ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO SECUNDO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. XXVII.

An Act for enabling the Wives and Families of Soldiers embarked in *Ireland* for Foreign Service to return to their Homes. [20th *April* 1812.]

WHEREAS when any Part of His Majesty's Forces are embarked in *Ireland* for Foreign Service, the Wives and Children of the Soldiers so embarking for Foreign Service are frequently left to return to their respective Homes, and it is expedient and just that Provision should be made for enabling such Wives and Children so to return; 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 upon any Regiment, Battalion, Corps or Detachment, being embarked in *Ireland* for Foreign Service, the Commanding Officer thereof shall cause a Return or Returns to be made out of all the Wives and Children of the Soldiers belonging to such Regiment, Battalion, Corps or Detachment, who shall be left at the Place of Embarkation, and who are desirous of claiming the Allowances respectively authorized by this Act for the Purpose of enabling them to return to their Homes, that is to say, either one Return for the Regiment, Battalion, Corps or Detachment, or separate

A Return to be made of the Wives and Children of Soldiers left at Embarkation and transmitted to the War Office,

separate Returns for each Company, ſtating the ſeveral Places to which they are reſpectively to proceed, and whether in *Great Britain* or *Ireland* reſpectively, and ſhall tranſmit a Copy of every ſuch Return to the Under Secretary for the Military Department at the War Office in *Dublin* Caſtle, and ſhall alſo give to every ſuch Wife a Duplicate of ſuch Part of ſuch Return as ſhall apply to ſuch Wife and her Family of Children reſpectively, certifying thereon under his Hand that the Perſon to whom ſuch Certificate is given is the Wife of a Soldier in his Regiment, Battalion, Corps or Detachment, and that ſuch Regiment, Battalion, Corps or Detachment, is then about to embark at ſuch Port of Embarkation for Foreign Service; and if the Home or Homes to which any of the ſaid Women or Children ſhall ſo deſire to return ſhall be in *Great Britain*, then ſuch Commanding Officer ſhall cauſe a farther and ſeparate Return to be ſo made out of all ſuch Women and Children as ſhall ſo deſire to return to *Great Britain*, and ſhall tranſmit the ſame to the Secretary at War in *London*.

and a Certificate ſhall be given to each ſuch Wife,

II. And be it further enacted, That each Wife to whom any ſuch Duplicate ſhall have been delivered as aforeſaid ſhall forthwith take the ſame to ſome neighbouring Juſtice or Magiſtrate who ſhall make out a Route for her, and fill up and ſign and deliver to her a Certificate ſpecifying the Place to which ſuch Woman, or Woman and Child or Children, is or are going, and her Route, that ſhe may receive ſuch Allowances as are authorized by this Act not exceeding Twopence *per* Mile.

to be produced to a neighbouring Juſtice, who ſhall make out the Route, to receive the Allowance.

III. And be it further enacted, That upon Production of ſuch Certificate to the Perſon acting as Poſt Maſter in the City, Town or Place, at which ſuch Embarkation ſhall happen, and afterwards in any Place mentioned in ſuch Route and through which ſuch Woman and Children ſhall paſs, every ſuch Perſon ſo acting ſhall, out of any Public Money in his Hands, pay her an Allowance not exceeding the Rate *per* Mile ſpecified in ſuch Certificate as aforeſaid, for the Number of Miles to the next City, Town or Place, to which ſhe may be going as mentioned in ſuch Route, not exceeding Eighteen Miles, and he ſhall indorſe on ſuch Certificate the Money ſo paid, and ſubſcribe the ſame and take a Receipt from the Woman for the ſame without Stamp, ſubſcribed with her Name or ſigned with her Mark, ſpecifying the Regiment, Battalion, Corps or Detachment to which her Huſband belongs, ſo that the Deſcription on the Receipt may correſpond with the Deſcription in the Certificate ſo produced to him as aforeſaid.

Poſtmaſters to pay Allowances.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the Sum ſo advanced by ſuch Perſon ſo acting as Poſt Maſter ſhall be allowed in his Accounts by the Poſt Maſter or Poſt Maſters General of *Ireland*, and all Sums of Money ſo advanced and allowed in Account ſhall be repaid by the Agents of the Regiments to which the Soldiers belong whoſe Wives and Families have been ſo relieved, or by any other Perſon to be appointed for that Purpoſe by the Chief Secretary, or in his Abſence the Under Secretary for the War Department, to the Receiver General of His Majeſty's Poſt Office in *Ireland*.

Poſtmaſter General of Ireland to allow ſuch Payments, and the Money ſhall be repaid by the Agents.

