ANNO QUADRAGESIMO TERTIO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. CXXXVII.

An Act to enable the Court of Directors of the *East India* Company to make reaſonable Allowances to the Owners of certain Ships, in the Service of the ſaid Company, on Account of the extraordinary Expence attending the Outfit of the ſaid Ships, between certain Periods. [11th *Auguſt* 1803.]

WHEREAS ſeveral Ships are now engaged in the Service of the United Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *Eaſt Indies*, to ſerve them for ſeveral Voyages, under Contracts made with the reſpective Owners thereof, ſubject to the Proviſions of an Act of Parliament, paſſed in the Thirty-ninth Year of His Majeſty's Reign, intituled, *An Act for regulating the Manner in which the United Company of Merchants of* England *trading to the* East Indies *ſhall hire and take up Ships for their regular Service*; by virtue of which Contracts the Owners of the ſaid Ships are entitled to be paid reſpectively a certain fixed Rate of Peace Freight, with additional Charges in Time of War or Preparations for War: And whereas under the ſpecial Circumſtances which took place during the Period intervening between the Concluſion of the late War and the Delivery of His Majeſty's Meſſage to Parliament on the

39 Geo. 3. c. 89.

Eighth Day of *March* One thouſand eight hundred and three, the Outfit of Ships was ſubjected to much extraordinary Expence; and it is therefore expedient to authorize the Court of Directors to grant to the Owners of Ships that were fitted out between the Periods above deſcribed, ſuch reaſonable Relief as they would have been entitled to under the ſaid Act, in the Caſe of actual Preparations for War; 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 it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company, over and above the Peace Freight and Demurrage to be paid for any Ships in the Service of the ſaid United Company, which ſailed on, or were fitted out or equipped for any Voyage between the Twenty-ſeventh Day of *March* One thouſand eight hundred and two, and the Eighth Day of *March* One thouſand eight hundred and three, to make and pay or cauſe to be made and paid to the Owners of ſuch Ships reſpectively, ſuch Allowances and Payments in reſpect of the additional Charges ariſen or to ariſe to the Owners of the ſaid Ships reſpectively, from the Cauſes herein-before recited, as the ſaid Court of Directors in their Diſcretion ſhall think reaſonable, and as might be lawfully allowed by the ſaid Court of Directors in the Caſe of actual Preparations for War, the ſaid Act of Parliament paſſed in the Thirty-ninth Year of His Majeſty's Reign, or any Contract or Agreement, or any Thing therein contained, or any other Matter, Cauſe, or Thing, to the contrary thereof in anyways notwithſtanding.

On Account of the extraordinary Expence of Outfit of Ships for a certain Period, the Court of Directors ſhall pay, over and above the Peace Freight and Demurrage, ſuch Allowances in reſpect of add tional Charges to Owners as might be allowed in caſe of actual Preparations for War.

II. Provided always, That nothing in this Act contained ſhall be conſtrued hereafter to recognize or admit any Claim in the Owners of any Ship contracted for under the Proviſions of the ſaid recited Act, for any Allowance in Addition to the fixed Rate of Peace Freight, as ſettled in their reſpective Contracts, on Account of any Variation which may from Time to Time prevail in the Price of Stores, or on any other Grounds whatſoever, ſave and except thoſe preſcribed by the ſaid Act, namely, in the Caſe of actual War or Peparations for War.

Act not to admit any Claim in Owners for an additional Allowance but in Caſes of War or Preparations for it.

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