ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO QUINTO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. CLVI.

An Act to amend the Laws relative to the Transportation of Offenders; to continue in force until the First Day of *May* One thousand eight hundred and sixteen. [11th *July* 1815.]

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Twenty-fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for the effectual Transportation of Felons and other Offenders, and to authorize the Removal of Prisoners in certain Cases, and for other Purposes therein mentioned*: And whereas the said Act hath been continued by different Acts: And whereas it is expedient that His Majesty should be empowered to appoint certain Places, as well out of His Majesty's Dominions as within the same, to which Felons and other Offenders may be transported; and that the Regulations of the said Act should be amended, and more effectual Provision made for the Transportation of such Offenders; 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, That from and after the passing of this Act, the said recited Act of the Twenty-fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty shall be and the same is hereby repealed; save and except as to all Acts done under the same before the passing of this Act; and also save and except as to all Proceedings commenced before the passing thereof: Provided always, that it shall be lawful in any Case in which any Proceedings have been commenced under the said Act, to proceed after the passing of this Act, under the Provisions thereof, in relation to any Offender, in any Case in which it shall be expedient so to do. 24 G. 3. c. 56. Recited Act repealed.

II. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, it shall be lawful for the Court, before which any Person or Persons shall have been or shall be convicted at any Session of Oyer and Terminer or Gaol Delivery, or at any Quarter or other General Session of the Peace to be holden for any County, Riding, Division, City, Town, Borough, Liberty, or Place, within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, or at any Great Session to be holden for the County Palatine of *Chester*, or within the Principality of *Wales*, of Grand or Petit Larceny, Persons convicted of any Crime punishable by Transportation, may be transported accordingly.

Larceny, or any other Offence for which ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſhall have been or be ſubject to be tranſported, to order and adjudge, or any ſubſequent Court holden at any Place for the ſame County, Riding, Diviſion, City, Town, Borough, Liberty, or Place reſpectively, with like Authority, to order and adjudge that ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo convicted as aforeſaid, ſhall be tranſported beyond the Seas for any Term not exceeding the Number of Years or Term for which ſuch Perſon or Perſons is or are or ſhall be liable by any Law to be tranſported; and in every ſuch Caſe it ſhall and may be lawful for His Majeſty, by and with the Advice of His Privy Council, to declare and appoint any other Place or Places, Part or Parts beyond the Seas, in addition to ſuch as ſhall have been heretofore declared and appointed by His Majeſty for that Purpoſe, either within His Majeſty's Dominions, or elſewhere out of His Majeſty's Dominions, to which any ſuch Felons or other Offenders ſhall be conveyed or tranſported; and ſuch Court as aforeſaid is hereby authorized and required to order ſuch Offenders to be transferred to the Uſe of any Perſon or Perſons, and his or their Aſſigns, who ſhall contract for the due Performance of ſuch Tranſportation; and when His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, ſhall be pleaſed to extend Mercy to any Offender or Offenders who hath or have been or ſhall be convicted of any Crime or Crimes, for which he, ſhe, or they is, are, or ſhall be by Law excluded from the Benefit of Clergy, upon Condition of Tranſportation to any Place or Places, Part or Parts beyond the Seas, either for a Term of Life or any Number of Years, and ſuch Intention of Mercy ſhall be ſignified by One of His Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State, it ſhall be lawful for any Court having proper Authority, to allow ſuch Offender or Offenders the Benefit of a Conditional Pardon, and to order ſuch Offender or Offenders to be tranſported for ſuch Term of Life or Years as ſhall be ſpecified in ſuch Condition of Tranſportation as aforeſaid, and to make ſuch Order of Transfer as aforeſaid; and when any Offender or Offenders hath or have been or ſhall be convicted of any Crime or Crimes, for which he, ſhe, or they is or are by Law excluded the Benefit of Clergy, the Judge before whom ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall be convicted, or any Juſtice of the King's Bench, Common Pleas, or Baron of the Exchequer of the Degree of the Coif, in caſe the ſaid Offender or Offenders ſhall have been tried in any Court of Oyer and Terminer or Gaol Delivery in *England*, or any Juſtice of *Cheſter* or *Wales*, in caſe the ſaid Offender or Offenders ſhall be tried and convicted within any of their reſpective Juriſdictions, ſhall, on ſuch Intention of Mercy as aforeſaid being ſignified to him by One of the ſaid Principal Secretaries of State, make an Order for the immediate Tranſportation of ſuch Offender or Offenders, and for ſuch Offender or Offenders to be transferred as aforeſaid, in the ſame Manner as if ſuch Intention of Mercy had been ſignified by One of the ſaid Principal Secretaries of State, during the Continuance of the Aſſizes or Seſſions at which ſuch Offender or Offenders was or were condemned; and ſuch Order ſhall be conſidered as an Order made at ſuch Aſſizes or Seſſions as aforeſaid, and ſhall be as effectual and have all the ſame Conſequences as any Order for the Tranſportation of any Offender or Offenders, made by any Juſtice of Oyer and Terminer, Great Seſſions or Gaol Delivery, for any County, City, Liberty, Borough, or Place, during the Continuance of the Aſſizes or Seſſions; and ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo contracting as aforeſaid, his or their Aſſigns, by virtue of ſuch Order of Transfer as aforeſaid, ſhall have a Property in the Service of ſuch Offender or Offenders for ſuch Term of Life or Years for which ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall have been ordered to be tranſported.

