Principal Sums ſo paid by them reſpectively; and that ſuch of the ſaid Contributors, their Executors, Adminiſtrators, Succeſſors, or Aſſigns, who ſhall complete the Payments of ſuch Parts of the whole Sum payable by them reſpectively, towards the ſaid Sum of Three Millions, as ſhall be payable in reſpect of any or either of the ſaid Annuities, at any Time before the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England* ſhall have prepared their Receipts according to the Directions of this Act, ſhall be entitled to have the Sums ſo paid forthwith placed to their Credit in the Books of the Bank of *England*; and the ſaid Governor and Company are hereby required to cauſe ſuch Sums to be forthwith placed to the Credit of the Perſons entitled to the Annuities in reſpect thereof, in the Books of the ſaid Bank of *England*; and ſuch Entries in the ſaid Books ſhall be in lieu of the Receipts hereby directed to be given for all Sums paid in Manner aforeſaid; and ſuch Sums ſhall carry the Conſolidated Annuities after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, and the ſaid Reduced Annuities

nuities after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, reſpectively, redeemable by Parliament; and ſhall reſpectively be taken and deemed to be Stock transferrable according to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, until Redemption thereof, in ſuch Manner as is herein-after mentioned.

Annuities payable and transferrable at the Bank.

VI. And be it further enacted, That all the Annuities aforeſaid ſhall be payable and paid, and be transferrable, at the Bank of *England*; and ſhall be ſubject to ſuch Redemption as is herein-after mentioned.

Bank to appoint a Caſhier and Accountant General, and the Treaſury to order Money to be iſſued to the Caſhier for Payment of the Annuities.

VII. And, for the more eaſy and ſure Payment of all the Annuities eſtabliſhed by this Act, be it further enacted, That the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, and their Succeſſors, ſhall from Time to Time, until all the ſaid Annuities ſhall be redeemed, appoint and employ One or more ſufficient Perſon or Perſons, within their Office in the City of *London*, to be their Chief or Firſt Caſhier or Caſhiers, and One other ſufficient Perſon, within the ſame Office, to be their Accountant General; and that ſo much of the Monies by this Act appropriated for the Purpoſe, as ſhall be ſufficient from Time to Time to anſwer the ſaid Annuities, and other Payments, herein directed to be made out of the ſaid Monies, ſhall, by Order of the Commiſſioners of the Treaſury, or any Three or more of them, or the High Treaſurer for the Time being, without any further Warrant to be ſued for, had, or obtained in that Behalf, from Time to Time, at the reſpective Days of Payment in this Act appointed for Payment thereof, be iſſued and paid at the Receipt of the Exchequer to the ſaid Firſt or Chief Caſhier or Caſhiers of the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, and their Succeſſors, for the Time being, by way of Impreſt and upon Account, for the Payment of the ſaid reſpective Annuities payable by virtue of this Act; and that ſuch Caſhier or Caſhiers, to whom the ſaid Money ſhall from Time to Time be iſſued, ſhall from Time to Time, without Delay, pay the ſame accordingly, and render his or their Accounts thereof, according to the due Courſe of the Exchequer; and that the ſaid Accountant General for the Time being ſhall from Time to Time inſpect and examine all Receipts and Payments of the ſaid Caſhier or Caſhiers, and the Vouchers relating thereto, in order to prevent any Fraud, Negligence, or Delay.

Caſhier to give Receipts for Subſcriptions, which may be aſſigned before *Feb.* 7, 1799.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That the Caſhier or Caſhiers of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, who ſhall have received, or ſhall receive, any Part of the ſaid Contributions towards the ſaid Sum of Three Millions, ſhall give a Receipt or Receipts in Writing to every ſuch Contributor for all ſuch Sums; and that the Receipts to be given ſhall be aſſignable, by Indorſement thereupon made, at any Time before the Seventh Day of *February* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-nine, and no longer: Provided always, That ſuch Caſhier or Caſhiers ſhall give Security to the good liking of any Three or more of the Commiſſioners of the Treaſury, or the High Treaſurer for the Time being, for duly anſwering and paying into the Receipt of His Majeſty's Exchequer, for the Publick Uſe, all the Monies which they have already received, and ſhall hereafter receive, from Time to Time, of and for the ſaid Sum of Three Millions, and for accounting duly for the ſame, and for Performance of the Truſt hereby in them repoſed, and ſhall from Time to Time pay all ſuch Monies as ſoon as he

Caſhier to give Security for paying the Money he receives into the Exchequer.

or they ſhall receive the ſame, or any Part thereof, or within Five Days afterwards at the fartheſt, into and ſhall account for the ſame in the Exchequer, according to the due Courſe thereof, deducting thereout ſuch Sums as ſhall have been paid by him or them in purſuance of this Act, for which Sums ſo paid Allowance ſhall be made in his or their Accounts.

