Anno ſeptimo

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. XXIII.

An Act to prevent Frauds and Abuſes in the Admeaſurement of Coals, ſold by Wharf Meaſure, within the City of *London*, and the Liberties thereof; and between *Tower Dock* and *Limehouſe Hole* in the County of *Middleſex*.

WHEREAS many great Frauds and Impoſitions are practiſed in the Admeaſurement of Coals within the City of London and the Liberties thereof, and at the ſeveral Wharfs ſituate between the Tower of London and Limehouſe Hole in the County of Middleſex, to the great Loſs of the Conſumer, and Diſcredit of the fair Trader, many of whom are frequently harraſſed with vexatious Law Suits, for Offences which, as the Law now ſtands, are not in their Power to prevent: For Remedy whereof, 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 from and after the Firſt Day of June, One thouſand ſeven hundred Preamble.

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Office appointed for a Term.

hundred and sixty seven, there shall be erected and continued within the City of London, in or near Thames Street, one Publick Office, which shall be called by the Name of The Land Coal Meters Office for the City of *London*, and between the Tower of *London* and *Limehouse Hole* in the County of *Middlesex*; which said Office shall, from and after the said First Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and sixty seven, for and during the Term of Fourteen Years then next ensuing, be managed by John Evans of the City of London, Coal Merchant, who is hereby nominated and appointed to be the Manager of such Office; which Office, when erected, shall be kept open every Day (Sundays excepted) from the Twenty fifth Day of March to the Twenty ninth Day of September yearly, during the Continuance of this Act, from the Hour of Five in the Morning till Nine in the Evening; and from the Twenty ninth Day of September to the Twenty fifth Day of March yearly, during the Continuance of this Act, from the Hour of Six in the Morning till Six in the Evening.

Principal Coal Meter, &c. subject to Court of Aldermen:

Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said John Evans, and the Principal Coal Meter within the Limits aforesaid for the time being, and his and their Deputies or Servants, acting under him or them in the Admeasurement of Coals, by virtue of or in pursuance of this present Act, shall be, and they, and every of them, are hereby declared to be subject to the Power, Jurisdiction, and Comptroll, of the Court of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the said City of London; and shall and may be dismissed and suspended by the said Court, from the Execution and Emoluments of their said respective Offices, upon Complaint and Proof of any Fraud, Default, Neglect, or other Misbehaviour in the Management or Execution thereof, which Complaints shall and may be heard and determined by the said Court in a summary Way; any thing herein before contained to the contrary hereof in any ways notwithstanding.

At his Decease, Corporation to appoint.

Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case the said John Evans shall happen to die before the Expiration of the said Term of Fourteen Years, the said Office shall be managed by such Person as shall be nominated and appointed by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons, of the City of London, in Common Council assembled.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Person shall be capable of acting as Principal Land Coal Meter for the City of London, until he shall, before

before Two or more of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace for the City of London (who are hereby authorized and required to adminiſter the ſame) take an Oath in the Words or to the Effect following; to wit,

I *A. B.* do ſwear, That I will truly and faithfully, according to the beſt of my Judgement and Ability, execute the Office of Principal Land Coal Meter for the City of *London*, and for all the Wharfs ſituate between the Tower of *London* and *Limehouſe Hole* in the County of *Middleſex*. His Oath.

So help me God.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid John Evans, and ſuch other Perſon or Perſons that ſhall, from time to time, and at all Times hereafter, during the Continuance of this Act, be nominated and appointed to manage the ſaid Office, and he or they is and are hereby authorized to appoint a ſufficient Number of Perſons to be labouring Coal Meters within the ſaid City of London, and at the ſeveral Wharfs ſituate between the Tower of London and Limehouſe Hole in the County of Middleſex; one of which ſaid labouring Coal Meters ſhall attend every Day (Sundays excepted) at ſuch of the Coal Wharfs, Warehouſes, or other Places of Sale, within the ſaid City of London, and at the Coal Wharfs, Warehouſes, or other Places of Sale, ſituate between the Tower of London and Limehouſe Hole in the County of Middleſex, at which he ſhall be ſtationed by the Perſon or Perſons executing the Office of Principal Land Coal Meter, during the Continuance of this Act, at ſuch Times as is required by the Wharfinger or Dealer in Coals, where ſuch Meter is ſtationed to meaſure out the Coals, which ſhall, from time to time, be ſold by Wharf Meaſure, at any of the ſaid Wharfs or Warehouſes where ſuch labouring Coal Meters ſhall be ſo ſtationed as aforeſaid. Labouring Meters to be appointed;

