ANNO QUADRAGESIMO TERTIO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. CXXVIII.

An Act for the further Regulation of the Collection of the Duties of Customs in *Great Britain* in certain Cases. [11th *August* 1803.]

WHEREAS the Accounts of the Exports of *Great Britain* have been found to be incorrect, and great Inconvenience hath arisen in making out the said Accounts, by reason of Merchants and other Exporters of Goods refusing or neglecting to deliver to the Comptrolling Searchers of His Majesty's Customs a Shipping Bill or Copy of the Cocquet for Goods intended to be exported; be it therefore 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 Tenth Day of *October* One thousand eight hundred and three, it shall not be lawful for any Person or Persons whatever to lade or put, or cause to be laden or put, off or from any Quay, Wharf, or other Place on Land, into any Ship, Vessel, Lighter, Boat, or Bottom, any Goods, Wares, or Merchandize whatever, with Intent to export the same to Parts beyond the Seas, until such Person or Persons shall deliver

From *Oct.* 10, 1803, no Goods shall be put on board any Vessel for Exportation until a Copy of the Cocquet or Entry be delivered to the Comptroling Searchers.

deliver or cauſe to be delivered, by themſelves or Agent, to the Comptrolling Searchers of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms, or ſome One of them, a true and correct Copy in Writing of the Cocquet or Entry (together with the Endorſement thereon), for all ſuch Goods, Wares, and Merchandize ſo intended to be exported, and it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Comptrolling Searchers, or other Officer of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms, to detain and make Stay of any Goods, Wares, and Merchandize whatever for which the Shipping Bill or Copy of the Cocquet, with the Indorſement thereon, ſhall not have been delivered as aforeſaid.

26 Geo. 3. c. 40.

II. And whereas by an Act, paſſed in the Twenty-ſixth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for regulating the Production of Manifeſts, and for more effectually preventing fraudulent Practices in obtaining Bounties and Drawbacks, and in the clandeſtine relanding of Goods*, the Surveyor General or Surveyors General of the Cuſtoms in the Port of *London*, upon Examination and Enquiries relative to the Revenue, as well as to the Conduct of the Officers employed therein, are authorized to examine all Perſons who may appear before them upon Oath: And whereas it is expedient that the like Power ſhould be given to the Collectors and Comptrollers of the Cuſtoms at the Out-Ports, upon Examinations and Enquiries before them; be it therefore enacted,

Teſtimony to be given on Oath at the Out Ports of *Great Britain* as well as in *London*, in Matters relating to the Cuſtoms.

That, from and after the Tenth Day of *October* One thouſand eight hundred and three, all and each and every Perſon and Perſons who ſhall be examined as a Witneſs or Witneſſes on any Enquiry directed to be made by the Commiſſioners of the Cuſtoms in *England* and *Scotland* reſpectively, relative to the Revenue of Cuſtoms, or to the Conduct of the Officers employed therein, before the Collectors and Comptrollers of the Cuſtoms, or either of them, at any Out-Port of *Great Britain*, ſhall, and they are hereby reſpectively required to deliver his, her, or their Teſtimony on Oath, to be adminiſtered by the ſaid Officers reſpectively, who ſhall examine them, and ſuch Officers reſpectively are hereby authorized to adminiſter ſuch Oath accordingly.

Perſons ſwearing falſely deemed guilty of Perjury.

III. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever ſhall be convicted of making a falſe Oath, touching any of the Facts directed or required by this Act, to be teſtified on Oath, or of giving falſe Evidence on his, her, or their Examination on Oath before the Collectors and Comptrollers of the Cuſtoms, or either of them reſpectively, in Conformity to the Directions of this Act, ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo convicted as aforeſaid ſhall be deemed guilty of Perjury, and ſhall be liable to the Pains and Penalties to which Perſons are liable for wilful and corrupt Perjury.

37 Geo. 3. c. 97.

IV. And whereas Doubts have ariſen whether, according to the Proviſions of an Act, paſſed in the Thirty-ſeventh Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for carrying into Execution the Treaty of Amity, Commerce, and Navigation, concluded between His Majeſty and the United States of* America, Cotton, and other Goods, Wares, and Merchandize, the Produce of the Weſtern States of *America* within the Territories of the United States of *America*, can legally be imported from *New Orleans* in *America* into *Great Britain*, in Ships or Veſſels of the Built of the ſaid States, owned and navigated according to the Directions of the

the said recited Act; and it is expedient that such Doubts should be removed, be it therefore enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to import into *Great Britain*, from *New Orleans* in *America*, any Cotton or other Goods, Wares, or Merchandize, being the Produce of the Western States of *America*, within the Territories of the said United States, in Ships or Vessels of the Built of the said States, owned and navigated according to the Directions of the said recited Act, any Thing in the said recited Act, or any Law, Custom, or Usage to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Goods may be imported from *New Orleans* in *America*, in Vessels of the Built of the United States.

V. And whereas by an Act made and passed in the Twenty-fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled, *An Act for the more effectual Prevention of Smuggling in this Kingdom*, it is amongst other Things enacted, that in case any Ship or Vessel liable to be broken up or destroyed shall be necessary and fit for the Service of His Majesty in His Royal Navy, it shall and may be lawful for the Commissioners of the Customs or Excise respectively, if they think proper, to cause such Ship or Vessel, instead of being broken up or destroyed, to be sold to the Officers appointed by the Lord High Admiral of *Great Britain*, or the Commissioners of the Navy for that Purpose: And whereas it is expedient during Hostilities, to authorize the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs or Excise in *Great Britain* or *Ireland* respectively to dispose of Ships or Vessels, which shall or may on Condemnation be liable to be broken up, to private Persons, for the Purpose of being used against the Enemy as private Ships, under Commission from the Lord High Admiral of *Great Britain*, or the Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of *Great Britain* for the Time being, be it therefore enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs and Excise in *Great Britain* or *Ireland* respectively, during Hostilities, to sell and dispose of any Ship or Vessel, which, on Condemnation, shall or may be liable to be broken up, to private Persons, for the Purpose of being used against the Enemy, under Commission from the Lord High Admiral of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, or the Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* for the Time being, and One Moiety of the Produce of such Sale, after Charges of Condemnation and other Charges are deducted, to be paid into the Exchequer for the Use of His Majesty, and the other Moiety to the Officer who sued and prosecuted for the same.

24 Geo. 3. c. 47.

Commissioners of the Customs and Excise may sell condemned Vessels to private Persons to be used against the Enemy under Commission from the Admiralty.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1803.