

ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO QUARTO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. XIII.

An Act for giving Effect to certain Engagements of His Majeſty with the Emperor of all the *Ruſſias* and the King of *Pruſſia*, for furniſhing a Part of the pecuniary Succours for aſſiſting His Majeſty's ſaid Allies, in ſupporting the Expences of the War with *France*. [6th *December* 1813.]

Moſt Gracious Sovereign,

WHEREAS by Two ſeveral Conventions, ſigned at *London* on the Thirtieth Day of *September* One thouſand eight hundred and thirteen, between Your Majeſty on the one Part, and their Majeſties the Emperor of all the *Ruſſias* and the King of *Pruſſia* reſpectively on the other, it was agreed, That a Part of the pecuniary Succours which Your Majeſty was deſirous of furniſhing to Your ſaid Allies, to aſſiſt them in ſupporting the Expences of the War with *France*, ſhould be furniſhed by Aid of the Public Credit of *Great Britain*, and under the Form of Bills excluſively applicable to the Expences of the War, and to be reimburſed in Specie, upon certain Terms and Conditions; and Your Majeſty by the ſaid Conventions engaged to propoſe to Your Parliament to authorize the Iſſue of theſe Bills of Credit, for the Benefit of their Majeſties the Emperor of all the *Ruſſias* and the King of *Pruſſia*, for the Sum of Two millions five hundred thouſand Pounds Sterling, or of Fifteen Millions *Pruſſian* Thalers of the Denomination and Weight of One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-four, to be furniſhed Monthly in Manner therein mentioned, in the Proportion of Two Thirds of each Monthly Iſſue for the Emperor of all the *Ruſſias*, and of One Third thereof for the King of *Pruſſia*, and to be computed from the Fifteenth Day of *June* of the current Year; ſo that Your Majeſty has engaged to place at the Diſ-

poſal of the Emperor and the King, for the Firſt Inſtalment, as many Millions of Thalers as there ſhall have been Months elapſed ſince the Fifteenth Day of *June* laſt, and thereafter a Million each Month, until the Iſſue of Fifteen Millions of Thalers ſhall be completed: And it is, in the ſaid Conventions, further ſtipulated, that Commiſſioners ſhould be named on the Part of Your Majeſty and the ſaid Sovereigns reſpectively, upon the Continent, who ſhould be charged to direct the Circulation of the ſaid Paper, in conformity with the Principles of the ſaid Conventions; and that the Bills of Credit to be iſſued under the ſaid Conventions, ſhould not bear Intereſt, but that a General Office ſhould be opened, in ſuch Town in the North of *Germany* as the *Britiſh* Government with the Concurrence of the Courts of *Ruſſia* and *Pruſſia* ſhould point out for the Purpoſe, where the Holders of each Bill ſhould be admitted to fund them in a Capital Stock or Fund bearing Intereſt at the Rate of Six *per Centum per Annum*, or at the Choice of the Holders of the ſaid Bills, in Debentures bearing Six *per Centum* Intereſt; and that the Intereſt of the Bills funded and converted into a Six *per Centum* Stock, or into Debentures, ſhould be payable every Six Months, in whatever City of the North of *Germany* Your Majeſty's Commiſſioners ſhould point out for that Purpoſe, to commence from the Month following that of their being depoſited in the General Office; and that the Bills which ſhould neither have been regiſtered nor funded before the Signature of the Preliminaries of Peace, ſhould be entitled to an Intereſt of One Half *per Centum per* Month, to commence from the Period of the ſaid Signature until that of their Reimburſement; and that the Reimburſement of the Whole of the ſaid Fifteen Millions Thalers of Bills of Credit, ſhould be made in Specie either in *Pruſſian* Thalers according to the Tariff of One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-four, or in *Spaniſh* Dollars at the Rate of Two *Spaniſh* Dollars for Three ſuch Thalers as aforeſaid, and to the Amount of One Million of Thalers *per* Month, in the Manner ſtated in ſuch Conventions, and to commence from the Month following the Ratification of a General Peace: And whereas, we the Commons of the United Kingdom in Parliament aſſembled, have reſolved that Proviſion be made for enabling Your Majeſty to defray the Expences which may be incurred in the Execution of the ſaid Conventions, not exceeding Two millions five hundred thouſand Pounds Sterling, or Fifteen millions of *Pruſſian* Thalers, Principal Money: 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,

The Treaſury may iſſue Bills of Credit, and provide Books for funding the ſame; and prepare Bills bearing an Intereſt to be exchanged in lieu thereof.

