Anno ſexto

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. XLV.

An Act for allowing a Bounty on the Exportation of *Britiſh* made Cordage; and for diſcontinuing the Drawbacks upon Foreign rough Hemp exported.

WHEREAS the Wealth and Preamble.
Proſperity of this Kingdom doth very much depend upon the Improvement of its Manufactures, and the Exportation thereof; which Exportation ought, by all proper Means, to be encouraged, for the more comfortable Support of great Numbers of His Majeſty's Subjects employed in the making or working of ſuch Manufactures, and for the Enlargement of the Commerce of Great Britain: And whereas the Manufacture of Hemp into Cordage has, of late Years, been greatly improved in this Kingdom; and there is Reaſon to believe, that the Exportation of ſuch Cordage into Foreign Parts would conſiderably increaſe, if ſome Allowance was made upon the Exportation thereof: 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,

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ral, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the First Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and sixty six, during the Term of Five Years, and from thence to the End of the then next Session of Parliament, there shall be paid or allowed for and upon every Hundred Weight, containing One hundred and twelve Pounds Weight Avoirdupois, of Cordage, wrought up and manufactured in Great Britain from Foreign rough Hemp, or Hemp of the Growth of Great Britain, except Hemp of the Growth or Produce of the British Colonies or Plantations in America, which shall be really and truly exported out of this Kingdom to Parts beyond the Seas (except the Isle of Man) by way of Merchandize, and so in Proportion for any greater or lesser Quantity thereof, by way of Bounty, the Sum of Two Shillings and Four Pence Three Farthings; which said Allowance or Bounty shall be paid and answered to the Person or Persons so exporting the same, by the Customer or Collector of the Customs, with the Privity of the Comptroller of the Port from whence the same shall be exported, on a Debenture to be made forth by the said Customer or Collector, according to the Entry of the Goods and the Shipping thereof, verified by the Searcher; and Oath made by the Exporter or Manufacturer thereof, on the Entry or Debenture before the Customer, or Collector or Comptroller of such Port, that the said Cordage is of British Manufacture, and made from Hemp imported from Foreign Parts, or from Hemp of the Growth of Great Britain, and not from Hemp of the Growth or Produce of the British Colonies or Plantations in America; and exported, or intended to be exported, to Parts beyond the Seas, and not relanded, or intended to be relanded, in any Part of Great Britain, or the Isle of Man; the Exporter with One or more Person or Persons first giving sufficient Security to the said Customer or Collector of the Port, in a Penalty of the Value of the Goods (which Security the said Customer or Collector is hereby impowered to take in the Name, and to the Use, of His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors) that such Cordage so shipped, or intended to be shipped, or any Part thereof, shall not be relanded, or brought on shore again, in any Port or Place of Great Britain, or the Isle of Man; and such Security shall be discharged in the Manner hereafter mentioned; that is to say, For such of the said Goods as shall be entered for, or landed in, the Kingdom of Ireland, the Islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, or Sark, the

From and after 1 *July*, 1766, during the Term of 5 Years, a Bounty of 2*s*. 4*d*. 3 *q*. is allowed upon every Cwt. of Cordage manufactured in *Great Britain* from Foreign rough Hemp, or *British* Hemp (that of the *American* Colonies excepted) exported as Merchandize to Foreign Parts;

the Exporter giving Security for the due Exportation thereof.

