ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO QUARTO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

C A P. CX.

An Act to prevent the Embezzlement of certain Property belonging to the Hoſpital for Seamen at *Greenwich*, and to amend ſo much of an Act of the Parliament of *Ireland* of the Thirty-third Year of His preſent Majeſty as relates to Payments to Out-penſioners of the ſaid Hoſpital reſiding in *Ireland*. [23d *July* 1814.]

WHEREAS ſeveral of the Penſioners and Nurſes in the Royal Hoſpital for Seamen at *Greenwich* have of late pawned or otherwiſe diſpoſed of the Clothes, Linen, Stores, and other Goods delivered to them to wear or uſe, and it is expedient to prevent ſuch Practices in future; 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 the Commiſſioners and Governors of the ſaid Royal Hoſpital, their Succeſſors and Aſſigns, ſhall or may, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to cauſe the Clothes, Clothes, &c. belonging to the Hoſpital to be marked.

Linen, Stores, and other Articles capable of being marked, from Time to Time, belonging to the ſaid Hoſpital, to be marked, ſtamped, or branded with an Anchor ſurmounted with a Naval Crown, with Two Flags over the Crown, and the Letter G. on the one Side of ſuch Device, and the Letter H. on the other Side thereof; and that if any Pawnbroker or other Perſon or Perſons ſhall take in pawn, buy, exchange, or receive any Clothes, Linen, or other Goods marked, ſtamped, or branded as aforeſaid, from any Perſon or Perſons upon any Account or Pretence whatever (ſuch Mark, Stamp, or Brand thereon to be conſidered and taken to be ſufficient Evidence without further Proof of the Right of Property in the ſaid Commiſſioners and Governors), or ſhall cauſe ſuch Mark or Stamp, Marks or Stamps to be taken out, obliterated, or defaced, the Perſon or Perſons ſo offending ſhall forfeit for every ſuch Offence the Sum of Ten Pounds, upon Conviction thereof, by the Oath of One or more credible Witneſs or Witneſſes before any One or more of His Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace of the County wherein the ſaid Offence or Offences ſhall be committed, which Penalty ſhall be levied by Warrant under the Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals of the ſaid Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace, by Diſtreſs and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the ſaid Offender or Offenders, one Moiety of which ſaid Penalty or Penalties ſhall be paid to the Informer or Informers, and the other Moiety ſhall go and be paid to the Uſe of the ſaid Hoſpital; and in caſe any ſuch Offender or Offenders, who ſhall be convicted as aforeſaid of having bought, exchanged, received, or taken in pawn any ſuch Clothes, Linen, or other Goods as aforeſaid, or of having cauſed ſuch Mark or Stamp, Marks or Stamps as aforeſaid, to be taken out or defaced, ſhall not have ſufficient Goods and Chattels whereon Diſtreſs may be made to the Value of the ſaid Penalty recovered againſt him, her, or them for ſuch Offence or Offences, or ſhall not pay ſuch Penalty or Penalties within Four Days after ſuch Conviction, then and in ſuch Caſe ſuch Juſtice of the Peace ſhall and may, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, either commit ſuch Offender or Offenders to the Common Gaol of the County where ſuch Offence or Offences ſhall be committed, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, for the Space of Three Calendar Months; and that if any Penſioner or Nurſe of the ſaid Hoſpital ſhall deſert or run away from the ſame, and carry away with them any Clothes, Linen or other Goods belonging to the ſaid Hoſpital, ſuch Perſon or Perſons being lawfully convicted thereof, by the Oath or Oaths of One or more credible Witneſs or Witneſſes, ſhall be committed to the Common Gaol or Houſe of Correction of the Town, City, or County where he, ſhe, or they ſhall be apprehended, for the Space of Six Calendar Months, without Bail or Mainprize.

Penalty on Pawnbrokers or others taking in Goods ſo marked.

Penſioners or Nurſes deſerting and taking away Goods to be committed to Gaol.

II. And whereas by an Act, paſſed in the Parliament of *Ireland*, in the Thirty-third Year of His preſent Majeſty, intituled *An Act for the Encouragement of Seamen and Marines employed in the Royal Navy, by rendering it more eaſy to Petty Officers and Seamen, Non-commiſſioned Officers of Marines and Marines, to remit their Wages to this Kingdom, and by providing for the Payment in this Kingdom of the Wages due to deceaſed Officers, Seamen, and Marines as aforeſaid*, Proviſion was made for enabling Seamen reſident in that Kingdom to receive Out-penſions granted to them by the

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ſaid

ſaid Commiſſioners or Governors of the ſaid Hoſpital, and for preventing Frauds and Abuſes attending the ſame, which has not been found effectual for the Attainment of the good Purpoſes intended thereby, be it therefore enacted, That ſo much of the ſaid recited Act as relates to any Proviſion or Proviſions for enabling Seamen reſident in that Part of the United Kingdom called *Ireland*, to receive Out-penſions granted to them by the ſaid Commiſſioners and Governors of the ſaid Hoſpital, and for preventing Frauds and Abuſes attending the ſame, ſhall be repealed.