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That no Perſon ſhall be capable of acting as one of the labouring Coal Meters, to be appointed as aforeſaid, until he ſhall, before One or more of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace for the ſaid City of London (who are hereby authorized and required to adminiſter the ſame) take an Oath in the Words or to the Effect following; to wit,

Their Oath.

I *A. B.* do ſwear, That I will duly and faithfully, to the beſt of my Skill and Knowledge, execute the Office of one of the labouring Coal Meters for the City of *London*, and the ſeveral Wharfs ſituate between the Tower of *London* and *Limehouſe Hole* in the County of *Middleſex*; and that I will truly and impartially meaſure all Coals, between Buyer and Seller, without Favour or Hatred.

So help me GOD.

Oaths to be recorded.

And the ſaid Juſtices reſpectively, who ſhall adminiſter the Oaths by this Act directed to be taken, are hereby required to certify the taking thereof to the next General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace to be held for the ſaid City of London after the taking of ſuch Oaths reſpectively, there to remain on Record.

Coal Meters not to be intereſted in the Sale of Coals.

Provided always, and be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if the ſaid Principal Coal Meter, or any of the Perſons to be employed under him, ſhall at any Time or Times hereafter, during his or their reſpective Continuance in their Office or Employment aforeſaid, be directly or indirectly intereſted or concerned in the Sale of any Coals whatſoever, otherwiſe than in their ſaid reſpective Offices; he or they reſpectively ſo offending, ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds; and being thereof convicted before the ſaid Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen, ſhall be diſmiſſed from his or their ſaid reſpective Office or Employment, and be for ever diſabled from holding or executing the ſame or any other under this Act.

3*l.* Penalty on labouring Coal Meters not attending on Notice.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any of the ſaid labouring Coal Meters, having Notice in Writing given to him or them to attend at any Wharf within the Limits aforeſaid, to be named in ſuch Notice, at any particular Hour of the next Day to be therein mentioned, in order to meaſure the Coals of the Perſon giving ſuch Notice, ſhall refuſe or neglect to attend and do his or their Duty accordingly; every ſuch labouring Coal Meter ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Three Pounds; which Sum, if not paid within One Calendar Month next after the Conviction of the offending Party, ſhall or may be recovered of or from the ſaid Principal Coal Meter for the time being, in like Manner as might have been againſt the Party ſo convicted.