V. Provided

V. Provided always, and be it enacted, That in the City of *Dublin* every ſuch Woman ſhall in every Inſtance apply to the Agent of the Regiment to which ſhe ſhall belong, and not to the Poſt Maſter or Perſon acting as ſuch, and ſuch Agent ſhall and may pay and advance in any Caſe ſuch Money, and indorſe and ſubſcribe ſuch Certificate as aforeſaid, and ſhall be allowed ſuch Sum ſo paid in his Accounts, and every ſuch Indorſement ſhall be of the ſame Force, Validity, and Effect, to all Intents and Purpoſes, as if the ſame had been done by a Perſon acting as the Poſt Maſter in Manner aforeſaid.

In Dublin the Application ſhall be made to the Agent in the Firſt Inſtance.

VI. And be it further enacted, That every ſuch Woman ſhall at the laſt Place of receiving any Allowance under this Act, antecedent to her Arrival at her Home, if ſuch Home ſhall be in *Ireland*, deliver up the Certificate ſo given to her as aforeſaid, to the Perſon ſo advancing ſuch Allowance to her who ſhall tranſmit the ſame to the Poſt Maſter or Poſt Maſters General, and the ſame ſhall be by ſuch Poſt Maſter or Poſt Maſters General tranſmitted to the Under Secretary for the War Department in the War Office in *Dublin* Caſtle.

Certificate to be delivered up upon receiving the laſt Allowance previous to the Woman's Arrival at Home, if in Ireland.

VII. And be it further enacted, That if the Home or Place to which any ſuch Woman ſhall deſire to proceed ſhall be in *Great Britain*, ſuch Woman together with her Children, if any, ſhall be forthwith taken free of all Expence in a Tranſport to any convenient Port in *Great Britain*, if the ſame can then conveniently be done, and if not, then it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the Colonel or other Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Battalion or Corps, to which ſuch Woman ſhall belong, to agree for the Paſſage of every or any ſuch Woman and her Children to any convenient Port or Place in *Great Britain*, in any Veſſel that may then be in ſuch Port of Embarkation, and alſo for her and their Maintenance during ſuch Paſſage, at any Price not exceeding for a Woman that uſually paid for the ſame Paſſage for a Soldier, and ſo in Proportion for Children according to their reſpective Ages; and the Price ſo agreed on being certified by ſuch Colonel or Commanding Officer, ſhall be duly paid by the Paymaſter of the Diſtrict in which ſuch Port ſhall be, out of any Public Money in his Hands; and ſuch Certificate, together with the Receipt of the Maſter or Commander of ſuch Veſſel ſhall be a ſufficient Voucher for ſuch Paymaſter, and thereupon he ſhall be entitled to charge the Amount in his Account with the general Agent, the ſaid Voucher being annexed to ſuch Charge.

How to be conveyed Home if Reſidence be in Great Britain.

Price to be paid for conveyance to be certified.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That if ſuch Port ſhall not be conveniently ſituate for ſuch Purpoſe, or if ſuch Paſſage cannot be obtained as aforeſaid, then the Commanding Officer granting ſuch Certificate to ſuch Woman as aforeſaid, ſhall inſert therein the Name of the Port in *Ireland*, from which it ſhall be on the whole moſt proper and eligible that ſuch Woman with her Children, if any, ſhould ſail for the Purpoſe of repairing to her Home in *Great Britain*, and thereupon any Juſtice of the Peace to whom ſuch Woman ſhall apply in Manner aforeſaid, ſhall fill up her Certificate as aforeſaid for ſuch Port, and thereupon ſuch Woman ſhall be ſupplied with the Means of repairing to ſuch Port, and

How Certificate to be filled up.

and the Expence thereof shall be defrayed by the several Persons acting as Post Masters in Manner aforesaid in all Respects.

New Return to be made if Women or Children shall have been left, and the Requisites omitted to be performed.

IX. And be it further enacted, That if by any Accident any such Woman or Women and Children, shall have been left at such Place of Embarkation or at the last Quarters of such Regiment, Battalion, or Corps, or at any Place on the March from such last Quarters to such Place of Embarkation, and that the Requisites aforesaid shall not have been performed, or that any such Woman or Women and Children shall have been omitted from such List as aforesaid, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the General or other Officer commanding where such Woman or Women and Children shall have been so left, to make out such Return as is herein-before mentioned of such Woman or Women and Children, and to transmit the same to the War Office in *Dublin* Castle as aforesaid, and to give to every such Woman such Duplicate as aforesaid, and also to transmit such further Return, if necessary, to the Secretary at War in *London*, and every such Return and Duplicate respectively shall be of the same Force and Effect in all Respects as if done in Manner and by the Person herein-before for the like Purpose mentioned.

If the Persons cannot be conveyed in a Transport, a Passage may be taken in any other Vessel.