A Book to be kept in the Accountant General's Office, for entering Contributors Names, a Duplicate whereof to be tranſmitted to the Auditor of the Exchequer.

IX. And be it enacted, That in the Office of the Accountant General of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England* for the Time being, a Book or Books ſhall be provided and kept, in which the Names of the Contributors ſhall be fairly entered; which Book or Books the ſaid reſpective Contributors, their reſpective Executors, Adminiſtrators, Succeſſors, and Aſſigns, ſhall and may from Time to Time, and at all ſeaſonable Times, reſort to and inſpect without any Fee or Charge; and that the ſaid Accountant General ſhall, on or before the Tenth Day of *October* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-nine, tranſmit an atteſted Duplicate, fairly written on Paper, of the ſaid Book or Books into the Office of the Auditor of the Receipt of His Majeſty's Exchequer, there to remain for ever.

Contributors duly paying their Subſcriptions, entitled to Annuities Tax-free.

X. And be it further enacted, That ſuch Contributors, duly paying the whole Sum ſo ſubſcribed at or before the reſpective Times in this Act limited in that Behalf, and their reſpective Executors, Adminiſtrators, Succeſſors, and Aſſigns, ſhall have, receive, and enjoy, and be entitled by virtue of this Act to have, receive, and enjoy, the ſaid ſeveral Annuities, by this Act granted in reſpect of the Sum ſo ſubſcribed, out of the Monies granted and appropriated in this Seſſion of Parliament for Payment thereof, and ſhall have good and ſure Intereſts and Eſtates therein, according to the ſeveral Proviſions in this Act contained, in reſpect of the ſaid Annuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, and of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum* reſpectively, payable and transferrable at the Bank of *England*; and that the ſaid Annuities ſhall be free from all Taxes, Charges, and Impoſitions whatſoever.

Subſcriptions paid in part, and not completed, to be forfeited.

XI. Provided always, That in caſe any ſuch Contributors who have already depoſited with or ſhall hereafter pay to the ſaid Caſhier or Caſhiers any Sum or Sums of Money at the Time and in the Manner hereinbefore mentioned, in part of the Sum or Sums ſo by them reſpectively ſubſcribed, or their reſpective Executors, Adminiſtrators, Succeſſors, or Aſſigns, ſhall not advance and pay to the ſaid Caſhier or Caſhiers, the Reſidue of the Sum or Sums ſo ſubſcribed at the Times and in the Manner before mentioned, then and in every ſuch Caſe ſo much of the reſpective Sum or Sums ſo ſubſcribed, as ſhall have been actually paid in Part thereof to the ſaid Caſhier or Caſhiers, ſhall be forfeited for the Benefit of the Publick, and all Right and Title to the ſaid Annuities after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, and of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum* reſpectively, in reſpect thereof, ſhall be extinguiſhed; any Thing in this Act contained to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

Annuities to be deemed Perſonal Eſtate.

XII. And be it further enacted, That all Perſons who ſhall be entitled to any of the Annuities hereby granted in reſpect of the ſaid Sum of Three Millions, and all Perſons lawfully claiming under them, ſhall be poſſeſſed thereof as of a Perſonal Eſtate, which ſhall not be deſcendible to Heirs, nor liable to any Foreign Attachment by the Cuſtom

of *London*, or otherwiſe; any Law, Statute, or Cuſtom, to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Treaſury may apply the Money paid into the Exchequer.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful for Three or more of the Commiſſioners of the Treaſury, or the High Treaſurer for the Time being, to iſſue and apply from Time to Time all ſuch Sums of Money as ſhall be ſo paid into the Receipt of His Majeſty's Exchequer by the ſaid Caſhier or Caſhiers, to ſuch Services as ſhall then have been voted by the Commons of *Great Britain* in this preſent Seſſion of Parliament.