And,

And, in order to prevent Confederacy, be it enacted, That the Stations to be appointed to and for the labouring Coal Meters, at the ſaid Wharfs, ſhall be frequently varied by the Principal Coal Meter, or the Perſon or Perſons executing the Office of Principal Coal Meter, in ſuch Manner as he or they ſhall think fit. Stations of labouring Meters to be frequently varied.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That all Coals which, from and after the ſaid Firſt Day of June, ſhall be ſold as and for Wharf Meaſure, at any Place or Places within the ſaid City of London, or at any of the ſeveral Wharfs, Warehouſes, or other Places, ſituate between the Tower of London and Limehouſe Hole in the County of Middleſex, ſhall be meaſured in the Preſence of One of the ſaid labouring Coal Meters, in ſuch Manner as is directed in and by an Act of Parliament made and paſſed in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Years of the Reign of his late Majeſty King Charles the Second, intituled, An Act for regulating the Meaſures and Prices of Coals; and the ſaid labouring Coal Meters ſhall and may, and he and they is and are hereby authorized and required, to fill up any Buſhel or Buſhels of Coals, as ſhall appear to him or them to be deficient or wanting in Meaſure, out of the Stock of Coals of the Perſon or Perſons ſo vending or contracting for the Sale of the ſaid Coals. Coals to be meaſured in Preſence of a labouring Meter.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That Four Pence by the Chaldron, for every Chaldron of Coals which, from and after the ſaid Firſt Day of June, ſhall be ſold and delivered at any Wharf, Warehouſe, or Place, within the ſaid City of London, and the Liberties thereof, or between the Tower of London and Limehouſe Hole in the County of Middleſex, ſhall be paid by the Perſon who keeps the Wharf, Warehouſe, or Place, where ſuch Coals are carted from, or by the Seller of ſuch Coals, to the Principal Land Coal Meter for the time being, or to the labouring Coal Meters, for the Purpoſes following; that is to ſay, Part of the ſaid Sum for the Uſe of the ſaid Principal Coal Meter, as a Recompence for his Labour and Trouble, and for defraying the Charges of his Clerks, Meſſengers, Houſe Rent, Fire, Candles, and all other Expences incident to the Execution of the Office aforeſaid, and the other Part for the Hire of the labouring Coal Meters; and thereupon ſuch Principal Land Coal Meter ſhall, and he is hereby required to deliver, or cauſe to be delivered, to every Seller of ſuch Coals, or the Carmen who ſhall Coal Meters Fee.

Tickets to be delivered.

shall cart, lead, drive, or carry, the same, a Paper Writing or Ticket, signed by the said Principal Land Coal Meter, and countersigned by the said labouring Coal Meter attending and delivering the same, in which shall be contained as well the Christian and Sirname of the respective Sellers, as of the Consumers of the said Coals, the Quantity and Day of the Week, Month and Year of the Delivery and Admeasurement, the Amount of the Metage Charge, and the Names of the Carmen or Persons employed to cart, lead, drive, or carry, the same Coals; and also shall contain a Notice to the Purchaser or Purchasers of the said Coals, that if he, she, or they, is or are dissatisfied with the Measure thereof, which Dissatisfaction must be expressed to the Carman before any Part thereof are shot or unladen from the said Cart; which said Ticket being thus made compleat and Metage paid, shall be delivered unaltered by the labouring Coal Meter countersigning the same, without Delay, to the Carman or Person employed to cart, carry, drive, or lead, the Coals described in such Ticket, to the Consumer therein named; which said Ticket unaltered, the Carman or Person therein named to be employed to cart, carry, lead, or drive, the Coals in such Ticket described, shall, and he is hereby required to deliver to the respective Consumers therein named, or to their Agent or Servant who shall attend to receive the Coals described in such Ticket, for the Use of such Consumer, and thereupon he, she, and they, are hereby required to pay to the Seller named in such Ticket the Metage therein specified: And if the labouring Coal Meter, countersigning such Ticket, shall, after Payment of the Metage Charge in pursuance of this Act, refuse to deliver such Ticket as herein before directed to the Carman or Person employed to cart, lead, drive, or carry, the Coals therein described; such labouring Coal Meter shall, for every such Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Forty Shillings: And if such Carman or Person employed to cart, carry, lead, or drive, the Coals described in such Ticket, shall, after the same Ticket shall have been so delivered to him by the labouring Coal Meter countersigning the same, either alter, or neglect or refuse to deliver the same Ticket to the Consumer therein named, or to the Agent or Servant who shall attend to receive the Coals described in such Ticket; such Carman or Person employed to cart, lead, or drive, the Coals described in such Ticket, shall likewise forfeit and pay, for every such Offence, the Sum of Ten Shillings.

Penalties on altering Tickets, &c.

And

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And be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Cart or Carts loaded, or in which any Quantity of Coals, exceeding Seventeen Buſhels, ſhall be ſent or driven from any Wharf, Warehouſe, or Place, within the ſaid City of London and the Liberties thereof, or from any Wharf, Warehouſe, or Place, ſituate between the Tower of London and Limehouſe Hole in the County of Middleſex, without having firſt obtained ſuch Ticket as aforeſaid; that then, and in every ſuch Caſe, the Vender of the ſaid Coals, being convicted thereof by the Oaths (or being One of the People called Quakers, by Affirmation) of Two or more Witneſſes, before One or more of His Majeſty's Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace for the ſaid City of London or County of Middleſex, and which he and they are hereby reſpectively authorized and required to adminiſter and take, ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Ten Pounds. or carrying Coals without.

