ANNO QUADRAGESIMO TERTIO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

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CAP. CXVIII.

An Act to render more effectual an Act, passed in the Fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, relating to the Discovery of the Longitude at Sea, and for continuing the Encouragement of Persons making certain Discoveries for finding the Longitude at Sea, or other useful Discoveries and Improvements in Navigation, and for making Experiments relating thereto; and for discharging certain Debts incurred by the Commissioners of the Longitude in carrying the Acts relating thereto into Execution. [29th *July* 1803.]

WHEREAS by an Act, made in the Fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled, *An Act for explaining and rendering more effectual Two Acts, One made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of Queen* Anne, *intituled,* '*An Act for providing a publick Reward for such Person or Persons as shall discover the Longitude at Sea;*' *and the other in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of King* George *the Second, intituled,* '*An Act to render more effectual an Act, made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of Her late Majesty Queen* Anne, *intituled,* "*An Act for providing a publick Reward for such Person or Persons as shall discover the Longitude at Sea,*" '*with regard to the mak-* 5 Geo.3. c. 20.

'*ing Experiments of Propoſals made for diſcovering the Longitude, and to* '*enlarge the Number of Commiſſioners for putting in Execution the ſaid* '*Act*;' it is, among other Things, enacted, that it ſhould be lawful for the Commiſſioners for diſcovering the Longitude at Sea, to cauſe ſuch Nautical Almanacks, or other uſeful Tables, to be conſtructed, and to print, publiſh, and vend, or cauſe to be printed, publiſhed, and vended, any Nautical Almanack or Almanacks, or other uſeful Table or Tables, which they, or the major Part of them, ſhould, from Time to Time, judge neceſſary and uſeful, in order to facilitate the Method of diſcovering the Longitude at Sea; and it was further enacted, that no Perſon or Perſons ſhould print, publiſh, or vend, or cauſe to be printed, publiſhed, or vended, any Nautical Almanack or Almanacks, or other Table or Tables conſtructed under the Direction of the ſaid Commiſſioners, without being licenſed by the ſaid Commiſſioners, or the major Part of them, and that if any Perſon or Perſons not ſo licenſed, or not being authorized by the Perſon or Perſons ſo licenſed by the ſaid Commiſſioners, ſhould print, publiſh, or vend, or cauſe to be printed, publiſhed, or vended, any ſuch Nautical Almanack or Almanacks, or other Table or Tables, every ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſhould, for every Copy of ſuch Nautical Almanack or Table ſo printed, publiſhed, or vended, forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds, to be recovered and applied as in the ſaid Act is mentioned: And whereas the ſaid Commiſſioners for diſcovering the Longitude at Sea, have, from Time to Time, cauſed Nautical Almanacks, or Aſtronomical Ephemerides, and other Tables, to be conſtructed for the Purpoſes in the ſaid Act mentioned, and particularly have for thoſe Purpoſes cauſed ſuch Nautical Almanacks, and Aſtronomical Ephemerides, and other Tables, to be conſtructed for the Years One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-nine, One thouſand eight hundred, One thouſand eight hundred and one, One thouſand eight hundred and two, One thouſand eight hundred and three, One thouſand eight hundred and four, One thouſand eight hundred and five, and One thouſand eight hundred and ſix: And whereas the ſaid Nautical Almanacks, and Aſtronomical Ephemerides, and other uſeful Tables, have been printed and publiſhed purſuant to the Warrants or Licences of the ſaid Commiſſioners, for the ſaid Years herein-before mentioned; and the ſaid Commiſſioners have cauſed ſundry Calculations to be made towards the conſtructing, and completing and publiſhing of the like Nautical Almanacks, and Aſtronomical Ephemerides, and other uſeful Tables, for diſcovering the Longitude at Sea, for ſeveral Years ſubſequent to the ſaid Year One thouſand eight hundred and ſix: And whereas it has been found inconvenient that the ſaid Nautical Almanacks, Aſtronomical Ephemerides, and Tables, ſhould be conſtructed, printed, and publiſhed, only under the Authority of the major Part of the ſaid Commiſſioners, who are many in Number, by reaſon of the Difficulty of obtaining the neceſſary Signatures for licenſing and authorizing ſuch Publication, and of proving the ſame to be the Signatures of the major Part of the ſaid Commiſſioners for the Time being, in caſe of Proſecutions for pirating the ſaid Works; and it is expedient that further Regulations ſhould be made in relation to the printing and publiſhing the ſaid Nautical Almanacks, Aſtronomical Ephemerides, and other uſeful Tables: 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

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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 it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners of Longitude for the Time being, or any Five or more of them (of whom the President of the Royal Society, and the Royal Astronomer at *Greenwich* for the Time being, shall be Two), to cause any Nautical Almanacks and Astronomical Ephemerides, and other useful Tables, to be constructed, as they the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them (of whom the President of the Royal Society, and the Royal Astronomer at *Greenwich*, shall be Two), shall from Time to Time judge necessary and useful to be constructed, in order to facilitate the Method of discovering the Longitude at Sea; and that it shall and may be lawful for such Person or Persons only as have been or shall be for that Purpose licensed, in Manner herein-after mentioned, to print, publish, and vend, or cause to be printed, published, and vended, any such Nautical Almanacks, or Astronomical Ephemerides, and other useful Tables, as have been, or shall from Time to Time be so constructed as aforesaid; any Law, Statute, exclusive Privilege, private Charter, or other Custom, to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

Commissioners of Longitude may cause any Nautical Almanacks, *&c.* to be constructed.

