ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO QUARTO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

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C A P. LXI.

An Act to amend an Act of the Twenty-fecond Year of His prefent Majefty, intituled *An Act to prevent the granting in future any Patent Office, to be exercifed in any Colony or Plantation, now or at any Time hereafter belonging to the Crown of* Great Britain, *for any longer Term than during fuch Time as the Grantee thereof or Perfon appointed thereto fhall difcharge the Duty thereof in Perfon, and behave well therein.* [27th *May* 1814.]

WHEREAS an Act paffed in the Twenty-fecond Year of His prefent Majefty, intituled *An Act to prevent the granting in future any Patent Office to be exercifed in any Colony or Plantation, now or at any Time hereafter belonging to the Crown of* Great Britain, *for any longer Term than during fuch Time as the Grantee thereof or Perfon appointed thereto, fhall difcharge the Duty thereof in Perfon, and behave well therein*: And whereas it is expedient to amend and extend the Provifions of the faid Act: Be it therefore enacted by the King's moft Excellent Majefty, by and with the Advice and Confent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this prefent Parliament affembled, and by the Authority of the fame, That from and after the paffing of this Act no Office in any Colony, Settlement, Plantation, or Foreign Poffeffion belonging to the Crown of *Great Britain*, fhall be granted, either by Patent under the Great Seal, or by Commiffion under His Majefty's Sign Manual, or by any other Commiffion, Warrant, or Inftrument under which Offices in Colonies have been heretofore or may hereafter be granted, for any longer Term than during fuch Time as the Grantee thereof or the Perfon appointed thereto, fhall refide in the Colony, Settlement, Plantation, or Foreign Poffeffion, and execute the Duty of fuch Office in Perfon, and behave well therein.

22 G. 3. c. 75.

No Office in a Colony to be granted for any longer Time, than during the Refidence of the Grantee.

Governors of Colonies to report the Leave of Abſence granted by them, to the Secretary of State, for Confirmation.

II. And whereas it is expedient that the Power of granting Leave of Abſence heretofore veſted in the Governor or Council of Colonies ſhould be ſubject to further Reſtrictions and Limitations; be it therefore enacted, That in all Caſes in which the Governor and Council of any Colony, Settlement, Plantation, or Foreign Poſſeſſion, ſhall hereafter grant Leave of Abſence to any Perſon holding an Office within the ſame, to which he ſhall have been appointed ſubſequent to the paſſing of this Act, the Governor of the ſaid Colony, Settlement, Plantation, or Foreign Poſſeſſion, or in his Abſence the Lieutenant Governor or other Perſon adminiſtering the Government of the ſame, ſhall, within One Week after granting the ſame, report the ſame to One of His Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State for Confirmation; and in caſe the ſaid Leave of Abſence ſhall not be confirmed within One Month from the Date of ſuch Report having been received by the Secretary of State, the Perſon to whom the ſaid Leave of Abſence may have been granted by the Governor and Council as aforeſaid, ſhall forthwith return to the Colony, Settlement, Plantation, or Foreign Poſſeſſion in which his Office is ſituated; and in Default thereof ſhall be deemed to have vacated ſuch Office, and his Appointment to ſuch Office ſhall be conſidered to all Intents and Purpoſes void and of none Effect.

If not confirmed, the Perſon is to return forthwith to the Colony.

Penalty on Governors not reporting.

III And be it further enacted, That every Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or other Perſon adminiſtering the Government of any Colony, Settlement, Plantation, or Foreign Poſſeſſion, who ſhall omit or neglect to report in the Manner herein-before directed, ſuch Leave of Abſence as may have been granted by him, ſhall, for every ſuch Omiſſion or Neglect, forfeit a Sum not exceeding One hundred Pounds, to be ſued for and recovered by Action of Debt in any of His Majeſty's Courts of *Weſtminſter*, within One Year after the Arrival in *England* of the ſaid Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or other Perſon adminiſtering the Government.

A Return to be annually laid before the Houſe of Commons, of Perſons abſent.

IV. And be it further enacted, That within Six Weeks after the Opening of every Seſſion of Parliament, there ſhall be laid upon the Table of the Houſe of Commons, a Return of all Perſons holding Offices in the Colonies who may have been appointed thereto ſubſequent to the paſſing of this Act, who may not be preſent in the Execution of the Duties of their reſpective Offices; and that ſuch Return ſhall be made in the Form preſcribed in the Schedule (A.) to this Act annexed.

This Act not to prejudice ſubſiſting Grants.

V. And be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained ſhall operate to the Prejudice of any ſubſiſting Grant of any Office or Offices, or ſhall be conſtrued to affect any Appointment, or any Leave of Abſence, granted previous to the paſſing of this Act, or any renewed Grant of any Office which may be made in conſequence of the Demiſe of the Crown to any Perſon now holding the ſame; and that no Proviſion of this Act ſhall be applicable or applied to any Office granted or to be granted by the United Company of Merchants trading to the *Eaſt Indies*, or to any Rules, Regulations, or Proviſions, made by the ſaid Company, with reſpect to the Appointment or Leave of Abſence of any of their Civil or Military Servants.

SCHEDULE to which this ACT refers.

SCHEDULE (A.)

Name of the Colony.	Name of Abſent Officer.	Deſcription of his Office.	Period for which Leave was granted in the Colony.	Cauſe of Abſence.	Date of Governor's Report to the Secretary of State.	When received by the Secretary of State.	Whether diſallowed or confirmed, and for what Period.
Antigua	John Roche -	Secretary -	6 Months, to commence from the 1ſt of May 1813.	Sickneſs -	2d May 1813 -	1ſt July 1813 -	Confirmed, for 6 Months.
Trinidad	James Gueer	Surveyor -	12 Months, from 1ſt October 1813.	Private Affairs	1ſt July 1813 -	1ſt September 1813	Confirmed, for 4 Months.

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