His Majeſty may appoint Places.

III. And be it further enacted, That the Clerk of Aſſize, Clerk of the Peace, or other Clerk of the Court, ſhall be paid by the Treaſurer of the County, Riding, Diviſion, City, Liberty, Borough, Town or Place, the ſame Fee as hath been uſually paid, or ſuch Clerk of Aſſize, Clerk of the Peace, or other Clerk of the Court is entitled to for the Order of Tranſportation of any Offender. Clerks of Aſſize, &c. to be paid the ſame Fee as heretofore, on Order of Tranſportation.

IV. And be it enacted, That every Perſon or Perſons to whom any ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall be transferred as aforeſaid, ſhall, before any of them ſhall be delivered over to him or them to be tranſported, give Security that he or they will tranſport or cauſe to be tranſported effectually ſuch Offender or Offenders to ſuch Place or Places, Part or Parts beyond the Seas reſpectively, as ſhall be appointed by His Majeſty in ſuch Manner as aforeſaid; and procure ſuch Evidence as the Nature of the Caſe will admit, of the landing of ſuch Offender or Offenders ſo transferred as aforeſaid, in that Place or Part, or thoſe Places or Parts beyond the Seas, whereto he, ſhe, or they ſhall be ordered to be tranſported (Death and Caſualties by Sea excepted); and that he, ſhe, or they ſhall not be ſuffered to return to *Great Britain* or *Ireland* by the wilful Default of the Perſon or Perſons ſo contracting as aforeſaid, or of his or their Aſſigns. Perſons undertaking to tranſport Offenders to give proper Security.

V. And be it alſo enacted, That every ſuch Court as aforeſaid may appoint Two Juſtices of the Peace for the County, Riding, Diviſion, City, Liberty, Borough, or Place, where ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall have been convicted, who ſhall have Power and are hereby required to contract with any Perſon or Perſons who ſhall be nominated by One of His Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State, for the Performance of the Tranſportation of ſuch Offender or Offenders, and to order ſuch Security to be taken as aforeſaid; and alſo to cauſe ſuch Offender or Offenders to be delivered, by the reſpective Gaolers or Perſons in whoſe Cuſtody he, ſhe, or they ſhall be, to the Perſon or Perſons contracting, or to his or their Aſſigns; which Contracts and Security ſhall be certified by the Juſtices, who ſhall make and take the ſame to the next Court to be holden with the like Authority for the ſaid County, Riding, Diviſion, City, Liberty, Borough, or Place, to be filed and kept among the Records of ſuch Court; and all Securities for Tranſportation ſhall be by Bond in the Name of the reſpective Clerks of the Peace or other Clerks of the Court, who ſhall proſecute ſuch Bonds in their own Names; for which Purpoſe every ſuch Clerk of the Peace or Clerk of the Court, and his Succeſſors reſpectively, ſhall be deemed a Body Corporate, and ſhall have and be paid all ſuch Coſts as they ſhall ſuſtain in any ſuch Suit, as the Juſtices of the Peace ſhall at their General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace direct, out of the Public Stock; and all Monies recovered on ſuch Bonds ſhall be for the Uſe of the reſpective County, Riding, Diviſion, City, Liberty, Borough, or Place, and be paid to their reſpective Treaſurers, to be Part of the Public Stock; and all Charges in or about making the Contracts, taking Securities, and conveying Felons and other Offenders, in order to be tranſported, ſhall be borne by each County, Riding, Diviſion, City, Liberty, Borough, or Place, for which the Court was held which ordered ſuch Offenders to be tranſported; and the reſpective Treaſurers ſhall, by Order of the Juſtices in Quarter Seſſions, pay all ſuch Charges to the Perſons employed. Court may appoint Juſtices to contract for Tranſportation of Offenders, on Security by Bond.