II. And be it further enacted, That all Licences already given and granted, for printing, publishing, and vending, any such Nautical Almanacks, and Astronomical Ephemerides, and other useful Tables, under the Hands of any Five or more of the said Commissioners of Longitude for the Time being, (of whom the President of the Royal Society and the Royal Astronomer at *Greenwich* were Two), shall be deemed as valid and effectual Licences for the Purposes therein mentioned, and for all other Intents and Purposes whatsoever, as if the same had been given, granted, and signed, by the major Part of the said Commissioners for the Time being; and that all Licences hereafter to be given and granted, for printing, publishing, and vending, such Nautical Almanacks, and Astronomical Ephemerides, and other useful Tables, shall be signed by Five or more of them the said Commissioners (of whom the President of the Royal Society, and the Royal Astronomer at *Greenwich* for the Time being shall be Two), and being so signed, shall have the same Force and Effect as if the same had been given, granted, and signed, by the major Part of the said Commissioners for the Time being; any Thing in any Act or Acts to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

Licences for printing and publishing them to be signed by Five Commissioners, *etc.*

III. And be it further enacted, That the said Penalties or Forfeitures of Twenty Pounds each, for every pirated Copy of the said Works, given by the said Act of the Fifth Year of His present Majesty's Reign, shall, from and after the passing of this Act, be sued, informed, and prosecuted for by the Secretary of the said Commissioners of the Longitude for the Time being, or by some other Person or Persons authorized by Writing, signed by Five or more of the said Commissioners, and shall not be sued, informed, or prosecuted for by any other Person or Persons whomsoever, and that such Suits, Prosecutions, and Informations shall not abate by reason of the Death of such Prosecutors, or any of them, but shall be continued in the Case of a sole Plaintiff or Informer dying before Judgement obtained in the Name of the Secretary of the said Commissioners for the Time being; and that such Penalties or Forfeitures, when recovered, shall be wholly to the Person who shall inform, prosecute,

Penalties for pirated Copies to be sued for by the Secretary of the Commissioners.

cute, or ſue for the ſame in Manner aforeſaid, which Penalties and Forfeitures when recovered ſhall be in Truſt for, and ſubject to the Order and Diſpoſition of the ſaid Commiſſioners of Longitude for the Time being, or of any Five or more of them; any Thing to the contrary in any former Act notwithſtanding.

36 Geo. 3. c. 107.

IV. And whereas by an Act made in the Thirty-ſixth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for continuing the Encouragement and Reward of Perſons making certain Diſcoveries for finding the Longitude at Sea, or making other uſeful Diſcoveries and Improvements in Navigation, and for making Experiments relating thereto*, the Commiſſioners for the Diſcovery of Longitude were empowered whenever they ſhould be ſatisfied of the Probability of any Propoſal or Propoſals that ſhould be made to them for diſcovering the Longitude, or making any other uſeful Diſcovery and Improvement in Navigation, ſo as to think it proper to cauſe Experiments to be made thereof, to certify the ſame to the Commiſſioners of the Navy; and alſo in caſe they ſhould adjudge any Perſon or Perſons to have made any Diſcovery for finding the Longitude at Sea, which, though not of ſo great Uſe as to be entitled to any of the great Rewards ſpecified in an Act made in the Fourteenth Year of His preſent Majeſty, therein and alſo herein-before referred to, yet that the ſaid Diſcovery was of conſiderable Uſe to the Publick, or to have made any other Diſcovery or Diſcoveries, Improvement or Improvements uſeful to Navigation, to certify ſuch leſs Reward, or Sum or Sums of Money, as they the ſaid Commiſſioners for the Diſcovery of Longitude ſhould think reaſonable to be paid to ſuch Perſon or Perſons; and the Commiſſioners of the Navy were thereby authorized and required to make out Bills upon the Treaſurer of the Navy for ſuch Sums ſo certified, who was thereby authorized to pay the ſame immediately to ſuch Perſon or Perſons, out of any Monies which ſhould be in his the ſaid Treaſurer's Hands, unapplied to the Uſe of the Navy; and it was thereby further enacted, that all ſuch Sum or Sums of Money as ſhould be paid by the Treaſurer of the Navy, by virtue of the ſaid Act, for the Purpoſes of making ſuch Experiments as aforeſaid, and in rewarding in a leſſer Degree leſſer Diſcoveries for finding the Longitude at Sea, and alſo other Diſcoveries and Improvements uſeful to Navigation, ſhould not altogether exceed the Sum of Five thouſand Pounds: And whereas by ſeveral Payments made by the Treaſurer of the Navy, purſuant to the Directions of the ſaid Act of the Thirty-ſixth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, the ſaid Commiſſioners for the Diſcovery of the Longitude, have expended the whole of the Sum of Five thouſand Pounds, granted by the ſaid Act for the Purpoſes aforeſaid; and moreover, ſeveral Debts have been incurred, and are now growing due for ſundry Matters and Things done by Order of the ſaid Commiſſioners in carrying the ſaid Acts into Execution, and for Services tending to the Benefit of Navigation: And whereas it is highly neceſſary that the ſaid Debts ſhould be diſcharged, and that the ſaid Encouragements and Rewards for the Purpoſes mentioned in the ſaid Act of the Thirty-ſixth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, ſhould be continued; be it therefore enacted, That the Commiſſioners for the Diſcovery of the Longitude ſhall and may certify the Amount of ſuch Debts, together with the Names of the Perſons to whom the ſame are or ſhall be reſpectively due, under their Hands and Seals, to the Commiſſioners