X. And be it further enacted, That when such Woman shall have arrived at the Port or Place appointed for her Embarkation, then if there shall be any Transport in or near to such Port about to proceed to any convenient Port in *Great Britain*, such Woman with her Child or Children, if any, shall be received on board the same, and conveyed therein to such Port in *Great Britain*, free of all Expence; and if there shall not be a convenient Opportunity of sending over such Woman and Children in that Manner, then it shall be lawful for the General or other Officer commanding at such Port or Place to agree for the Passage of every or any such Woman, and her Child or Children, if any, in any other Vessel, and to certify the Price so agreed for in like Manner in all Respects as is herein before in that respect mentioned, and such Price shall in like Manner be paid by the Pay Master of such District, and shall be charged by and allowed to him on such Certificate of such Commanding Officer, and the Receipt of the Master or Commander of such Vessel in Manner aforesaid in all Respects; and such District Pay Master shall also receive from such Woman the Certificate so granted to her by such Magistrate as aforesaid, and shall annex the same, together with such Certificate and Receipt, to his Account, in support of such Charge therein.

Allowance to be made in case of Delays arising from unavoidable Causes.

XI. And be it further enacted, That if by contrary Winds, or want of a Vessel ready for sailing, or by the Sickness of herself or of any of her Children, or by any other reasonable Cause, any such Woman shall be detained more than One Night at such Port or Place of her Embarkation, or at any Place in her Journey, from the signing of her Certificate by a Magistrate as aforesaid, to her Arrival at such Port or at her Home, if in *Ireland*, then and in every such Case, such Woman shall and may apply to any Justice of the Peace who shall thereupon examine into the Facts on Oath, and if satisfied of the Truth thereof

ſhall give ſuch Woman an Order to receive from the Perſon then acting as Poſt Maſter as aforeſaid, if on her Journey, and if at her Port or Place of Embarkation, then from ſuch Diſtrict Pay Maſter, the Sum of Sixpence a Day for the Maintenance of herſelf, and the Sum of Three-pence for each Child ſhe ſhall have with her, and ſuch Payment ſhall be made to her accordingly, ſo long as ſhe ſhall be ſo unavoidably detained, and no longer; and ſuch Order with the Receipt of ſuch Woman ſhall be a ſufficient Voucher for every ſuch Payment; and every ſuch Sum ſo paid being ſo duly vouched ſhall be allowed and finally diſcharged in Manner aforeſaid reſpectively.

Duplicate of Certificate to be produced to a Juſtice on Arrival at any Port, &c.

XII. And be it further enacted, That when any ſuch Woman ſhall have arrived at any ſuch Port in *Great Britain*, then if ſhe has ſailed from the Port of Embarkation of her Regiment, ſhe ſhall take the Duplicate ſo then given to her as aforeſaid to any Juſtice of the Peace at or near ſuch Port, and if ſhe ſhall have ſailed from any other Port to which ſhe ſhall have been tranſmitted by or under the Certificate of a Juſtice of Peace as aforeſaid, then ſhe ſhall take ſuch Certificate to any Juſtice of the Peace at or near ſuch Port in *Great Britain* at which ſhe ſhall have ſo arrived, and thereupon ſhe ſhall receive from ſuch Juſtice of Peace in *Great Britain* ſuch Certificate, and by and under the Authority thereof ſhe and her Children ſhall be tranſmitted to her Home mentioned therein, in the ſame Manner in all Reſpects as if ſuch her Port of Arrival had been the Port of Embarkation of her Regiment, Battalion or Corps, and that ſuch Juſtice of Peace in *Great Britain* had given her ſuch Certificate under and according to the Terms of an Act made in the laſt Seſſion of Parliament, intituled *An Act for enabling the Wives and Families of Soldiers embarked for Foreign Service to return to their Homes.*

Form of Certificate if Reſidence be in Ireland:

XIII. And be it further enacted, That when the Home of any ſuch Woman ſhall be in *Ireland*, the Certificate of the Juſtice of Peace to whom ſhe ſhall take her Duplicate as aforeſaid, ſhall be in the Form here following, or in any other Form of Words of the ſame Purport and Effect; that is to ſay,

'I *A. B.* a Juſtice of the Peace for the County of (*or* County of the City or Town of *as the Caſe may be,*) do hereby certify, That from the Document produced to me it appears that *C. D.* the Bearer hereof, is the Wife of *E. F.* a Soldier in the Regiment of lately embarked for Foreign Service, and that ſhe is entitled to an Allowance of per Mile from this Place to her Home at through the Towns of Given under my Hand at this Day of in the Year

And if the Home of ſuch Woman ſhall be in *Great Britain*, then all after the Words 'Foreign Service,' ſhall be omitted; and in the Place of the Words ſo omitted, theſe Words following ſhall be uſed; that is to ſay, 'and that her Home is at in the County of 'in

Form if in Great Britain.

'in *Great Britain*, and that in order to embark for *Great Britain* she is 'entitled to an Allowance of *per* Mile from this Place to 'the Port of through the Towns of 'Given under my Hand at this Day 'of in the Year .'

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