VI. And be it further enacted, That the Perſon or Perſons ſo contracting as aforeſaid, and to whom any Offenders ſhall be delivered in order to be Perſons contracting to tranſport Offenders, may

carry them through any County to the Sea Port.

be tranſported, or any Perſon or Perſons directed by the ſaid Juſtices (empowered to contract as aforeſaid) or their Aſſigns, may in ſuch Manner as they ſhall think fit, carry and ſecure the ſaid Offenders in and through any County of *Great Britain*, towards the Seaport or Place from whence they are to be tranſported; and if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall reſcue ſuch Offenders or any of them, or aſſiſt them or any of them in making their Eſcape from ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall have them in their Cuſtody as aforeſaid, he, ſhe, or they ſhall be adjudged guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as in Caſes of Felony, without Benefit of Clergy.

Puniſhing Perſon found at large before the Expiration of his Sentence.

VII. And be it further enacted, That if any Offender or Offenders who ſhall be ſo ordered by any ſuch Court as aforeſaid to be tranſported, or who ſhall agree to tranſport himſelf or herſelf on certain Conditions, either for Life or any Number of Years, to any ſuch Place or Places, Part or Parts, as ſhall be appointed by His Majeſty in Manner aforeſaid, ſhall be afterwards at large within any Part of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, without ſome lawful Cauſe, before the Expiration of the Term for which ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall have been ordered to be tranſported, or ſhall have ſo agreed to tranſport himſelf or herſelf as aforeſaid, every ſuch Offender being at large as aforeſaid, being thereof lawfully convicted, ſhall ſuffer Death; and ſuch Offender or Offenders may be tried either before the Juſtices of Aſſize, Oyer and Terminer, Great Seſſions or Gaol Delivery, for the County, City, Liberty, Borough, or Place where ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall be apprehended and taken, or from whence he, ſhe, or they were ordered to be tranſported; and the Clerk of the Aſſize, Clerk of the Peace, or other Officer, or Clerk of the Court having the Cuſtody of the Records where ſuch Order of Tranſportation ſhall be made, ſhall, at the Requeſt of the Proſecutor or any other Perſon on His Majeſty's Behalf, make out and give a Certificate in Writing ſigned by him, containing the Effect and Subſtance only (omitting the formal Part) of every Indictment and Conviction of ſuch Offender or Offenders and of the Order for his or her Tranſportation, to the Juſtices of Aſſize, Oyer and Terminer, Great Seſſions or Gaol Delivery, where ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall be indicted (not taking for the ſame more than Six Shillings and Eight-pence) which Certificate ſhall be ſufficient Proof of the Conviction and Order for the Tranſportation of ſuch Offender or Offenders; and whoever ſhall diſcover and proſecute to Conviction any ſuch Offender or Offenders ſo being at large as aforeſaid, ſhall be entitled to a Reward of Twenty Pounds for every ſuch Offender ſo convicted, and ſhall have ſuch Certificate to receive the ſame, as any Perſon or Perſons may be entitled unto for the apprehending and proſecuting to Conviction, Perſons who have committed any Robbery upon the Highway: Provided nevertheleſs, that His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, may pardon and diſpenſe with ſuch Tranſportation, and allow of the Return of any ſuch Offender or Offenders to this Kingdom.

His Majeſty empowered to order the Removal of Male Priſoners.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That from and after the paſſing of this Act, it ſhall be lawful for His Majeſty from Time to Time, by an Order in Writing to be notified by One of the ſaid Principal Secretaries of State, or for any Three or more of ſuch of His Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace acting in and for the County, Riding, Diviſion, City, Borough, Liberty, or Place in which any Gaol ſhall be ſituated, as ſhall be authorized by His Majeſty under His Sign Manual, to direct the Removal of any Male Offender or Offenders who

