

ANNO QUADRAGESIMO SEXTO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. CXIX.

An Act to prohibit for Two Years after the Concluſion of the preſent Seſſion of Parliament, any Ships to clear out from any Port of *Great Britain*, for the Coaſt of *Africa*, for the Purpoſe of taking on board Negroes, unleſs ſuch Ships ſhall have been previouſly employed in the *African* Trade, or contracted for, for that Purpoſe. [21ſt *July* 1806.]

WHEREAS it is expedient that Ships, not hitherto employed in carrying Slaves from the Coaſt of *Africa*, or contracted for to be employed in ſuch Trade, ſhould not be permitted to be cleared out from *Great Britain* for ſuch Purpoſe; 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 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 Firſt Day of *Auguſt* One thouſand eight hundred and ſix, no Ship or Veſſel ſhall be permitted to clear out from any Port in *Great Britain* for the Coaſt of *Africa*, for the Purpoſe of ſhipping or carrying Slaves from the Coaſt of *Africa*, unleſs ſuch Ship or Veſſel ſhall have been, before the ſaid Firſt Day of *Auguſt*, employed in the ſaid Trade by the ſame Owner or Owners, or ſhall have been contracted for before the Tenth Day of *June*

No Veſſel, unleſs employed in Slave carrying Trade before Aug. 1, or contracted for before June 10, 1806, to be allowed to clear out from Great Britain for the Purpoſes of carrying Slaves from the Coaſt of Africa.

June One thouſand eight hundred and ſix, for the Purpoſe of being employed in the ſaid Trade; and the proper Officers of Cuſtoms clearing out any Ship or Veſſel after the ſaid Firſt Day of *Auguſt* from any Port in *Great Britain*, for the Purpoſe of ſhipping and carrying Slaves from *Africa*, ſhall certify that ſuch Ship or Veſſel had been ſo employed or contracted for, and ſuch Certificate ſhall be annexed to the Clearance.

Collector or Comptroller of Cuſtoms at Port of Clearance may require Proof of the Veſſel being or having been ſo employed or contracted for.

II. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the Collector or Comptroller of any Port from which any Ship or Veſſel ſhall be about to clear out for ſuch Trade, to require Proof on the Oath of the Maſter, or ſome one or more of the Owners of ſuch Ship or Veſſel (which Oath ſuch Collector and Comptrollor is hereby empowered to adminiſter) that ſuch Ship or Veſſel has, before the ſaid Day, been employed in the ſaid Trade by the ſame Owner or Owners, or ſhall have been contracted for before the Tenth Day of *June* One thouſand eight hundred and ſix.

Contract to be proved before Commiſſioners appointed by the Treaſury, and Certificate to be produced to Collector of Cuſtoms.

III. And be it further enacted, That no Ship or Veſſel ſhall be deemed or allowed by any Collector or Comptroller to have been contracted for as aforeſaid, unleſs the Owner or Owners of the ſaid Ship or Veſſel ſhall, on or before the ſaid Firſt Day of *Auguſt*, have made Proof on Oath, to the Satisfaction of Commiſſioners to be named by the Lords Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Treaſury, and which Commiſſioners the ſaid Lords Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Treaſury are hereby authorized and required to appoint (and which Oath the ſaid Commiſſioners are hereby empowered to adminiſter) that ſuch Ship or Veſſel was actually and *bonâ fide* before the ſaid Tenth Day of *June* contracted for, for the Purpoſe of carrying Slaves from the Coaſt of *Africa*, and unleſs a Certificate of ſuch Proof having been made under the Hands and Seals of the ſaid Commiſſioners, ſhall be produced to the ſaid Collector or Comptroller.

Owners of Veſſels not properly cleared out, carrying Slaves to forfeit 50*l.*

IV. And be it further enacted, That the Owners of every Ship or Veſſel not being ſo cleared out, and having ſuch Certificate of Clearance as aforeſaid, in which any Slave ſhall be ſhipped or carried from the Coaſt of *Africa*, contrary to the Proviſions of this Act, ſhall forfeit for every Slave ſo carried the Sum of Fifty Pounds, to be recovered as any like Penalty may be recovered under any of the Acts of Parliament or Laws for the Regulation of the *African* Slave Trade.

The Treaſury, on Oath being made before Aug. 1, 1806, may grant Licence to Perſons to contract for and employ Ships neceſſary for ſecuring their Debts or Effects by Purchaſe of Slaves, or otherwiſe.

V. And whereas ſince the Firſt Day of *January* One thouſand eight hundred and ſix, ſome Veſſels employed in the ſaid Trade may either have been captured by the Enemy, or condemned as unfit for the Voyage: And whereas in ſome Caſes Contracts for Veſſels in the Place of thoſe ſo captured or condemned may not have been made before the Tenth Day of *June* One thouſand eight hundred and ſix: And whereas Perſons engaged in the *African* Trade, and having Goods remaining on the Coaſt, or Debts due to them from thence, which, up to the preſent Time, they have conſidered as good and recoverable, may be unable to recover their ſaid Property, for want of Veſſels to tranſport it; be it therefore enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the Lords Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Treaſury, upon ſufficient Proof of the ſaid Premiſes, made to them on Oath before the Firſt Day of *Auguſt* One thouſand eight hundred and ſix, to grant Licence to ſuch Perſons

to contract for and employ such Ship or Ships as they shall make appear to be necessary for securing or bringing away the said Debts or Effects, either by the Purchase of Slaves or otherwise, so as that the Ship or Ships so to be contracted for, under such Licence, shall in no Case exceed in Tonnage the Ships captured or condemned, in the Place of which they shall be applied for, and shall be liable to all the Regulations by Law established respecting the carrying of Slaves from *Africa*.

Punishing Persons guilty of Perjury.

VI. And be it further enacted, That if any Person, upon any such Examination on Oath, shall wilfully and corruptly give false Evidence, or shall wilfully and corruptly swear any Matter or Thing which shall be false or untrue, every such Person so offending, and being thereof duly convicted, shall be and is hereby declared to be subject and liable to such Pains and Penalties, as by any Law now in being Persons convicted of wilful and corrupt Perjury are subject and liable to.

Act to continue in force Two Years.

VII. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be and continue in force for the Term of Two Years, and no longer, from and after the Conclusion of the present Session of Parliament.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1806.