And it is hereby enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Wharfinger, or Dealer in Coals, ſhall, at any Time or Times hereafter, during the Continuance of this Act, make uſe of One or more Sack or Sacks for the carrying of Coals within the City of London and the Liberties thereof, or at any Wharf, Warehouſe, or Place, ſituate between the Tower of London and Limehouſe Hole in the County of Middleſex, of leſs Dimenſions than Four Feet in Length, and Two Feet in Breadth, being convicted thereof by the Oaths (or being One of the People called Quakers, by Affirmation) of Two or more credible Witneſſes before One or more of His Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace for the City of London or County of Middleſex, and which he and they are hereby reſpectively authorized and required to adminiſter and take, ſhall, for every Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds. Dimenſions of Sacks.

And it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Wharfinger, or Dealer in Coals, ſhall directly or indirectly give, or cauſe to be given, to any labouring Coal Meter within the City of London and the Liberties thereof, or at any Wharf, Warehouſe, or Place, ſituate between the Tower of London and Limehouſe Hole in the County of Middleſex, at any Time or Times hereafter, during the Continuance of this Act, any Sum or Sums of Money, or other Fee, Reward, or Gratuity whatſoever, over and beſides the Four Pence per Chaldron herein before enacted and allowed for the Charges of Metage, being convicted thereof by the Oaths (or being One of the People called Penalty on Wharfingers, &c. bribing Meters;

Quakers, by Affirmation) of Two or more credible Witneſſes, before One or more of His Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace for the City of London or the County of Middleſex, and which he and they are hereby reſpectively authorized and required to adminiſter and take, ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds.

and on Meters permitting deficient Sacks to be uſed,

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any labouring Coal Meter ſhall, at any Time or Times hereafter, during the Continuance of this Act, uſe, or permit or ſuffer Sacks to be made uſe of, for the meaſuring or carrying of Coals, of leſs Dimenſions than Four Feet in Length, and Two Feet in Breadth, at any Place or Places within the City of London and the Liberties thereof, or at any Wharf, Warehouſe, or Place, ſituate between the Tower of London and Limehouſe Hole in the County of Middleſex, being convicted thereof by the Oaths (or being One of the People called Quakers, by Affirmation) of Two or more credible Witneſſes, before One or more of His Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace for the City of London or County of Middleſex, and which he and they are hereby reſpectively authorized and required to adminiſter and take, ſhall, for every Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Forty Shillings.

or otherwiſe not performing their Duty.

And it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any labouring Coal Meter, to be appointed and qualified purſuant to this Act, ſhall at any Time or Times hereafter, during the Continuance of this Act, deliver a falſe or counterfeit Ticket to any Dealer, Conſumer, Carman, or other Perſon, with Intent to prejudice or defraud any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, or ſhall take or receive from any Dealer in Coals any Sum or Sums of Money, Fee, Reward, or Gratuity whatſoever, over and beſides the Four Pence per Chaldron herein before enacted and allowed to be taken for the Metage Charge; or if any ſuch labouring Coal Meter ſhall wilfully make, permit, or ſuffer to be made, falſe Meaſure of Coals, at any Place or Places within the City of London, and the Liberties thereof, or at any Wharf, Warehouſe, or Place, ſituate between the Tower of London and Limehouſe Hole in the County of Middleſex, being in any or either of the ſaid Caſes convicted thereof, by the Oaths (or being One of the People called Quakers, by Affirmation) of Two or more credible Witneſſes, before One or more of His Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace for the City of London, or the County of Middleſex, and which

which he and they are hereby reſpectively authorized and required to adminiſter and take, ſhall, for every Offence in either of the ſaid Caſes, forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds, and be rendered incapable of ever ſerving thereafter in the Office of a Coal Meter.