ſhall be under Sentence of Death, but reprieved during His Majeſty's Pleaſure, or under Sentence or Order of Tranſportation, and who having been examined by an experienced Surgeon or Apothecary, ſhall appear to be free from any putrid or infectious Diſtemper, and fit to be removed from the Gaol or Priſon in which ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall be confined, to ſuch Place of Confinement within *England* or the Dominion of *Wales*, either at Land, or on board any Ship or Veſſel to be provided by His Majeſty in the River *Thames*, or any navigable or other River, or within the Limits of any Port or Harbour of *England* or *Wales*, as His Majeſty, or any Three of ſuch Juſtices authorized as aforeſaid, ſhall from Time to Time appoint, under the Management of a Superintendent and Overſeer to be appointed by His Majeſty, or any Three or more of ſuch Juſtices authorized as aforeſaid; and every Offender who ſhall be ſo removed ſhall continue in the ſaid Place of Confinement, or be removed to and confined in any other ſuch Place or Places as aforeſaid, as His Majeſty, or any Three or more of ſuch Juſtices authorized as aforeſaid, from Time to Time ſhall appoint, until ſuch Offender ſhall be tranſported according to Law, or by the Expiration of the Term of ſuch Tranſportation or otherwiſe ſhall be entitled to his Liberty, or until His Majeſty, or any Three or more of ſuch Juſtices ſo authorized as aforeſaid, ſhall direct the Return of ſuch Offender to the Gaol or Priſon from which he ſhall have been ſo removed; and the Sheriff or Gaoler having the Cuſtody of any Offender whoſe Removal ſhall be ordered in Manner aforeſaid, ſhall with all convenient Speed, after the Receipt of the Notification of any ſuch Order, convey or cauſe to be conveyed every ſuch Offender to the Place appointed, and there deliver him to ſuch Superintendent or Overſeer, together with a true Copy, atteſted by ſuch Sheriff or Gaoler, of the Caption and Order of the Court before which ſuch Offender was tried, containing the Sentence of Tranſportation of each ſuch Offender reſpectively, by virtue whereof he ſhall be in the Cuſtody of ſuch Sheriff or Gaoler; and alſo a Certificate containing his Age, and an Account of his Behaviour in Priſon before and after his Trial, and the Gaoler's Obſervations on his Temper and Diſpoſition, and ſuch Information concerning his Connexions and former Courſe of Life as may have come to the Gaoler's Knowledge; and ſuch Superintendent or Overſeer as aforeſaid ſhall give a proper Receipt in Writing to the Sheriff or Gaoler for the Diſcharge of ſuch Sheriff or Gaoler.

Paying Expences of Removal.

IX. And be it further enacted, That all reaſonable Expences which the Sheriff or Gaoler ſhall incur in every ſuch Removal ſhall be paid by the County, Riding, Diviſion, City, Borough, Liberty, or Place, for which the Court in which the Offender was convicted ſhall have been held, and the Sheriff or Gaoler ſhall receive the Money due for ſuch Expences from the Treaſurer of ſuch County, Riding, Diviſion, City, Borough, Liberty, or Place; ſuch Expences being firſt allowed by the Order of the Juſtices of the Peace at their Quarter or other General Seſſions of the Peace, who are hereby required to make ſuch Order as ſhall be juſt in that Behalf.

For cleanſing and purifying and clothing Offenders.

X. And be it further enacted, That where any Offender ſhall be brought to any ſuch Place of Confinement as aforeſaid, in purſuance of the Powers contained in this Act, he ſhall be waſhed, cleanſed, and purified, and the Clothes in which he ſhall be then clothed ſhall be burnt if neceſſary, or otherwiſe ſhall be preſerved and taken Care of for him, by the Overſeer of the Place of Confinement, and re-delivered to him upon his quitting it, or ſold for his Benefit, and the Produce thereof

accounted for to him by the Overſeers aforeſaid; and when ſuch Offender ſhall be finally diſcharged, either at the End or other Determination of his Term, ſuch other decent Clothing as ſhall be judged neceſſary and proper by the Superintendent aforeſaid, ſhall be delivered to ſuch Offender by the Overſeer of the Place of Confinement from which he is diſcharged, and alſo ſuch Sum of Money for his immediate Subſiſtence, as the ſaid Superintendent ſhall think proper, ſo as ſuch Sum ſhall not in any Caſe exceed Three Pounds.

Overſeers to have the ſame Powers as Gaolers.

