ANNO QUADRAGESIMO TERTIO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. CXXXV.

An Act for the removing of Doubts reſpecting the Validity of Aſſignments made or to be made purſuant to the Awards of the Commiſſioners acting under the Seventh Article of the Treaty with the United States of *America*; and for the better enabling of His Majeſty to recover the Intereſts ſo aſſigned. [11th *Auguſt* 1803.]

Treaty with the United States, dated *November* 19, 1794.

WHEREAS by the Seventh Article of the Treaty of Amity, Commerce, and Navigation, concluded between His Majeſty and the United States of *America*, and ſigned at *London*, on the Nineteenth Day of *November* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety four, after reciting that Complaints had been made by divers Merchants and other Citizens of the United States, that during the Courſe of the War in which His Majeſty was engaged, they had ſuſtained conſiderable Loſſes and Damages by reaſon of irregular or illegal Captures or Condemnations of their Veſſels and other Property, under Colour of Authority or Commiſſions from His Majeſty; and that from various Circumſtances belonging to the ſaid Caſes, adequate Compenſation for the Loſſes and Damage ſo ſuſtained could not then be actually obtained, had, and received, by the ordinary Courſe of judicial Proceedings, it was agreed that in all ſuch Caſes, where adequate Compenſation could not for whatever Reaſon be then actually obtained, had, and received by the ſaid Merchants and others in the ordinary Courſe of Juſtice, full and complete Compenſation for the ſame ſhould be made by the *Britiſh* Government; and for the Purpoſes of aſcertaining any ſuch Loſſes or Damage, Five Commiſſioners ſhould be appointed, and authorized to act in *London* in Manner therein mentioned, the Award of the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any ſuch Three of them as therein deſcribed, in all Caſes to be final and concluſive, both as to the Juſtice of the Claim, and the

Amount of the Sum to be paid to the Claimant; and His Majesty undertook to cause the same to be paid to such Claimant in Specie without any Deduction, in such Place or Places, and at such Time or Times as should be awarded by the same Commissioners, and on Condition of such Releases and Assignments, to be given by the Claimants as by the said Commissioners might be directed: And whereas by a Convention, signed at *London* the Eighth Day of *January* One thousand eight hundred and three, between His Majesty and the United States of *America*, it was agreed, that instead of the Sums awarded by the said Commissioners being made payable at the Time or Times by them appointed, all Sums of Money by them awarded to be paid to *American* or *British* Claimants, according to the Provision of the said Seventh Article, should be made payable in Three equal Instalments, the First whereof to be paid at the Expiration of every Year, the Second at the Expiration of Two Years, and the Third and last at the Expiration of Three Years, next after the Exchange of the Ratifications of such Convention: And whereas the Commissioners appointed pursuant to the said Article and Convention, or the major Part of them, upon hearing several Claims made before them, have adjudged and awarded certain Sums of Money to be paid to or for the Benefit of several Persons upon such Claims; and the said Commissioners in and by their said Award have, in pursuance of the Powers given them by the said Treaty and Convention, directed, and may hereafter direct certain Assignments of all the Interests in respect of which such Sums of Money have been or may be awarded to be made to the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury for the Time being, by the Persons receiving such Sums of Money, or the First Instalment thereof: And whereas Doubts may arise respecting the Validity of such Assignments, and how far Proceedings may be legally carried on for the Purpose of recovering the Interest so assigned; 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 in all Cases where any Assignment shall have been or shall be executed pursuant to such Award or Awards, all such Assignments shall be good and valid to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever; and all and every the Right, Title, and Interest, together with all Right of Suit or Action conveyed, or expressed to be conveyed, in such Assignment or Assignments, shall be, and the same are hereby legally and absolutely vested in the said Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury for the Time being, for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors; and it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and he and they is and are hereby authorized and empowered in his or their own Name or Names, or in the Name of the Complainant or Complainants, Claimant or Claimants, or other Persons whose Interest have been or shall be so assigned, to prosecute and carry on all such Claims, Suits, and Actions, and all other Proceedings as are depending at the passing of this Act, or as might now or hereafter be legally commenced, prosecuted, or carried on by or on Behalf of the Person or Persons whose Interest or Interests have been or shall be so assigned in respect of such Interests, in any Court or Courts, or in any Form of legal Proceedings whatever.

Convention, dated *January* 8, 1803.

Assignments executed or to be executed pursuant to the Award of the Commissioners acting under the Treaty with the United States, shall be valid, and all Right shall vest in the Treasury, and His Majesty may prosecute all Claims of which the Interest shall have been so assigned.

LONDON: Printed by George Eyre and Andrew Strahan, Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1803.