So much of recited Act as relates to Seamen receiving Out-penſions, repealed.

III. And be it further enacted, That the Treaſurer of the ſaid Hoſpital for the Time being, or his Deputy, legally authorized, ſhall, when and as often as Occaſion ſhall require, make out or cauſe to be made out, Two Certificates for any Out-penſion granted by the ſaid Commiſſioners and Governors to Seamen reſiding in that Part of the United Kingdom called *Ireland*, which Certificates ſhall be Duplicates and joined together with oblique Lines, Flouriſhes, or Devices, and numbered, dated, and ſigned by the ſaid Treaſurer or his Deputy, or his Firſt Clerk, and atteſted by the Steward of the ſaid Hoſpital, or his Firſt Clerk, or the Clerk of the Cheque of the ſaid Hoſpital, or his Firſt Clerk, and addreſſed to the Collector of the Diſtrict in *Ireland* in which the Perſon named in the Certificate as Out-penſioner ſhall reſide, and ſhall be written or printed in the Form or to the Effect ſet forth in the Schedule to this Act marked (A.), one of which Certificates ſhall be tranſmitted to the Perſon named therein as an Out-penſioner of the ſaid Hoſpital, and the other ſhall be tranſmitted to the Collector to whom the ſame ſhall be addreſſed, and upon the Duplicate of ſuch Certificate being produced and delivered to ſuch Collector by the Perſon entitled, or claiming to be entitled to receive the Money therein mentioned, ſuch Collector ſhall examine the ſaid Duplicate and enquire into the Truth thereof, by the Oath of the Perſon producing the ſame (which Oath ſuch Collector is hereby empowered and directed to adminiſter), and being duly ſatisfied of the Truth thereof, he ſhall immediately, without Fee or Reward on any Pretence whatever, pay to the Perſon ſpecified in ſuch Certificate, the Sum mentioned therein, taking his Receipt on the Back thereof for the ſame: Provided always, that the Claim upon or on Account of ſuch Duplicate ſhall be made to the Collector within Nine Calendar Months from the Date thereof; and in caſe the Duplicate of ſuch Certificate ſhall not be produced and delivered, and the Payment of the Money therein mentioned be not demanded within Nine Calendar Months from the Date thereof, then the Collector ſhall tranſmit the Certificate to the Treaſurer of the ſaid Hoſpital at *Greenwich*.

Manner in which Out-penſions ſhall be paid.

IV. Provided always, and be it enacted, That if any Collector to whom the Duplicate of any ſuch Certificate ſhall be tendered as herein-before mentioned, in order to receive Payment of the Money therein mentioned, ſhall not have in his Hands Public Money ſufficient to anſwer the ſame, or ſhall refuſe or delay immediate Payment thereof, ſuch Collector ſhall endorſe on the Back of the Duplicate of ſuch Certificate, the Day of its being tendered to him, and the Cauſe of his Refuſal or Delay to pay the ſame; and ſhall appoint thereon for Payment of ſuch Certificate ſome future

Collectors to whom Duplicates of Certificates have been tendered, not having Money in Hand, ſhall indorſe thereon the Cauſe of Delay, &c.

future Day, within the Space of One Month at fartheſt from the Day of its being preſented to him; which Duplicate, with the Indorſement thereon, ſhall immediately be delivered back to the Perſon preſenting the ſame; and if on Complaint made to the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Revenue in *Ireland*, who, or any Three or more of them, are hereby authorized to hear and determine the ſame, it ſhall be proved to the Satisfaction of ſuch Commiſſioners, or any Three or more of them, that any ſuch Collector hath unneceſſarily or wilfully refuſed or delayed Payment of ſuch Certificate as aforeſaid, the ſame having been preſented to him, or that ſuch Collector, or any Perſon employed by or under him, hath directly or indirectly received or taken any Fee, Gratuity, Diſcount, or Deduction whatever, on account of Payment of ſuch Money, it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners to fine ſuch Collector in a Sum not exceeding Fifty Pounds; which Fine ſhall be recovered and levied in ſuch and the ſame Manner as any Penalty for any Offence againſt any Law by which any Duties of Cuſtoms or Exciſe is impoſed or levied in *Ireland*; and the ſaid Fine, when recovered, ſhall be paid to the Informer or Informers againſt ſuch Offender or Offenders.

Collectors unneceſſarily delaying Payment, &c. to forfeit 50l.