Exemptions with reſpect to Water-works, &c.

Provided always, and it is hereby declared, That this Act ſhall not extend to the Owners of any Works for raiſing Water by Fire, nor to the Owners of any Coals to be bought, ſold, and delivered, as and for Pool Meaſure, but that they ſhall and may have One Chaldron of Coals, or more, delivered under the Inſpection of his or their own Agent (in the Abſence of a Meter) and in that Caſe, ſuch Perſons are hereby reſpectively exempted from Payment of any Metage Charge, by virtue of this Act; but if ſuch Perſons ſhall require the Care or Attendance of any Meter to be appointed in purſuance of this Act, then, and in ſuch Caſe, they ſhall pay the Metage Charge of Four Pence by the Chaldron hereby laid, as other Conſumers of Coals are hereby obliged, or ought to do, in purſuance of this Act; any thing herein before contained to the contrary hereof notwithſtanding.

Penalty on Meters ſuffering Coals to paſs without being meaſured.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any ſuch labouring Coal Meter ſhall, from and after the ſaid Firſt Day of June, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty ſeven, wittingly or willingly ſuffer any Coals ſold as and for Wharf Meaſure (exceeding the Quantity of Seventeen Buſhels) to be ſent from any Wharf or Warehouſe within the ſaid City of London, and the Liberties thereof, or from any Wharf or Warehouſe ſituate between the Tower of London and Limehouſe Hole in the County of Middleſex, without being meaſured in the Manner herein before directed, and ſhall not give Information thereof to the Principal Land Coal Meter, or his Deputies, at the ſaid Office, within Two Days next after ſuch Coals ſhall have been ſent as aforeſaid, and ſhall be duly convicted thereof, by the Oaths of Two or more credible Witneſſes; ſuch labouring Coal Meter ſhall from thenceforth be for ever rendered incapable of acting as a labouring Coal Meter within the Limits comprized in this Act, and forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds.

Coals may be remeaſured.

Provided alſo, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Perſon ſhall be diſſatisfied with, or think him or herſelf aggrieved by or in the Meaſure of any Coals ſold to him or her by Wharf Meaſure within the Limits aforeſaid, and ſhall upon Delivery to him or her of the Meter's Ticket accompanying

nying ſuch Coals, ſignify his or her Deſire to have the ſame remeaſured; then, and in every ſuch Caſe, the Carman or Driver of the Cart or other Carriage, in which the ſaid Coals ſhall be brought, ſhall continue at the Houſe or Lodging of the Purchaſer of the ſaid Coals, with the ſaid Coals and ſaid Cart until they are remeaſured; and the ſaid Purchaſer ſhall immediately ſend or cauſe to be ſent to the Vender of the ſaid Coals, or to his or her Wharf, Notice in Writing, that the ſaid Coals are going to be remeaſured, and alſo ſend Notice thereof to the Land Coal Meter's Office; and thereupon the ſaid Principal Meter, or One of the labouring Meters (not being the Meter under whoſe Inſpection the ſaid Coals were originally meaſured) ſhall, within the Space of Two Hours next after ſuch Notice in Writing left at the Land Coal Meter's Office aforeſaid, attend to remeaſure the ſaid Coals, and ſhall accordingly remeaſure the ſame, Sack by Sack, in the Preſence of the Vender and Purchaſer of the ſaid Coals, or their Agents or Servants, if any of them ſhall attend and deſire to ſee the ſame remeaſured; for which Re-admeaſurement the Purchaſer ſhall pay the Principal Meter the Sum of Six Pence for every Chaldron of Coals ſo remeaſured: And in caſe the Coals thus remeaſured ſhall not amount to the Quantity for which they were ſold, then the Vender of ſuch Coals ſhall forfeit and pay for every Buſhel of Coals found deficient the Sum of Five Pounds, and alſo forfeit every Chaldron of Coals ſo found deficient or wanting in Meaſure to and for the Uſe of the Poor of the Pariſh where the ſaid Coals ſhall be ſo remeaſured; and the labouring Meter, under whoſe Inſpection the Coals were firſt meaſured, ſhall, for every Buſhel ſo deficient, forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Shillings; which Sum, if not paid within Five Days next after his Conviction, ſhall and may be recovered from the Perſon executing the Office of Principal Meter for the time being; and the Coal Porters who ſhall meaſure the ſame for the Vender thereof, ſhall, for every Buſhel of Coals ſo wanting, forfeit and pay the Sum of Two Shillings and Six Pence.