Accountant General to keep Books for entering Transfers.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That Books ſhall be conſtantly kept by the ſaid Accountant General for the Time being, wherein all Aſſignments or Transfers of all Sums advanced or contributed towards the ſaid Sum of Three Millions, ſhall be entered and regiſtered; which Entry ſhall be conceived in proper Words for that Purpoſe, and ſhall be ſigned by the Parties making ſuch Aſſignments or Transfers, or if ſuch Parties be abſent, by their reſpective Attorney or Attornies thereunto lawfully authorized, in Writing under his or their Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals, to be atteſted by Two or more credible Witneſſes; and that the ſeveral Perſons to whom ſuch Transfers ſhall be made, ſhall reſpectively underwrite their Acceptance thereof, and that no other Method of aſſigning and transferring the ſaid Annuities, or any Part thereof, or any Intereſt therein, ſhall be good or available in Law: Provided always, That all Perſons poſſeſſed of any Share or Intereſt in either of the ſaid Stocks of Annuities, or any Eſtate or Intereſt therein, may deviſe the ſame by Will, in Writing, atteſted by Two or more credible Witneſſes; but that no Payment ſhall be made upon any ſuch Deviſe, until ſo much of the ſaid Will as relates to ſuch Share, Eſtate, or Intereſt, in the ſaid Stocks of Annuities be entered in the ſaid Office; and that in Default of ſuch Transfer or Deviſe, ſuch Share, Eſtate, or Intereſt, in the ſaid Stocks of Annuities, ſhall go to the Executors, Adminiſtrators, Succeſſors, and Aſſigns; and that no Stamp Duties whatſoever ſhall be charged on any of the ſaid Transfers; any Law or Statute to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Stock may be deviſed.

Transfers not liable to Stamp Duties.

Treaſury may defray incidental Expences out of Contributions, and allow Salaries to the Caſhier and Accountant General.

XV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That, out of the Monies ariſing from the Contributions towards raiſing the ſaid Sum of Three Millions by Annuities, any Three or more of the Commiſſioners of the Treaſury, or the High Treaſurer for the Time being, ſhall have Power to diſcharge all ſuch incident Charges as ſhall neceſſarily attend the Execution of this Act, in ſuch Manner as to them ſhall ſeem juſt and reaſonable; and alſo to ſettle and appoint ſuch Allowances as ſhall be thought proper for the Service, Pains, and Labour, of the ſaid Caſhier or Caſhiers, for receiving, paying, and accounting for the ſaid Contributions; and alſo ſhall have Power to make, out of the Conſolidated Fund, ſuch further Allowances as ſhall be judged reaſonable for the Service, Pains, and Labour of the ſaid Caſhier or Caſhiers for receiving, paying, and accounting for the ſaid Annuities payable by virtue of this Act; and alſo for the Service, Pains, and Labour of the ſaid Accountant General, for performing the Truſt repoſed in him by this Act; all which Allowances to be made as aforeſaid, in reſpect of the Service, Pains, and Labour, of any Officer or Officers of the ſaid Governor and Company, ſhall be for the Uſe and Benefit of the ſaid Governor and Company, and at their Diſpoſal only.

XVI. And

XVI. And be it further enacted, That all the Monies to which any Perſon or Perſons ſhall become entitled by virtue of this Act, in reſpect of any Sum advanced or contributed towards the ſaid Sum of Three Millions, on which the ſaid Conſolidated Annuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, ſhall be attending, ſhall be added to the Joint Stock of Annuities transferrable at the Bank of *England*, into which the ſeveral Sums carrying an Intereſt after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, were, by ſeveral Acts made in the Twenty-fifth, Twenty-eighth, Twenty-ninth, Thirty-ſecond, and Thirty-third Years of the Reign of His late Majeſty King *George* the Second, and by ſeveral ſubſequent Acts, conſolidated, and ſhall be deemed Part of the ſaid Joint Stock of Annuities, ſubject nevertheleſs to Redemption by Parliament, in ſuch Manner and upon ſuch Notice as in the ſaid Act made in the Twenty-fifth Year of His ſaid late Majeſty's Reign, is directed in reſpect of the ſeveral and reſpective Annuities redeemable by virtue of the ſaid Act; and that all and every Perſon and Perſons, and Corporations whatſoever, in Proportion to the Money to which he, ſhe, or they ſhall become entitled as aforeſaid by virtue of this Act, ſhall have and be deemed to have a proportional Intereſt and Share in the ſaid Joint Stock of Annuities at the Rates aforeſaid.