Condition of the Bond shall be, to bring in a Certificate in Discharge thereof within Six Months from the Date of the Bond; and within Eighteen Months for such of the said Goods as shall be entered for, or landed in, any of His Majesty's Plantations in America or Africa; and within Thirty Months for such of the said Goods as shall be entered for, or landed in, any Port or Place at or beyond the Cape of Good Hope: Which said Certificate for such Cordage as aforesaid as shall be landed in any Port or Place where any Officer or Officers of His Majesty's Customs shall be resident, shall be signed by the proper Officer or Officers of His Majesty's Customs there, importing that such Goods were there landed, testifying the Landing thereof; and for such Cordage as aforesaid as shall be entered for the Islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, or Sark, shall be signed by the proper Officer or Officers of His Majesty's Customs, if any such Officer or Officers shall be residing in those Islands respectively; and for want of such Officer residing there, then by the Governor of those Islands, or the Deputy Governor thereof respectively; and for such Cordage as aforesaid as shall be entered for any other Foreign Port or Place, to bring a Certificate under the Common Seal of the Chief Magistrate in such Port or Place, or under the Hands and Seals of Two known British Merchants then being at such Port or Place, that such Cordage was there landed; or such Bond or Bonds shall be discharged, upon Proof, in either of the said Cases, that such Goods were taken by Enemies, or perished in the Seas; the Examination and Proof thereof being left to the Judgement of the Commissioners of the Customs in England or Scotland respectively for the time being.

Condition of the Bond.

Certificate by whom to be signed.

And, for the better preventing Frauds in the entering the said Goods to the Prejudice of the Revenue, be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any Searcher, or other proper Officer of the Customs, after the Entry of any of the said Goods, and before or after the Shipping thereof, to open, and strictly examine, any Bale, Quoil, or other Package, as now by Law they may do, to see if the Goods are right entered; and if, on such Examination, the same shall be found to be right entered, the Officer shall, at his own Charge, cause the same to be repacked to the Satisfaction of the Exporter; which Charge shall be allowed to the said Officer by the Commissioners of the Customs, if they think it reasonable; but in case the said Officer shall find Goods, or any Part thereof, entered under a wrong Denomination, or to be

Officer may open and examine the Goods;

repacking the same, if no Fraud appear, at his own Charge, which is to be allowed by the Commissioners of the Customs;

but if any Fraud appear, the Goods are forfeited, with Treble the Value.

less in Quantity than expressed in the Exporter's Indorsement upon the Entry of such Cordage, whereby His Majesty would have been defrauded in the Allowance to be paid on the Exportation of such Goods, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act; all such Goods, so wrong entered, shall be forfeited, and may be seized, and the Exporter or Owner of such Goods shall also forfeit the Value thereof, to be prosecuted and divided as herein after mentioned.

In Disputes whether the Goods are of *British* Manufacture, intitled to the Bounty, the *Onus probandi* to lie on the Exporter.

Provided always, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Dispute shall arise concerning the said Cordage; that is to say, Whether the same was made in Great Britain, or is intitled to the Bounty granted by this Act, the Onus probandi shall lie on the Exporter, Claimer, or Owner thereof, and not on the Officer.

If the Goods be relanded without Licence,

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any of the said Cordage shipped to be exported, for which Allowance is hereby made, shall be relanded or unshipped in any Port or Place in Great Britain, or the Isle of Man, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, without the Licence of One or more of the Principal Officers of such Port or Place first had and obtained, or unless it be in case of Distress, to save the said Goods from perishing; the Goods (over and above the Penalty of the Bond to be levied and recovered to His Majesty's Use as aforesaid) and Treble the Value of such Goods, shall be forfeited and lost, and shall and may be prosecuted, recovered, and divided, in the Manner herein after mentioned.

unless in case of Distress, they are forfeited, together with the Penalty of the Bond, and Treble Value.

The Bounty to be paid out of the Duties upon Hemp imported, by the Customer or Collector;

and in case of want of Money, he is to give a Certificate for the same, &c.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Allowance shall and may be paid by the respective Customer or Collector, out of any Money in his Hands arising from Customs or other Duties upon Hemp imported, or to be imported, from Parts beyond the Seas; and the Money so paid shall be accepted of in his or their Account as so much paid to His Majesty, and he and they is, are, and shall be, discharged thereof accordingly; and in case any Collector of the Customs in any Out Port in South Britain, or of any Port in North Britain, shall not have Money sufficient in his Hands to pay such Bounty, that then every such Collector shall, if thereunto required, forthwith, without Fee or Reward, give to the Person or Persons intitled to such Bounty, a Certificate under his Hand, attested by the Comptroller, certifying to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs in London, if such Cordage is exported from any Port in that Part