Carmen to be paid 2 *s.* 6 *d.* *per* Hour, when ſtopped to remeaſure Coals.

Provided alſo, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That in all Caſes where any Cart ſhall be ſtopped or detained for the Purpoſe or Pretence of readmeaſuring the Coals laden thereon, the Owner of every ſuch Cart ſhall be intitled to the Sum of Two Shillings and Six Pence per Hour, for every Hour the Cart ſhall be ſo detained, over and above the uſual Cartage

age of ſuch Coals; which Two Shillings and Six Pence per Hour ſhall be paid by the Vender of the ſaid Coals, in caſe the ſame ſhall, upon ſuch Re-admeaſurement, be found deficient in Meaſure; or by the Purchaſer of the ſaid Coals, in caſe the ſame ſhall not be remeaſured, or ſhall, upon ſuch Re-admeaſurement, be found to amount to the Quantity for which the ſame were ſold.

Dealers offending under this Act, not liable to Penalties of Act 3 *Geo.* II. *&c.*

Provided alſo, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That no Seller of, or Dealer in, Coals, within the Limits aforeſaid, ſhall, for any Offences under this Act, be ſubject or liable to any other Penalty, Forfeiture, or Diſability, than what are herein before reſpectively inflicted or enacted, in or by the Act of the Third Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King George the Second, intituled, An Act for the better Regulation of the Coal Trade, or any other Law, Statute, or Cuſtom, to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Recovery and Application of Penalties, *&c.*

And be it further enacted and declared by the Authority aforeſaid, That the aforeſaid ſeveral Forfeitures and Penalties impoſed, and to be incurred, by virtue of or under this preſent Act, ſhall be recovered and applied in the Manner, and to and for the Purpoſes, following (that is to ſay) Such and ſo many of the ſaid Forfeitures and Penalties as do and ſhall exceed the Sum of Five Pounds, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majeſty's Courts of Record at Weſtminſter; the One Moiety of which ſaid Forfeitures and Penalties (that is, where each of them exceeds Five Pounds) ſhall be to and for the Uſe of our Sovereign Lord the King, His Heirs, and Succeſſors, and the other Moiety thereof (with Full Coſts of Suit) to and for the Uſe of ſuch Perſon or Perſons who ſhall inform or ſue for the ſame; and all other the aforeſaid Forfeitures and Penalties ſhall be recovered by way of Complaint made unto any One or more Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace for the City of London, or for the ſaid County of Middleſex, who is and are hereby required to call the Parties before him or them, and to hear and examine ſuch Complaint on Oath, or upon Affirmation (in caſe any Teſtimony in this Reſpect ſhall be given by any of the People called Quakers, and which Oath or Affirmation ſuch Juſtices are hereby reſpectively required and impowered to adminiſter and take) and upon due Proof thereof made to his or their Satisfaction, to grant a Warrant under his or their Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals, for levying ſuch Forfeitures and Penalties accordingly; the One Moiety thereof to and for the Uſe

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of the Informer, and the other Moiety thereof to and for the Uſe of the Poor of the Pariſh in which ſuch Offences ſhall have been reſpectively committed; and in caſe ſuch Forfeitures or Penalties ſhall not (after ſuch Conviction or Convictions) be forthwith paid, that then the ſame ſhall be levied by Diſtreſs and Sale of the Goods and Chattles of the reſpective Offenders, by Warrant or Warrants under the Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals, of ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace, before whom ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall be convicted, rendering the Overplus (if any be) to ſuch Offender or Offenders; and for want of ſufficient Diſtreſs, ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall be committed to hard Labour for any Time not exceeding Thirty Days, and not leſs than Seven Days, there to remain and be kept to hard Labour.

