ANNO QUADRAGESIMO PRIMO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. I.

An Act to prohibit, until the Firſt Day of *November* One thouſand eight hundred and one, the Exportation of Rice; and to indemnify all Perſons who have been concerned in preventing the Exportation thereof, or in the Nonperformance of any Contracts and Agreements that ſhall not have been performed in conſequence thereof. [24th *November* 1800.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient that the Exportation of Rice ſhould be prevented for a limited Time; be it therefore 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, from and after the paſſing of this Act, no Perſon or Perſons whatever ſhall, directly or indirectly, export, carry, or convey, or cauſe or procure to be exported, carried, or conveyed out of or from any Port or Place of this Kingdom, or ſhall load or lay on board, or cauſe or procure to be laden or laid on board, in any Ship or other Veſſel or Boat, any Rice, in order to be exported, carried, or conveyed out of any ſuch Port or Place.

No Perſon ſhall export, or lay on board any Veſſel for that Purpoſe, any Rice.

II. And

Rice exported, or put on board for that Purpoſe, ſhall be forfeited, and the Offender ſhall forfeit 6 *d. per* lb. for ſuch Rice, and the Veſſel, *&c.* may be ſeized.

II. And be it further enacted, That all Rice which ſhall be ſo exported, carried, or conveyed, or be laden or laid on board in any Ship or other Veſſel or Boat, in order to be exported, carried, or conveyed out of this Kingdom contrary to this Act, ſhall be forfeited; and that every Offender therein ſhall forfeit alſo the Sum of Sixpence for every Pound Weight of ſuch Rice which ſhall be ſo exported, carried, or conveyed, or ſo laden or laid on board in any Ship or other Veſſel or Boat, in order to be exported, carried, or conveyed out of this Kingdom; and alſo the Ship, Veſſel, or Boat, wherein the ſame ſhall be exported, or in or upon which the ſame ſhall be laden or laid on board in order to be exported, together with her Guns, Furniture, Ammunition, Tackle, and Apparel, ſhall be forfeited, and the ſame reſpectively, and each and every Part thereof, may be ſeized by any Officer or Officers of the Cuſtoms: Provided always, That nothing in this Act contained ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend, to any ſuch Quantity of Rice as ſhall be neceſſary to be carried in any Ship or other Veſſel to be uſed for or towards the Suſtenance, Diet, and Support of the Commander, Maſter, Mariners, and Paſſengers on the Voyage; nor ſhall any of the Proviſions of this Act be conſtrued to extend to prohibit the carrying of Rice Coaſtwiſe, or from One Port or Place in *Great Britain* to another Port or Place in *Great Britain*, according to the Regulations preſcribed by an Act paſſed in the Thirty-ſecond Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for the Relief of the Coaſt Trade of* Great Britain; *for exempting certain Coaſt Documents from Stamp Duties; for aboliſhing the Bond, uſually called the* Iſle of Man Bond; *and for permitting Corn and Grain brought Coaſtwiſe to be tranſhipped into Lighters for the Purpoſe of being carried through the Canal from the* Forth *to the* Clyde; and in like Manner as the ſame might have been carried Coaſtwiſe before the paſſing of this Act.

Act not to extend to Rice for Diet on a Voyage, nor Rice carried Coaſtwiſe, according to 32 *Geo.* III, Cap. 50.

Act not to prevent Evidence being given that Rice was on board without the Knowledge of the Maſter, *&c.*

III. Provided alſo, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend, to prevent Evidence being received by the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms in *England* and *Scotland* reſpectively, or in any Suit or Information, that, by Reaſon of the Smallneſs of the Quantity of any ſuch Rice, and other Circumſtances, that the ſame was on board without the Knowledge or Privity of the Maſter or Perſon having the Charge or Command of any ſuch Ship or Veſſel, in like Manner as is permitted with reſpect to Corn, by an Act paſſed in the Thirty-firſt Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty; and that, when ſuch Proof ſhall be ſo made, ſuch Ship, Veſſel, or Boat, or any Thing belonging thereto as aforeſaid, ſhall not be forfeited for or on Account of ſuch ſmall Quantity of Rice as aforeſaid.

How Penalties may be recovered, *etc.*

IV. And be it further enacted, That all Penalties and Forfeitures contained in this Act ſhall and may be ſued for, proſecuted, recovered, and diſpoſed of, in ſuch Manner, and by ſuch Ways, Means, and Methods, as any Penalties incurred, or any Goods, Ships, or Veſſels forfeited for any Offence againſt the Laws of Cuſtoms may now be legally ſued for, proſecuted, recovered, and diſpoſed of, and the Officer or Officers concerned in Seizures or Proſecutions under this Act ſhall be entitled to, and receive ſuch Share of the Produce ariſing from the Seizures as they are now by Law entitled to upon Proſecution of Seizures for unlawful Exportation, and to ſuch Share of the Produce ariſing from any pecu-

niary Fine or Penalty or Compoſition paid for any Offence againſt this Act, as they are now by any Law or Regulation entitled to upon Proſecution for pecuniary Penalties.

