ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO PRIMO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. LXV.

An Act to explain and amend an Act, paſſed in the Thirty-ninth Year of His Majeſty's Reign, intituled, *An Act for the more effectual Suppreſſion of Societies eſtabliſhed for ſeditious and treaſonable Purpoſes, and for better preventing treaſonable and ſeditious Practices;* ſo far as reſpects certain Penalties on Printers and Publiſhers. [10th *June* 1811.]

WHEREAS an Act was paſſed in the Thirty-ninth Year of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, intituled, *An Act for the more effectual Suppreſſion of Societies eſtabliſhed for ſeditious and treaſonable Purpoſes, and for better preventing treaſonable and ſeditious Practices:* And whereas, in and by the Twenty-ſeventh and Thirty-fifth Sections of the ſaid Act, certain Proviſions were made, that every Perſon who ſhould print any Paper or Book, or publiſh or diſperſe, or aſſiſt in publiſhing or diſperſing, any printed Paper or Book, without the Name and Place of Abode of the Printer being printed on ſuch Paper or Book, in ſuch Manner as by the ſaid Act is ſpecified, ſhould forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds for every Copy of ſuch Paper ſo publiſhed or diſperſed by him; to be recovered before any Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace for the County, Stewartry, Riding, City, Town, or Place, in which ſuch Penalty ſhould be incurred: And whereas there is not in the ſaid Act 39 G. 3. c. 79.

any Proviſion authorizing ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices to mitigate the Penalties thereby incurred, or enabling the Party to appeal from any Conviction by or Judgement of ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices: And whereas divers Books and Papers have ſince been printed by ſeveral Perſons, who, through Inadvertency or Miſtake, have neglected to comply with the Proviſions of the ſaid Act, and ſuch Perſons have thereby become liable to be ſued and proſecuted for Penalties to a vaſt Amount, although ſuch Books and Papers were not of an evil or ſeditious Tendency: And whereas it is expedient to limit the Amount of Penalties impoſed by the ſaid Act; and to enable Magiſtrates to mitigate the Penalties in ſuch Caſes as ſhall appear to them expedient; and alſo to give the Party, who may be aggrieved by a Conviction under ſuch Act, a Power of appealing from the ſame; 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 nothing in the Twenty-ſeventh Section of the ſaid Act contained ſhall extend to make any Perſon or Perſons offending againſt the ſame, liable to more than Twenty-five Forfeitures or Penalties for printing or publiſhing or diſperſing, or aſſiſting in publiſhing or diſperſing, any Number of Copies of one and the ſame Paper or Book, contrary to the ſaid Section of the ſaid Act.

Perſons printing or publiſhing Papers or Books contrary to recited Act not liable to more than 25 Penalties for any Number of Copies of the ſame thing.

II. And be it further enacted, That if any Juſtice or other Magiſtrate before whom any Perſon ſhall be convicted of any Offence or Offences againſt the Proviſions of the before-mentioned Act, ſhall ſee Cauſe to mitigate ſuch Penalty or Penalties, it ſhall be lawful for ſuch Juſtice or other Magiſtrate to mitigate or leſſen the ſame to any Sum not leſs than Five Pounds over and above all reaſonable Coſts and Charges expended or incurred in the Proſecution.

Juſtices may mitigate Penalties.

III. And whereas Doubts have ariſen whether the Proviſions contained in the ſaid Act may not be conſidered as extending to Notes and Poſt Bills of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, and to Bills of Exchange, Promiſſory Notes, Bonds, and other Securities for Payment of Money, Bills of Lading, Policies of Inſurance, Letters of Attorney, Transfers or Aſſignments of Public Stocks, Funds, and other Securities, and to Dividend Warrants, Receipts for Money or Goods, Deeds or other Inſtruments, Proceedings in the Courts of Law and Equity, and other Inferior Courts, Warrants, Orders, and other Papers, printed by the Authority of any Public Board or Public Officer in the Execution of the Duties of their reſpective Offices, many of which Securities, Inſtruments, Proceedings and other Matters aforeſaid, are uſually wholly or in Part printed; be it therefore hereby declared and enacted, That nothing in the ſaid recited Act or in this Act contained ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend to require the Name and Reſidence of the Printer to be printed upon any ſuch Bank Note, Bank Poſt Bill, Bill of Exchange, or Promiſſory Note, or upon any Bond or other Security for Payment of Money, or upon any Bill of Lading, Policy of Inſurance, Letter of Attorney, Deed or Agreement, or upon any Transfer or Aſſignment of any Public Stocks, Funds, or other Securities, or upon any Transfer or Aſſignment of the Stocks of any Public Corporation or Company, authorized or ſanctioned by Act of Parliament, or upon any Dividend Warrant of or for any ſuch Public or other Stocks, Funds, or Securities, or upon any Receipt for

Name and Reſidence of Printers not required to be put to Bank Notes, Bills, &c. or to any Paper printed by Authority of any Public Board or Public Office.

Money or Goods, or upon any Proceeding in any Court of Law or Equity, or in any Inferior Court, Warrant, Order, or other Papers printed by the Authority of any Public Board or Public Officer in the Execution of the Duties of their reſpective Offices, notwithſtanding the Whole or any Part of the ſaid ſeveral Securities, Inſtruments, Proceedings, Matters, and Things aforeſaid, ſhall have been or ſhall be printed, any Thing herein or in the ſaid recited Act contained to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

Perſons aggrieved may appeal to Quarter Seſſions.

IV. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall think himſelf, herſelf, or themſelves aggrieved, by any Conviction, Judgement, or Determination, of any Juſtice or Juſtices, relating to any Matter or Thing in the before-mentioned Act contained, then and in that Caſe he, ſhe, or they may appeal to the Juſtices of the Peace at the General Quarter Seſſions to be holden in and for the County, City, or Place, where ſuch Conviction, Judgement, or Determination ſhall have been made, next after the Expiration of Twenty Days from the making thereof, firſt giving Six Days Notice of ſuch Appeal to the Perſon or Perſons proſecuting for ſuch Penalty or Penalties; and the ſaid Juſtices ſhall hear and determine the ſaid Appeal at ſuch General Quarter Seſſions, or, if they think proper, adjourn the Hearing thereof until the next General Quarter Seſſions to be holden for ſuch County, Town, or Place; and the ſaid Juſtices may, in like Manner, if they ſee cauſe, mitigate any Penalty or Penalties, and may order any Money to be returned which ſhall have been paid or levied under any Conviction as aforeſaid, and may alſo order and award ſuch Coſts to be paid by either Party to the other, as they ſhall think and judge reaſonable.

Commencement of Act.

V. And be it further enacted, That this Act ſhall take Effect from the First Day of *March* One thouſand eight hundred and eleven.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty. 1811.