XI. And be it further enacted, That after the Removal of any Offender under this Act, the Superintendent or Overſeer who ſhall have the Cuſtody of him, ſhall, during the Term of ſuch Cuſtody, have the ſame Powers over him as are incident to the Office of a Sheriff or Gaoler, and in like Manner be anſwerable for any Eſcape of ſuch Offender; and alſo during ſuch Cuſtody ſhall ſee him fed and clothed according to a Scale of Diet and Clothing to be fixed on and notified in Writing by One of His Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State to the Superintendent; and ſhall keep ſuch Offender to Labour, at ſuch Places, and under ſuch Regulations, Directions, Limitations, and Reſtrictions, as His Majeſty, or any Three or more of ſuch Juſtices ſo authorized as aforeſaid, ſhall from Time to Time, by any Order to be directed to ſuch Superintendent or Overſeers for their Inſtruction, appoint: And it is hereby declared, that the Time during which any Offender ſhall have continued in Gaol under Sentence of Tranſportation, or being removed under the Proviſions aforeſaid, ſhall continue confined by virtue of this Act, ſhall be taken and reckoned in Diſcharge or part Diſcharge or Satisfaction of the Term of his Tranſportation.

Time of Impriſonment to be deemed Part of Term.

Overſeers may inflict moderate Puniſhment for Miſbehaviour.

Eſcape or Reſcue how to be puniſhed.

XII. And be it further enacted, That if any Offender ſhall, during ſuch Cuſtody under this Act, be guilty of any Miſbehaviour or diſorderly Conduct, it ſhall be lawful for ſuch Superintendent or Overſeer having the Cuſtody of ſuch Offender, to inflict or cauſe to be inflicted ſuch moderate Puniſhment or Correction as may be inflicted by Law on Perſons committed to a Houſe of Correction; and if any ſuch Offender ſhall break from or unlawfully eſcape from the Cuſtody of ſuch Superintendent or Overſeer; or if any Perſon ſhall reſcue or attempt to reſcue, or aſſiſt in reſcuing any ſuch Offender from ſuch Cuſtody, or ſhall convey or cauſe to be conveyed any Diſguiſe, Inſtrument for effecting Eſcape, or Arms, to ſuch Offender, every ſuch Offence ſhall be puniſhable in the ſame Manner as if ſuch Offender had been confined in a Gaol or Priſon in the Cuſtody of the Sheriff or other Gaoler, for the Crime of which ſuch Offender ſhall have been convicted.

Superintendent to make Returns of Priſoners.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That the Superintendent of the ſeveral Places of Confinement to be appointed by virtue of this Act ſhall from Time to Time make Returns ſpecifying the Name of every Perſon in Cuſtody in each of ſuch Places of Confinement, the Offence of which he or ſhe ſhall have been guilty, the Court before which he or ſhe ſhall have been convicted, and the Sentence of ſuch Court, together with his or her Age and bodily State, and his or her Behaviour whilſt in Cuſtody; and alſo the Names of ſuch Offenders who ſhall have died whilſt in ſuch Cuſtody, or ſhall have eſcaped, or have been lawfully diſcharged from the ſame; which Returns ſhall be made on the Firſt Day of every *Eaſter* Term and the Firſt Day of every *Michaelmas* Term, to His Majeſty's Court of King's Bench at *Weſtminſter*, on the Oath of the Overſeer of ſuch reſpective Places of Confinement, ſuch Oath to be made before the ſaid Court, or any Commiſſioner authorized to take Affidavits in the ſame.

XIV. And

XIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty to appoint one fit and able Person to be Superintendent of any Place or Places of Confinement, either at Land or on board any Ship or Vessel to which any such Offenders shall be removed by virtue of this Act, and one proper Person to be Overseer on board each such Ship or Vessel, who, with a sufficient Number of Officers and Guards, shall constantly reside on board; and such Superintendent shall personally visit and inspect such Places of Confinement Four Times in every Year, or oftener if Occasion shall require, and shall distinctly examine into the State of such Places of Confinement, the Behaviour and Conduct of the respective Overseers, Officers, and Guards, the Treatment and Condition of the Prisoners, and the Amount of the several Earnings, and the Expences attending every such Place of Confinement, and shall make a faithful Report of the same to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, who shall cause such Report to be laid before both Houses of Parliament; at the Beginning of every Session; and such Superintendent shall also, in Matters of extreme Necessity, make a special Report thereof to His Majesty's said Principal Secretary of State, who may, if he shall see fit, submit such special Report to the Justices of His Majesty's Court of King's Bench, who are hereby authorized to afford such Redress or provide such Regulations as they shall deem proper; and such Superintendent and Overseers shall continue in Office during His Majesty's Pleasure, and shall receive such Salaries as His Majesty shall appoint; and such Superintendent shall be paid such Travelling and other reasonable Expences as shall be incurred by him in Discharge of his Duty,

Appointment of Superintendent.

