

ANNO QUADRAGESIMO QUINTO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. CXXVI.

An Act to indemnify Perſons who ſhall give Evidence againſt *Henry* Lord Viſcount *Melville*, upon the Impeachment voted againſt him by the Commons of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* in Parliament aſſembled, in reſpect of Acts done by ſuch Perſons in any Office or Employment held by them under the ſaid Lord Viſcount *Melville*, during the Time he held and enjoyed the Office of Treaſurer of His Majeſty's Navy.

[12th *July* 1805.]

WHEREAS the Commons of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* in Parliament aſſembled, have voted and reſolved, That *Henry* Lord Viſcount *Melville* be impeached of High Crimes and Miſdemeanours, and in purſuance of ſuch Vote and Reſolution have accordingly, at the Bar of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, impeached and exhibited Articles of Impeachment of High Crimes and Miſdemeanors againſt the ſaid *Henry* Lord Viſcount *Melville*: And whereas in the Proſecution of ſuch Impeachment, it may be neceſſary to examine as Witneſſes Perſons who held Offices or Employments in the Navy Pay Office under the ſaid *Henry* Lord Viſcount *Melville*, during the Time or reſpective Times he held the Office of Treaſurer of His Majeſty's Navy, in reſpect of Acts done, and in reſpect of the Uſe and Application of the Publick Money during the Time they reſpectively held ſuch Offices or

Employments, and in caſe the Diſcloſure by ſuch Perſons of ſuch Acts, or of ſuch Uſe or Application of the Publick Money, ſhould tend to expoſe ſuch Perſons to criminal Proſecutions, and ſuch Perſons might therefore by Law refuſe to diſcloſe the ſame: And whereas it is expedient, for ſecuring and promoting the Ends of Juſtice, to indemnify, as they are herein-after indemnified, ſuch Perſons againſt any Criminal Proſecutions upon their truly and faithfully making ſuch Diſcovery and Diſcloſure as is herein-after mentioned: 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, for the more effectually proſecuting the ſaid Impeachment, all and every Perſon and Perſons who has or have held any Office or Employment, Offices or Employments, in the Navy Pay Office under the ſaid *Henry* Lord Viſcount *Melville*, during the Time or reſpective Times he held and enjoyed the Office of Treaſurer of His Majeſty's Navy, and who ſhall be examined as a Witneſs or Witneſſes by or before either Houſe of Parliament, or any Committee of either Houſe, in reſpect of any Act or Acts, Tranſaction or Tranſactions, or any Uſe or Application of any Publick Money touching or concerning which Acts, Tranſactions, Uſe, or Application, the ſaid *Henry* Lord Viſcount *Melville* hath been impeached as aforeſaid, and in which Acts, Tranſactions, Uſe, or Application reſpectively, ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſhall have been in any Manner concerned during the Time or Times he or they reſpectively held ſuch Office or Employment, Offices or Employments, and who ſhall, upon ſuch Examination, make a true and faithful Diſcovery and Diſcloſure to the beſt of his or their Knowledge, touching all ſuch Acts, Tranſactions, Matters, and Things as aforeſaid, reſpecting which he or they ſhall be ſo examined, ſhall be and he and they is and are hereby freed, indemnified, and diſcharged, of, from, and againſt all Forfeitures, Penalties, Puniſhments, Diſabilities, and Incapacities, and all Criminal Proſecutions which he or they may be or become liable or ſubject to, or which he or they may have incurred or may incur at the Suit of His Majeſty, His Heirs or Succeſſors, or any other Perſon or Perſons, for or by reaſon or means of or in relation to any ſuch Act, Tranſaction, Matter or Thing, Uſe or Application of Publick Money as aforeſaid, reſpecting or concerning which ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſhall be ſo examined as aforeſaid, and ſhall make ſuch true and faithful Diſcovery as aforeſaid, and all and every Perſon and Perſons who ſhall be ſo examined, and make ſuch Diſcovery as aforeſaid, and who have, hold, or enjoy any Office or Offices whatſoever, ſhall be and he and they is and are hereby enabled and made capable to hold, occupy, and enjoy his or their Office or Offices, notwithſtanding any Forfeiture, Penalty, or Incapacity whatſoever, which ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſhall or may be or become liable to in reſpect of what he or they ſhall diſcover or diſcloſe as aforeſaid; any Law or Statute to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

Perſons who have held Offices in the Navy Pay Office examined as Witneſſes in the Impeachment againſt Lord Melville, indemnified from Penalties and Proſecutions on Account of the Tranſactions of which they give Evidence.

Perſon giving falſe or evaſive Evidence not indemnified.

Provided always, and be it further enacted, That this Act or any Thing herein contained, ſhall not extend or be deemed or conſtrued to extend, to give any Benefit or Advantage to, or to indemnify, free, or diſcharge any Perſon or Perſons from or againſt any Forfeitures, Penalties, Puniſhments, Diſabilities, or Incapacities, or any Proſecutions, who, being examined as aforeſaid, ſhall give any falſe Evidence, or

make any falſe Diſcovery, or ſuppreſs or refuſe fully and truly to diſcloſe any Act, Matter, Tranſaction, or Thing within his, her, or their Knowledge, touching or concerning which ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſhall be ſo examined as aforeſaid; any Thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty. 1805.