ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO SEXTO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

****

C A P. IX.

An Act for charging certain Duties on Foreign Packets or Passage Vessels entering or departing any of the Ports of *Great Britain*.

[22d *March* 1816.]

WHEREAS it is expedient that a Tonnage Duty should be imposed upon *French* Packets or Passage Vessels, on their entering and departing any of the Ports of *Great Britain*, equivalent to the Duty now payable on *British* Packets or Passage Vessels entering and departing the Ports of *France*; 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 from and after the passing of this Act, there shall be raised, collected, levied and paid unto His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, a Tonnage Duty at and after the Rate of Three Shillings and Sixpence of good and lawful Money of *Great Britain* for each and every Ton Burthen of every Packet or Passage Vessel belonging to the Subjects of His Most Christian Majesty, which shall lade or unlade any Goods, Wares or Merchandize, or take in or set on Shore any Passengers in any Port, Creek, Harbour or Road of *Great Britain*, and that the Tonnage of every such Vessel shall, in case of Doubt or Dispute as to the same, be ascertained by the proper Officers of the Customs by Admeasurement, in Manner directed by an Act passed in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for the further Encouragement and Encrease of Shipping and Navigation.* 26 G. 3. c. 60.

French Packets to pay a Duty of 3s. 6d. per Ton.

II. And

Packets not paying the Duty may be detained and ſold.

II. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful for any Officer or Officers of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms, to ſtop and detain any Packet or Paſſage Veſſel liable to the Payment of the ſaid Duty, until the ſame is paid as aforeſaid; and in caſe Payment thereof ſhall not be made for the Space of Thirty Days after the Arrival of ſuch Veſſel at any ſuch Port, Creek, Harbour or Road in this Kingdom, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms in *England* and *Scotland* reſpectively, or any Three or more of them, to cauſe ſuch Packet or Paſſage Veſſel, and her Maſts, Apparel and Furniture, to be ſold publicly to the beſt Bidder, and the Produce thereof to be applied, firſt to the Charges that ſhall ariſe by ſuch Detention and Sale, next to the ſaid Duty impoſed by this Act, and the Overplus to be paid to the Proprietor of ſuch Packet or Paſſage Veſſel or other Perſon duly authoriſed by ſuch Proprietor to receive the ſame.

Duty to be under the Management of Commiſſioners of Cuſtoms.

III. And be it further enacted, That the Tonnage Duty hereby impoſed ſhall be paid into the Hands of the proper Officers of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms at the reſpective Ports or Places where ſuch Duty ſhall become due and payable; and ſuch Duty ſhall be under the Management of the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms in *England* and *Scotland* reſpectively.

No Entry to be taken till Duty be paid.

IV. And, to the Intent that the ſaid Duty may be duly anſwered and paid, be it further enacted, That no Officer of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms whatever, at any of the ſaid Ports or Places in *Great Britain* where ſuch Duty ſhall become due and payable, ſhall, from and after the ſaid paſſing of this Act, take or receive any Entry or Report outwards for any ſuch Veſſel liable or ſubject to the ſaid Duty, nor grant any Cocquet for any Goods, Wares or Merchandize intended to be ſhipped on board any ſuch Veſſel, or ſhall ſuch Veſſel be permitted to depart from any ſuch Port or Place until the ſaid Duty ſhall be paid purſuant to the Directions of this Act, to the reſpective Collectors or other principal Officers of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms authorized to receive the ſame, and until the Maſter or Owner of any ſuch Veſſel ſubject to the Payment of ſuch Duty ſhall ſhew to ſuch reſpective Officer a Receipt for the ſame.

Duty how to be applied.

V. And be it further enacted, That all the Monies from Time to Time ariſing by the Duties by this Act impoſed as aforeſaid, (the neceſſary Charges of raiſing and accounting for the ſame reſpectively excepted,) ſhall from Time to Time be paid into the Receipt of His Majeſty's Exchequer at *Weſtminſter*, and ſhall be appropriated and applied in the ſame Manner as the permanent Duties impoſed by an Act paſſed in the Forty-ninth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled *An Act for repealing the ſeveral Duties of Cuſtoms chargeable in* Great Britain, *and for granting other Duties in lieu thereof*, are directed to be appropriated and applied.

His Majeſty empowered to fix the Duty to be paid for Packets of other Foreign Countries.

VI. And whereas *Britiſh* Packets or Paſſage Veſſels entering or clearing out from the Ports or Harbours of other Foreign Countries are ſubject and liable to certain Impoſts in the Nature of Tonnage Duties, Port Duties, Harbour Dues or otherwiſe: And whereas ſuch Impoſts are continually varying in Amount; and it is expedient for the Protection of the Navigation of *Great Britain*, that His Majeſty ſhould be empowered to

levy on the Packets or Paſſage Veſſels of ſuch Foreign Countries ſimilar Duties, and to alter or entirely revoke the ſame as ſuch Duties may be altered or revoked on *Britiſh* Packets or Paſſage Veſſels in ſuch Foreign Countries; be it therefore enacted, That from and after the paſſing of this Act it ſhall and may be lawful for His Majeſty, by His Royal Proclamation or Proclamations, to be iſſued by and with the Advice of His Privy Council, or by His Majeſty's Order or Orders in Council to be publiſhed from Time to Time in the *London Gazette*, to direct ſuch Duty or Duties as ſhall be therein ſpecified, to be levied, collected and paid in the Ports of *Great Britain* on the entering or clearing out of the Packets or Paſſage Veſſels of ſuch Foreign Countries as ſhall be named in the ſaid Proclamations or Orders in Council, and from Time to Time, by any ſuch Proclamations or Orders in Council iſſued or publiſhed as aforeſaid, to revoke, diminiſh or increaſe ſuch Duties to the ſame Amount as ſimilar Duties may be reſpectively revoked, diminiſhed or increaſed on *Britiſh* Packets or Paſſage Veſſels entering or clearing out from the Ports or Harbours of ſuch Foreign Countries.

Such Duty to be managed as the Duty on French Packets.

VII. And be it further enacted, That on ſuch Duty being ſo declared as aforeſaid, the ſame ſhall be collected, managed, paid, and recovered in the ſame Manner, and ſubject and liable to the ſame Rules and Regulations as the Duty on *French* Packets or Paſſage Veſſels are by this Act directed to be collected, managed, paid, and recovered.

Veſſels of Pleaſure not affected.

VIII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That this Act, nor any Thing herein contained, ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend to any Ship or Veſſel uſed only for the Purpoſes of Pleaſure, and which ſhall not carry any Goods, Wares or Merchandize, or any Paſſengers for Hire or Reward.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty. 1816.