V. And be it enacted, That every Collector who ſhall pay any Sum or Sums of Money to any Perſon entitled to receive the ſame in purſuance of this Act, ſhall return the Duplicate on which the Acknowledgement of the Receipt of ſuch Money ſhall be endorſed, to the aforeſaid Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Revenue, who ſhall Once in every Quarter of a Year, cauſe a Certificate to be given to ſuch Collector, ſpecifying the Amount of the Money appearing by ſuch Receipts to have been in purſuance of this Act, by ſuch Collector paid within ſuch Quarter; and every ſuch Collector ſhall be credited by the ſaid Commiſſioners for the Payment of ſuch Money, in like Manner as if the ſame had been advanced and paid, in purſuance of the Orders of the ſaid Commiſſioners, for any other Purpoſes for which they are entitled to iſſue Orders for Collectors for the Payment of Money.

Commiſſioners of the Revenue to credit the Accounts of Collectors paying the Money.

VI. And be it further enacted, That whoſoever willingly or knowingly ſhall perſonate or falſely aſſume the Name or Character of, or procure any other to perſonate or falſely to aſſume the Name or Character of any Perſon to whom any ſuch Certificate as aforeſaid ſhall have been granted, in order to receive the Money mentioned in ſuch Certificate, or ſhall willingly and knowingly perſonate or falſely aſſume the Name or Character of, or procure any other to perſonate or falſely to aſſume the Name or Character of any Perſon, in order to receive any Money due or ſuppoſed to be due for or on account of any Out-Penſion granted by the ſaid Hoſpital; or ſhall forge or counterfeit, or procure to be forged or counterfeited, any Bill, Certificate, Letter of Attorney, Ticket Certificate, Aſſignment, laſt Will, or any other Power or Authority, or other Document whatſoever, in order to receive any ſuch Money; or ſhall willingly and knowingly take a falſe Oath, or procure any other Perſon to take a falſe Oath, in order to receive Payment of any Money due or ſuppoſed to be due for or on account of any Out-Penſion granted by the ſaid Hoſpital; or ſhall utter or publiſh as true any falſe, forged, or counterfeited Letter of Attorney, Bill, Ticket, Certificate, Aſſignment, laſt Will, or any other

Puniſhment of falſely perſonating others, or forging Certificates, &c.

Power or Authority, in order to receive Payment of any Money due, or ſuppoſed to be due, for or on account of any Out-Penſion; being lawfully convicted of any of the ſaid Offences, ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as a Felon, without the Benefit of Clergy.

VII. And be it further enacted, That this Act ſhall be and the ſame is hereby declared to be a Public Act; and all Judges, Juſtices, and others, are hereby required to take Notice thereof as ſuch, without ſpecially pleading the ſame. Public Act.

SCHEDULE (A.) to which this Act refers.

No.

Royal Hoſpital, Greenwich,
Day of

I CERTIFY that *B. D.* of in the County of being an Out-penſioner of Greenwich Hoſpital, is entitled to the Sum of Pounds Sterling, and that he has deſired the ſame to be paid by you to Collector of His Majeſty's Revenue at

Signed { *A. B.* Treaſurer of the ſaid Hoſpital, or his Firſt Clerk.

Atteſted { *C. D.* Steward [*or*, Firſt Clerk to the Steward] of the Royal Hoſpital at Greenwich, [*or* Clerk to the Check, or Firſt Clerk to the Clerk of the Check] of the Royal Hoſpital at Greenwich.

BY virtue of the Act of 54th Geo. III.

[N. B. This Certificate, if Payment in conſequence thereof ſhall not be demanded in Nine Calendar Months from the Date hereof, is to be returned to the Treaſurer of Greenwich Hoſpital.]

The perſonating or falſely aſſuming the Name and Character of any Out-penſioner of Greenwich Hoſpital, in order fraudulently to receive the Penſion due to ſuch Penſioner, is Felony without Benefit of Clergy.

The Officer to whom the within Bill is addreſſed, is directed to examine the Duplicate thereof when preſented, and enquire into the Truth by the Oath of the Perſon preſenting the ſame, and being ſatisfied, he is to certify to that Effect on the Back of the Bill, and pay the Amount without Fee or Reward; but if he ſhall not be able to pay the Amount from not having Public Money ſufficient in his Hands, he is to note the Cauſe of his refuſing Payment, and ſhall appoint another Day within One Month at fartheſt from

from that Time, and ſhall deliver back the Bill ſo noted to the Perſon preſenting it, and if upon Complaint to the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Revenue in Ireland, it ſhall appear that the Officer to whom this is addreſſed has unneceſſarily delayed Payment, or taken any Fee, or made any Deduction whatever, he will be ſubject to a Fine not exceeding Fifty Pounds.

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