The 3 l. per Cent. Conſols under this Act to be added to the Joint Stock of 3 l. per Cent. Conſols.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That all the Monies to which any Perſon or Perſons ſhall become entitled by virtue of this Act, in reſpect of any Sum advanced or contributed towards the ſaid Sum of Three Millions on which the ſaid Reduced Annuities, after the Rate of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, ſhall be attending, ſhall be added to the Joint Stock of Annuities transferrable at the Bank of *England*, which, by an Act made in the Twenty-third Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty, were reduced from Four Pounds *per Centum per Annum* to Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, and ſhall be deemed Part of the ſaid Joint Stock of Annuities, ſubject nevertheleſs to Redemption by Parliament, in ſuch Manner and upon ſuch Notice as in the ſeveral Acts by which the ſaid Annuities after the Rate of Four Pounds *per Centum per Annum* were reſpectively granted, are directed in reſpect of the Annuities redeemable by virtue thereof, and that all and every Perſon and Perſons, and Corporations whatſoever, in Proportion to the Money to which he, ſhe, or they ſhall become entitled as aforeſaid by virtue of this Act, ſhall have and be deemed to have a proportional Intereſt and Share in the ſaid Joint Stock of Annuities at the Rate aforeſaid; and ſo much Money ſhall from Time to Time continue to be ſet apart and iſſued at the Receipt of the Exchequer, to the ſaid Caſhier or Caſhiers of the Bank of *England*, out of the Conſolidated Fund, as ſhall be ſufficient to ſatisfy and pay the ſaid Annuities after the reſpective Rates of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, and of Three Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, together with the Charges attending the ſame; any Thing herein contained to the contrary notwithſtanding.

The 3 l. per Cent. Reduced to be added to the Joint Stock of 3 l. per Cent. Reduced.

Annuities granted by this Act, to be paid out of the Conſolidated Fund.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall forge or counterfeit, or cauſe or procure to be forged or counterfeited, or ſhall willingly act or aſſiſt in the forging or counterfeiting any Receipt or Receipts for the Whole of, or any Part or Parts of, the ſaid Contributions towards the ſaid Sum of Three Millions, either with or without the Name or Names of any Perſon or Perſons being inſerted therein, as the Contributor or Contributors thereto, or Payer or Payers thereof,

Perſons counterfeiting Receipts for Contributions, etc. guilty of Felony.

or of any Part or Parts thereof, or ſhall alter any Number, Figure, or Word therein, or utter or publiſh, as true, any ſuch falſe, forged, counterfeited, or altered Receipt or Receipts, with Intent to defraud the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, or any Body Politick or Corporate, or any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, every ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo forging or counterfeiting, or cauſing or procuring to be forged or counterfeited, or willingly acting or aſſiſting in the forging or counterfeiting, or altering, uttering, or publiſhing as aforeſaid, being thereof convicted in due Form of Law, ſhall be adjudged guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as a Felon, without Benefit of Clergy.

Bank to continue a Corporation till the Annuities hereby granted ceaſe.

XIX. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, and their Succeſſors, notwithſtanding the Redemption of all or any of their own Funds, in purſuance of the Acts for eſtabliſhing the ſame, or any of them, ſhall continue a Corporation for the Purpoſes of this Act, until all the Annuities by this Act granted ſhall be redeemed by Parliament, or ſhall ceaſe as aforeſaid; and that the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, or any Member thereof, ſhall not incur any Diſability for or by reaſon of their doing any Matter or Thing in purſuance of this Act.

No Fee to be taken for receiving Contributions, or paying or transferring Annuities, on Penalty of 20*l.*

XX. And be it further enacted, That no Fee, Reward, or Gratuity whatſoever, ſhall be demanded or taken of any of His Majeſty's Subjects, for receiving or paying the ſaid Subſcription or Contribution Monies, or any of them, or for any Receipt concerning the ſame, or for paying the ſaid Annuities, or any of them, or for any Transfer of any Sum, great or ſmall, to be made in purſuance of this Act, upon Pain that any Officer or Perſon offending, by taking or demanding any ſuch Fee, Reward, or Gratuity, ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, forfeit the Sum of Twenty Pounds to the Party aggrieved, with full Coſts of Suit, to be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majeſty's Courts of Record at *Weſtminſter*, wherein no Eſſoin, Protection, Privilege, or Wager of Law, Injunction or Order of Reſtraint, or any more than One Imparlance ſhall be granted or allowed.

Perſons ſued may plead the General Iſſue.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall be ſued, moleſted, or proſecuted, for any Thing done by virtue or in purſuance of this Act, ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſhall and may plead the General Iſſue, and give this Act and the Special Matter in Evidence, in his, her, or their Defence or Defences; and if afterwards a Verdict ſhall paſs for the Defendant or Defendants, or the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs ſhall diſcontinue his, her, or their Action or Proſecution, or be nonſuited, or Judgement ſhall be given againſt him, her, or them, upon Demurrer or otherwiſe, then ſuch Defendant or Defendants ſhall have Treble Coſts awarded to him, her, or them, againſt any ſuch Plaintiff or Plaintiffs.

Treble Coſts.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty. 1798.