Commiſſioners to certify the Amount of Debts incurred for Ser-

missioners of the Navy, who are hereby authorized and required to make out a Bill or Bills upon the Treasurer of the Navy for such Sum or Sums of Money as may be necessary for discharging the said Debts, which Sum or Sums of Money the said Treasurer is hereby required to pay to the Person or Persons to whom the same shall be so certified to be due respectively, out of any Money which shall be in his, the said Treasurer's, Hands, unapplied as aforesaid.

vices tending to the Benefit of Navigation, to the Commissioners of the Navy, who shall make out Bills on the Treasurer for discharging the same.

V. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners for the Discovery of the Longitude, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, whenever they shall be satisfied of the Probability of any Proposal or Proposals that shall be made to them for Discovery of the Longitude, or making any other useful Discovery and Improvement in Navigation, so as to think it proper to cause Experiments to be made thereof, to certify the same to the Commissioners of the Navy; and also in case they shall adjudge any Person or Persons to have made any Discovery for finding the Longitude at Sea, which though not of so great Use, as to be entitled to any of the great Rewards specified in the said Act of the Fourteenth Year of His present Majesty, yet that such Discovery is of considerable Use to the Publick, or to have made any other Discovery or Discoveries, Improvement or Improvements, useful to Navigation, to certify such less Reward, or Sum or Sums of Money, as they the said Commissioners for the Discovery of Longitude shall think reasonable to be paid to such Person or Persons; and the Commissioners of the Navy are hereby authorized and required to make out a Bill or Bills upon the Treasurer of the Navy, for such Sum or Sums as shall be so certified to them by the said Commissioners for the Discovery of the Longitude; and the said Treasurer of the Navy is hereby authorized and required to pay immediately such Sum or Sums to the Person or Persons who shall be appointed by the said Commissioners for the Discovery of the Longitude, to make such Experiments, or to receive such less Reward, or Sum or Sums of Money, for making lesser Discoveries for finding the Longitude at Sea, or any other Discoveries and Improvements useful to Navigation, out of any Monies which shall be in his, the said Treasurer's, Hands unapplied to the Use of the Navy.

Commissioners to certify to the Navy Board the Fitness of trying Experiments for Discovery of the Longitude, and also if they adjudge any Person entitled to a less Reward than specified in 14 Geo. 3. for discovering Improvements.

Treasurer to pay Bills made out by Navy Board:

VI. Provided always, and be it enacted, That all such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be paid by the Treasurer of the Navy by virtue of this Act, as well for the Purpose of discharging the several Debts which have been incurred, and are now growing due, in Manner aforesaid, as of making such Experiments as aforesaid, and of rewarding in a lesser Degree lesser Discoveries for finding the Longitude at Sea, and also other Discoveries and Improvements useful to Navigation, do not altogether exceed the Sum of Five thousand Pounds.

But such Debts and Rewards not to exceed 5,000l.

VII. Provided also, That in case any such Reward or Sum of Money to be given or paid for any of the Purposes aforesaid shall not exceed the Sum of One thousand Pounds, that then and in every such Case, it shall be certified to the Commissioners of the Navy as aforesaid, under the Hands and Seals of the said Commissioners for the Discovery of the Longitude, or any Five or more of them; but if any such Reward, or Sum of Money, shall exceed the Sum of One thousand Pounds, that then the

How Rewards shall be certified.

the ſame ſhall in every ſuch Caſe be certified as aforeſaid, under the Hands and Seals of the Firſt Commiſſioner of the Admiralty, the Firſt Commiſſioner of the Navy, the Preſident of the Royal Society, the Royal Aſtronomer at *Greenwich*, and the Comptroller of the Navy for the Time being, they reſpectively being by virtue of the ſeveral Offices held by them, Commiſſioners for the Diſcovery of the Longitude as aforeſaid.

Licences and Certificates ſhall not be liable to Stamp Duty.

VIII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That ſuch Licences and Certificates, ſigned and ſealed reſpectively, as herein-before is directed, ſhall not be conſidered, deemed, or taken to be, Deeds or Inſtruments liable to any Stamp Duties; but that the ſame ſhall be good and valid, and ſhall and may be given in Evidence in any Court of Law or Equity, as Occaſion ſhall require, without being ſtamped in any Manner whatſoever; any Law, Statute, or Uſage to the contrary notwithſtanding.

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