Part of Great Britain called England, or to the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs at Edinburgh, if such Cordage is exported from any Port in that Part of Great Britain called Scotland, that he hath not Money in his Hands sufficient to pay the said Bounty, and also what is due for the same to such Person or Persons; and upon producing such Certificate, and the Debenture of the Cordage exported, the said respective Commissioners of the Customs shall cause to be paid, without Fee or Reward, by the Receiver General, or Cashier of the Customs at London or Edinburgh respectively, to the Person or Persons producing every such Certificate and Debenture, the Sum or Sums of Money so certified to be due, out of the Monies arising from any of the Duties, Revenues, and Customs, under the Management of such respective Commissioners; and if the Receiver General, or Cashier of the Customs at Edinburgh, shall not have Money sufficient in his Hands to pay the Bounty so certified to be due, the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs at Edinburgh, or any Three of them, shall forthwith, without Fee or Reward, give such Exporter, or Seller for Exportation, a Certificate certifying the same to the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs at London, which Certificates being affixed to the Debentures for the Bounty of the said Cordage so exported, and being produced to the said Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs at London, they the said Commissioners are hereby authorized and required, on Demand by such Exporter or Seller for Exportation, or other Person legally authorized to receive the same, that shall bring such Certificate and Debenture, to cause the Money thereby certified to be due to be paid by the Receiver General, or Cashier of the Customs, without Fee or Reward, out of the Monies that shall be in his Hands arising from any of the Duties, Revenues, and Customs, payable on Foreign Rough Hemp, under the Management of the said Commissioners at London.

Bounty not to extend to Twice layed Cordage.

Provided always, and be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Bounty intended to be given by this Act shall not extend to Cordage re-manufactured from any Sort of old Cables, old Ropes, or old Cordage whatsoever, commonly called Twice layed Cordage.

Upon Redemption, or ceasing of the Duties,

Provided also, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case any of the Customs or other Duties now payable on the Importation of Foreign Rough Hemp, shall, during the Continuance of this Act, be redeemed, or otherwise cease to be payable, so much of the Allowance to be made on the Exportation

of

a proportionable Abatement to be made of the Bounty.

of the Cordage before-mentioned shall be abated, as shall bear a Proportion to the Customs or Duties so redeemed, or that shall cease to be payable on Rough Hemp; any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

Drawback allowed by any former Acts on Exportation of Foreign Rough Hemp, to cease.

And, for the further Encouragement of the Exportation of Cordage manufactured in Great Britain; be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Drawback which by any Act or Acts of Parliament is allowed and made payable upon the Exportation of Foreign Rough Hemp from this Kingdom, shall, from and after the passing of this Act, cease, determine, and be no longer paid or payable.

Recovery and Application of Penalties and Forfeitures.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the several Penalties and Forfeitures in this Act mentioned, shall and may be prosecuted and determined by Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at Westminster, or in the Court of Exchequer at Edinburgh respectively, wherein no Essoin, Protection, Privilege, Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance shall be allowed; and One Moiety of the said Penalties and Forfeitures shall be to the Use of the King's Majesty, and the other Moiety to such Officer or Officers of the Customs as shall sue for or prosecute for the same.

Limitation of Actions.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Action or Suit shall be commenced against any Person or Persons for any thing done in pursuance of this Act, the Defendant or Defendants in such Action or Suit may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the Special Matter in Evidence, at any Trial to be had thereupon, and that the same was done in Pursuance and by the Authority of this Act; and if it shall appear so to have been done, the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants; or if the Plaintiff shall be nonsuited, or discontinue his Action after the Defendant or Defendants shall have appeared; or if Judgement shall be given upon any Verdict or Demurrer against the Plaintiff, the Defendant or Defendants shall and may recover Treble Costs, and have the like Remedy for the same, as the Defendant or Defendants hath or have in other Cases by Law.

General Issue.

Treble Costs.

FINIS.