Anno octavo

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. XXII.

An Act for the more eaſy and effectual Recovery of the Penalties and Forfeitures inflicted by the Acts of Parliament relating to the Trade or Revenues of the *Britiſh* Colonies and Plantations in *America*.

WHEREAS by an Act made in the Fourth Year of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, intituled, An Act for granting certain Duties in the *Britiſh* Colonies and Plantations in *America*; for continuing, amending, and making perpetual, an Act paſſed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King *George* the Second, intituled, *An Act for the better ſecuring and encouraging the Trade of His Majeſty's Sugar Colonies in* America; for applying the Produce of ſuch Duties, and of the Duties to ariſe by virtue of the ſaid Act, towards defraying the Expences of defending, protecting, and ſecuring, the ſaid Colonies and Plantations; for explaining an Act made in the Twenty fifth Year of the Reign of King *Charles* the Second, intituled, *An Act for the Encouragement of the* Greenland *and* Eaſtland *Trades, and for the better ſecuring the Plantation Trade*; and for altering and diſallowing ſeveral Drawbacks on Exports from this Kingdom, and more effectually preventing the clandeſtine Conveyance of Goods to and from the ſaid Colonies and Plantations, and improving and ſecuring the Trade between the ſame and *Great Britain*; it was enacted and declared, That all the Forfeitures and Penalties inflicted by that or any other Act or Acts of Parliament, relating to the Trade and Revenues of the Britiſh Colonies or Plantations in America, which ſhould be incur-

Preamble, reciting Clauſes in Act 4 *Geo.* III.

red there, should and might be prosecuted, sued for, and recovered, in any Court of Record, or in any Court of Admiralty, in the said Colonies or Plantations where such Offence should be committed, or in any Court of Vice-Admiralty which might or should be appointed over all America; which Court of Admiralty, or Vice-Admiralty, were thereby respectively authorized and required to proceed, hear, and determine the same, at the Election of the Informer or Prosecutor: And whereas Prosecutions and Suits for Recovery of Forfeitures and Penalties, inflicted by any Act or Acts of Parliament relating to the Trade or Revenues of the said Colonies or Plantations, in One Court only of Vice-Admiralty over all America, may, in many Cases, by reason of the Distance of the Places where the Cause of such Suits and Prosecutions shall arise from the Place where such Court is or shall be established, be attended with great Inconvenience; 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, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the First Day of September, One thousand seven hundred and sixty eight, all Forfeitures and Penalties inflicted by any Act or Acts of Parliament relating to the Trade or Revenues of the British Colonies or Plantations in America, may be prosecuted, sued for, and recovered, in any Court of Vice-Admiralty appointed, or to be appointed, and which shall have Jurisdiction within the Colony, Plantation, or Place, where the Cause of such Prosecution or Suit shall have arisen.

After 1 *Sept.* 1768, the Penalties and Forfeitures relating to the Trade or Revenues of the *British* Colonies or Plantations in *America*, may be sued for and recovered in any Court of Vice-Admiralty within the Colony;

and Persons aggrieved by the Determination of such Court, may appeal.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in all Cases where any Prosecution or Suit shall be commenced and determined for any Penalty or Forfeiture inflicted by any such Act or Acts of Parliament, in any Court of Admiralty in the respective Colony or Plantation where the Offence shall be committed, either Party who shall think himself aggrieved by such Determination may appeal, from such Determination, to any Court of Vice-Admiralty appointed, or to be appointed, and which shall have Jurisdiction within such Colony, Plantation, or Place; which Court of Vice-Admiralty is hereby authorized and required to proceed, hear, and determine, all such Suits, Prosecutions, and Appeals; any Law, Custom, or Usage, to the contrary notwithstanding.

FINIS.