Anno ſexto

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. LI.

An Act for indemnifying Perſons who have incurred certain Penalties inflicted by an Act of the laſt Seſſion of Parliament, for granting certain Stamp Duties in the *Britiſh* Colonies and Plantations in *America;* and for making valid all Inſtruments executed or inrolled there on unſtamped Paper, Vellum, or Parchment.

WHEREAS by an Act made in the laſt Seſſion of Parliament, intituled, An Act for granting and applying certain Stamp Duties, and other Duties, in the *Britiſh* Colonies and Plantations in *America*, towards further defraying the Expences of defending, protecting, and ſecuring, the ſame; and for amending ſuch Parts of the ſeveral Acts of Parliament relating to the Trade and

Preamble, reciting Clauſes in Act 5 Geo. III.

and Revenues of the said Colonies and Plantations, to direct the Manner of determining and recovering the Penalties and Forfeitures therein mentioned; certain Stamp Duties were granted throughout the Colonies and Plantations in America, which then were, or thereafter might be, under the Dominion of his Majesty, his Heirs, and Successors; which said Stamp Duties were to take Place from and after the First Day of November, One thousand seven hundred and sixty five:

and 6 *Geo.* III. And whereas by another Act made in this present Session of Parliament, intituled, An Act to repeal an Act made in the last Session of Parliament, intituled, *An Act for granting and applying certain Stamp Duties, and other Duties, in the British Colonies and Plantations in America, towards further defraying the Expences of defending, protecting, and securing the same; and for amending such Parts of the several Acts of Parliament relating to the Trade and Revenues of the said Colonies and Plantations, as direct the Manner of determining and recovering the Penalties and Forfeitures therein mentioned*; the said first mentioned Act was repealed, from and after the First Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and sixty six; And whereas it may have happened, since the passing of the said first mentioned Act, that Persons residing in, or resorting to, the said Colonies or Plantations, may not have been able to procure Paper, Vellum, or Parchment, duly stamped, as required by the said Act; and that such Persons, for want of the same, and other Persons residing elsewhere by reason thereof, may have committed many Offences, contrary to the Directions, and true Intent and Meaning, of the said Act; or may have neglected to do what by the said Act is required; whereby such Persons have incurred several Penalties and Forfeitures by the said Act inflicted: Therefore, for quieting the Minds of his Majesty's Subjects, and for preventing any Inconveniencies that might otherwise happen; be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and

and Temporal; and Commons; in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same; That all and every Person and Persons whatsoever; who have committed any Offence or Offences (not being Felony) contrary to the Directions; and true Intent and Meaning, of the said Act, or have neglected to do any Matter or Thing required by the said Act, shall be, and he, she; and they, is and are indemnified from all Penalties and Forfeitures which he, she; or they; may have incurred for such Offence or Offences, (not being Felony) Neglect or Neglects; where final Judgement shall not have been given.

Indemnification granted for all Offences and Neglects against the recited Act of 5 *Geo.* III. not being Felony;

where final Judgement shall not have been given.

And whereas it was; by the said first mentioned Act, enacted; That no Matter or Thing whatsoever, by the said Act charged with the Payment of a Duty; should be pleaded or given in Evidence; or admitted, within the said Colonies and Plantations, to be good; useful, or available, in Law or Equity, unless the same should be marked or stamped in pursuance of the said Act, with the respective Duty thereby charged, or with an higher Duty: And whereas it may have happened that many Deeds, Instruments; and other Matters and Things, by reason that stamped Paper, Vellum, or Parchment, was not to be procured, may have been signed, sealed, or otherways executed; entered, or inrolled, in the said Colonies and Plantations, upon unstamped Paper, Vellum; or Parchment, and, by reason thereof, cannot be pleaded or given in Evidence, or admitted to be good, useful, or available, in Law or Equity: And whereas by the said Act being repealed, there remains no Provision for making the said Deeds, Instruments, Matters, and Things, pleadable, or to be given in Evidence, or admissible as good, useful, or available, in Law or Equity, which may be attended with many Inconveniencies; be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Deed, Instrument, or other Matter or Thing, signed, sealed, or otherways executed, entered, or inrolled, in the said Colonies and Plantations, during the Continuance of the said Act, upon unstamped Paper,

All Deeds and Instruments, &c. executed, entered, or inrolled, in the said Colonies,

during the Continuance of the recited Act, upon unstamped Paper, &c. are declared to be valid and effectual.

Vellum, or Parchment, shall and may, from and after the passing of this Act, be admitted and allowed in Evidence in any Court whatsoever; and shall be as valid and effectual as if the proper Stamps had been impressed thereon at the Time of the Signing, Sealing, or other Execution, or Entry or Inrollment thereof; any thing in the said Act to the contrary notwithstanding. §

FINIS.