XV. And be it further enacted, That if any Offender hath already been ordered to be transported to any Part beyond the Seas, or if any Order shall at any Time hereafter be made for the Transportation of any Offender, and such Order cannot be conveniently executed with respect to the Place in such Order mentioned, it shall be lawful for the Court of King's Bench, or (in the Vacation Time and out of Term) for any Two Justices of the Court of King's Bench, Common Pleas, or Barons of the Court of Exchequer of the Degree of the Coif, to order that such Offender shall be transported to any other Part or Place beyond the Seas which shall have been appointed by His Majesty for the Transportation of such Offenders, in such and the like Manner, and for the same Term of Years, as such Offender is or shall be liable to be transported to the Place mentioned in the original Sentence or Order for his or her Transportation; and such Order shall be considered as made at the same Time, and shall be as effectual to every Intent and Purpose, and shall have all the same Consequences in every respect, as the original Order for the Transportation of such Offender; and such Offender shall be transferred, conveyed, and made over to any Person who will contract for the Performance of such Transportation, and to his or their Assigns, in like Manner as if such Offender had been transported to the Place mentioned in the original Order of Transportation; and such Person or Persons so contracting as aforesaid, his or their Assigns, by virtue of such Order of Transfer as aforesaid, shall have a Property in the Service of the said Offender for the Remainder of the Term for which the Offender was originally ordered to be transported; and in case any such Offender so ordered for Transportation shall be afterwards at large within any Part of the Kingdom of *Great Britain*, without some lawful Cause, before the Expiration of the Term for which such Offender shall have been ordered to be transported, every such Offender being thereof lawfully convicted shall suffer Death, without Benefit of Clergy, and shall be tried before such Judges, and in

Judges may alter Sentences of Transportation.

such Manner, and the same Evidence made use of for his or her Conviction, as is or shall be directed by the Laws now in being, or hereafter to be made for the Trial of other Offenders who shall be at large within this Kingdom before the Expiration of the Term for which they were ordered to be transported; and whoever shall discover and prosecute to Conviction any such Offender, so being at large within this Kingdom as aforesaid, shall be entitled to a Reward of Twenty Pounds for every such Offender so convicted, and shall have such Certificate to receive the same as any Person may be entitled to for the apprehending and prosecuting to Conviction Persons who have committed any Robbery upon the Highway.

Account of Expences to be laid before Parliament.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That the Expences of carrying this Act into Execution, as far as the same relates to the Removal of Prisoners, convicted, and remaining in Custody under Sentence of Death, and respited during His Majesty's Pleasure, or under Sentence or Order of Transportation to other Places of Confinement, and which are not otherwise provided for, shall be annually laid before both Houses of Parliament, and shall be provided for in the next Supplies to be granted to His Majesty by Parliament.

General Issue.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That if any Suit or Action shall be prosecuted against any Person or Persons, for any Thing done in pursuance of this Act, such Person or Persons may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the Special Matter in Evidence at any Trial to be had thereupon, and that the same was done by the Authority of this Act; and if a Verdict shall pass for the Defendant or Defendants, or the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall become Nonsuit, or discontinue his, her, or their Action or Actions after Issue joined, or if, upon Demurrer or otherwise, Judgment shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants shall recover Treble Costs, and have the like Remedy for the same as any Defendants have by Law in other Cases; and notwithstanding a Verdict shall be given to any Plaintiff in such Action or Suit as aforesaid, such Plaintiff shall not have Costs against the Defendant, unless the Judge before whom the Trial shall be, shall certify his Approbation of the Verdict.

Limitation of Actions.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That all Actions, Suits and Prosecutions to be commenced against any Person or Persons, for any Thing done in pursuance of this Act, shall be laid and tried in the County and Place where the Fact was committed, and shall be commenced within six Calendar Months after the Fact committed, and not otherwise.

Continuance of Act.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall continue and be in force till the First Day of *May* One thousand eight hundred and sixty, and no longer.

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