That the Lord High Treaſurer, or the Commiſſioners of the Treaſury of *Great Britain*, or any Three or more of them for the Time being, ſhall and they are hereby empowered to cauſe Bills of Credit, in the Form ſpecified in the ſaid Conventions, and not exceeding the Amount of Two millions five hundred thouſand Pounds Sterling, or of Fifteen Millions of *Pruſſian* Thalers of the Denomination and Weight of One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-four, to be prepared and ſigned by the Commiſſioner to be named on the Part of His Majeſty, and to be iſſued to the reſpective Commiſſioners to be named on the Part of their Majeſties the Emperor of all the *Ruſſias* and the King of *Pruſſia*, in the reſpective Proportions and at the Times ſpecified in the ſaid Conventions; and the ſaid Lord High Treaſurer, or Commiſſioners of the Treaſury for the Time being, are hereby alſo empowered and required to cauſe proper Books to be provided and kept by the Commiſſioner to be named on the Part of His Majeſty for receiving the

Subſcriptions of all ſuch Holders of the ſaid Bills of Credit as may be deſirous to fund the ſame in a Six *per Centum* Stock, and alſo to cauſe Bills bearing an Intereſt of Six *per Centum* from the Month ſucceeding the Date of their Regiſtry, to be prepared and iſſued to all ſuch Holders of the ſaid Bills of Credit as may be deſirous of converting them into Bills bearing an Intereſt as aforeſaid.

Money to be iſſued out of the Supplies of the Year, to pay the Intereſt and Principal of theſe Securities, &c.

II. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Lord High Treaſurer, or Commiſſioners of the Treaſury, or any Three or more of them for the Time being reſpectively, ſhall, and he and they is and are hereby empowered from Time to Time, out of any of the Aids or Supplies granted or to be granted by Parliament for the Service of any Year, to cauſe to be iſſued ſuch Sums of Money as ſhall be required for the Payment of the Intereſt on ſuch of the ſaid Securities as may from Time to Time bear an Intereſt, and alſo for the Payment of the Principal Monies due thereon, as and when the ſame may from Time to Time become payable, conformably to the Tenor of His Majeſty's Engagements, as ſpecified in the ſaid Conventions reſpectively; and alſo ſuch Sums as may be required to pay and ſatisfy all the Expences attending the Execution of this Act.

Accounts to be laid before Parliament.

III. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Lord High Treaſurer, or Commiſſioners of the Treaſury for the Time being, ſhall cauſe to be prepared, and ſhall lay before both Houſes of Parliament, within Twenty Days after the Commencement of every Seſſion, an Account of the Total Amount of the ſaid Bills of Credit which have been iſſued, and alſo of ſuch as have been funded, and of thoſe which have been converted into Bills bearing an Intereſt, and of thoſe which remain unfunded and unconverted as aforeſaid reſpectively, up to the Thirty-firſt Day of *December* then next preceding, together with an Account of the Total Sums which ſhall from Time to Time have been iſſued and applied by virtue of this Act for paying and ſatisfying the Intereſt on all or any of the ſaid Securities, and towards paying and ſatisfying the Principal thereof (in caſe the Principal of any of the ſaid Securities ſhall then have been paid), and alſo for paying the Expences of carrying this Act into Execution.

Treaſury may appoint Officers and Clerks to carry this Act into Execution, and Salaries for their Trouble.

IV. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Lord High Treaſurer, or the Commiſſioners of the Treaſury, or any Three or more of them for the Time being, to appoint ſuch Officers and Clerks in the Office of the ſaid Commiſſioner to be named on the Part of His Majeſty, and in *Great Britain*, as they may deem neceſſary for carrying this Act into Execution, and to grant ſuch Salaries and Compenſations to the ſaid Commiſſioners and Officers and Clerks for their Trouble and Labour therein, as they may think fit and reaſonable in that Behalf.

Penalty for Forgery.

V. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall forge, counterfeit, or cauſe or procure to be forged or counterfeited, or willingly act or aid or aſſiſt in the forging or counterfeiting any Bill, Receipt, Inſtrument or Security, made and iſſued under the Authority of this Act, or the Signature or Name of any Commiſſioner or other Perſon or Perſons to or upon any ſuch Bill, Receipt, Inſtrument or Security, or any Indorſement or Writing upon any ſuch Bill, Receipt, Inſtrument or Security, or alter or cauſe or procure to be altered, or act as aforeſaid, or aſſiſt in the altering any Number, Figure, or Word therein, or utter or publiſh as true, any

ſuch

ſuch falſe, forged, counterfeited or altered Bill, Receipt, Inſtrument or Security (knowing the ſame to be forged, counterfeited or altered), with Intent to defraud His Majeſty, His Heirs or Succeſſors, or any Body Politic or Corporate, or Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, then and in every ſuch Caſe, every Perſon, being thereof convicted in due Form of Law, ſhall be adjudged guilty of Felony, and ſuffer Death as a Felon, without Benefit of Clergy.

Act may be altered this Seſſion.

VI. And be it further enacted, That this Act may be altered, varied, or repealed, by any Act to be paſſed in this Seſſion of Parliament.

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