V. And whereas, by an Act paſſed in the laſt Seſſion of Parliament, a Bounty was granted in certain Caſes on Rice imported into this Kingdom, in order to encourage a Supply of the ſame; and by another Act, alſo paſſed in the laſt Seſſion of Parliament, the Exportation of Rice was prohibited until the Fifteenth Day of *October* One thouſand eight hundred: And whereas, at the Expiration of that Period, there was great Reaſon to apprehend that large Quantities of Rice would be exported from this Kingdom, to the great Detriment of His Majeſty's Subjects during the then and preſent high Price of Proviſions: And whereas, for the Prevention thereof, the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms, in purſuance of Directions to that Effect from the Lords Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Treaſury, have prevented the Exportation of all Rice ſince the ſaid Fifteenth Day of *October*, which has proved to be beneficial to the Publick; wherefore it is expedient, that all Perſons iſſuing, giving, or adviſing ſuch Directions as aforeſaid, or concerned in the iſſuing, giving, or adviſing any ſuch Directions, and alſo, all Perſons acting under or in purſuance thereof, ſhould be indemnified: Be it therefore enacted, That all Perſons iſſuing, giving, or adviſing any ſuch Directions as aforeſaid, or concerned in the iſſuing, giving, or adviſing any ſuch Directions, and alſo, all Perſons acting under or in purſuance of the ſaid Directions, and alſo, all Perſons who ſhall have been prevented performing any Contract or Agreement by Reaſon thereof, ſhall be, and are hereby indemnified for and on Account of the ſame, and of any Act, Matter, or Thing done in purſuance of and in conformity with ſuch Directions as aforeſaid, as fully and effectually to all Intents and Purpoſes whatever, as if the ſame Directions had been given, and ſuch Acts, Matters, and Things done in purſuance of any Act or Acts of Parliament.

39&40 *Geo.* III. Cap. 29. 39&40 *Geo.* III. Cap. 91.

All Perſons iſſuing Directions for preventing the Exportation of Rice ſince *Oct.* 15, 1800, &c. indemnified.

VI. And be it further enacted, That all perſonal Actions and Suits, Indictments, and Informations, and all Proſecutions and Proceedings whatſoever, which have been or ſhall be hereafter proſecuted or commenced againſt any Perſon or Perſons, for having refuſed to receive any Entry or Entries for the Exportation of any Rice, or to clear out any Ship or Veſſel with Rice on board intended to be exported before the paſſing of this Act, or againſt any Perſon or Perſons, for or by Reaſon of any Act, Matter, or Thing adviſed, commanded, appointed, or done, or forborne to be done, in relation to the Prevention of any ſuch Exportation of Rice as aforeſaid, or againſt any Perſon or Perſons for or on Account of any Contract or Agreement not being performed by Occaſion or by Means of any ſuch Exportation having been ſo hindered or prevented as aforeſaid, be, are, and ſhall be diſcharged and made void by virtue of this Act; and that, if any Action or Suit ſhall be proſecuted or commenced againſt any Perſon or Perſons for or by Reaſon of any ſuch Act, Matter, or Thing, or any ſuch Contract or Agreement not being performed on ſuch Account as aforeſaid, he, ſhe, or they, may plead the General Iſſue, and give this Act and the ſpecial Matter in Evidence; and if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs in any Action or Suit ſo to be proſecuted or commenced ſhall become Nonſuit, or forbear further Proſecution, or ſuffer Diſcontinuance,

All Actions for Refuſal to receive Entries for Exportation of Rice, &c. or for any Agreement not having been performed on that Account, made void.

General Iſſue.

Double Costs.

or if a Verdict pass against such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants shall recover his, her, or their Double Costs, for which he, she, or they shall have the like Remedy, as in Cases where the Costs by Law are given to Defendants.

If any Action has been commenced for Nonperformance of Contract, the Defendant may apply to the Court to stay Proceedings, &c.

VII. And be it further enacted, That if any Action or Suit hath been already commenced against any Person or Persons for any such Act, Matter, or Thing, as aforesaid, or on Account of any such Contract or Agreement not being performed, by Occasion of such Hinderance as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the Defendants or Defenders in such Actions or Suits respectively, in whatever Courts in *Great Britain* such Actions or Suits shall have been commenced, to apply to such Court or Courts respectively, to stay all Proceedings therein respectively, by Motion in a summary Way; and such Court or Courts are hereby authorized and required to make Orders for that Purpose accordingly; and the Court or Courts, making such Order shall award and allow to the Defendants and Defenders respectively, Double Costs of Suit; for which they shall respectively have the same Remedy as in Cases where the Costs are by Law given to Defendants or Defenders.

His Majesty may permit the Exportation of Rice.

VIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in case His Majesty at any Time or Times after the passing of this Act shall, in His Royal Discretion, judge it most for the Benefit and Advantage of this Kingdom, to permit the Exportation of Rice, then it shall and may be lawful to and for His Majesty, by His Royal Proclamation or Proclamations, to be issued by and with the Advice of His Privy Council, or by His Majesty's Order in Council, to be published in the *London Gazette* from Time to Time, to permit and suffer all and every Person and Persons, Natives and Foreigners, (but not any particular Person or Persons), at any Time or Times after the passing of this Act, to export any Rice from this Kingdom; any Thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

Continuance of Act.

IX. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall continue in force until the First Day of *November* One thousand eight hundred and one, and may be altered, varied, or repealed, by any Act or Acts to be passed in this present Session of Parliament.

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