Perſons aggrieved may appeal to the Quarter Seſſions.

Provided alſo, and it is hereby further enacted and declared, That if any Perſon ſo convicted as aforeſaid, ſhall think himſelf aggrieved, he may appeal to the General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace to be held for the City of London or County of Middleſex next after ſuch Conviction, but not afterwards; and that Seſſions, when ſo appealed to, ſhall, at the then next Seſſions after bringing ſuch Appeal, hear and finally determine the ſame; and if the Appellant in ſuch Appeal ſhall not make good, ſupport, and ſucceed in ſuch his Appeal, or proſecute the ſame with Effect, the ſaid Court of Seſſions ſhall then award ſuch Coſts as they ſhall think reaſonable, to be then and there in open Court, with the Penalty adjudged on and by ſuch Conviction, paid to the Proſecutor or Informer; and for Want thereof to commit the Perſon or Perſons thus appealing to the Common Gaol of and for the City of London or the County of Middleſex, and there to remain until he or they ſhall and do make actual Payment of ſuch Coſts and Penalty, to the Perſon or Perſons to whom the ſame ſhall be awarded, for the Purpoſes aforeſaid; but in caſe the ſaid Appellant ſhall make good, ſupport, and ſucceed in ſuch his Appeal, and be acquitted of his Conviction, the ſame Court ſhall, in that Caſe, award to ſuch Appellant reaſonable Coſts, to be then and there in open Court paid to him or them, by the Perſon or Perſons on whoſe Information or Proſecution ſuch Conviction ſhall have been founded or made; and for Want of ſuch Payment, the ſaid Court of Seſſions ſhall commit ſuch Informers and Proſecutors reſpectively to the Common Gaol of the ſaid City of London or the County of Middleſex, there to remain until

until he or they ſhall and do actually pay to ſuch Appellant the Coſts ſo reſpectively awarded to them as aforeſaid; but no Conviction to be pronounced or made by virtue of or under this Act, ſhall be quaſhed or vacated for want of Form only.

And it is hereby enacted, That no Writ of Certiorari ſhall iſſue or be iſſuable to remove the Record of any Conviction, or Proceedings thereon to be taken, made, or pronounced, in purſuance or by the Authority of this Act, into any of His ſaid Majeſty's Courts of Record at Weſtminſter. No *Certiorari*.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Action, Information, or Suit, ſhall be brought, filed, or proſecuted, againſt any Perſon or Perſons, for any Thing to be done in purſuance of this Act, the ſame ſhall be commenced or filed within Two Months next after the Fact committed, and not afterwards; and ſhall be laid in the City of London, and not elſewhere; and the Defendant or Defendants in or to ſuch Actions, Suits, or Informations, may plead the General Iſſue, and give this Act and the Special Matter in Evidence on any Trial to be had thereupon, and that the ſame was done in purſuance of this Act: And if the ſame ſhall appear ſo to have been done, or if any ſuch Action, Suit, or Information, ſhall be brought or filed after the Time for this Purpoſe herein before in this Reſpect limited, or ſhall be laid or brought in any other County or Place, then the Jury, in every ſuch Caſe, ſhall find for the Defendant or Defendants; and if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs ſhall become nonſuit, or ſuffer a Diſcontinuance of his, her, or their Action or Actions, or if a Verdict ſhall paſs againſt the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs; or if upon Demurrer Judgement ſhall be given againſt the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants ſhall have full Coſts, and ſuch Remedy for the Recovery of the ſame, as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have for Coſts of Suit in other Caſes by Law. Limitation of Actions. General Iſſue. Treble Coſts.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That this preſent Act ſhall be deemed, judged, and taken to be, a Publick Act; and ſhall be judicially taken Notice of as ſuch by all Judges, Juſtices, and all other Perſons whatſoever, without ſpecially pleading the ſame. Publick Act.

And it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That this Act ſhall continue and be in force for Fourteen Years from and after the ſaid Firſt Day of June, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty ſeven, and from thence to the End of the then next Seſſion of Parliament. Term of the Act.

FINIS.