

ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO OCTAVO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

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CAP. LXXV.

An Act for the more effectual Prevention of Offences connected with the unlawful Deſtruction and Sale of Game. [5th *June* 1818.]

WHEREAS the ſelling, expoſing, or offering to Sale, any Hare, Pheaſant, Partridge, Moor Heath Game, or Grouſe, is by Law prohibited: And whereas it is expedient, for the more effectual Prevention of Offences connected with the unlawful Deſtruction and Sale of Game, to provide by Law as herein-after is enacted: 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 if any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, whether qualified or not qualified to kill Game, ſhall buy any Hare, Pheaſant, Partridge, Moor Heath Game, or Grouſe, every ſuch Perſon or Perſons who ſhall ſo offend, and thereof ſhall be convicted before any One or more Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace, Magiſtrate or Magiſtrates, acting for the County, Riding, City, Town, Borough, Diviſion, or Place where ſuch Offence ſhall be committed, by the Oath of One or more credible Witneſs or Witneſſes, ſhall, for every Hare, Pheaſant, Partridge, Moor Heath Game, or Grouſe, ſo bought as aforeſaid, forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds, One Half to be paid to the Informer, and the other to the Poor of the Pariſh where ſuch Offence ſhall be committed; the ſame to be levied by Diſtreſs and Sale of the Offender's Goods, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of the Juſtice or Juſtices, Magiſtrate or Magiſtrates, before whom the Offender ſhall be convicted, rendering the Overplus of ſuch Diſtreſs

Penalty on any Perſon's buying Game.

Diſtreſs and Sale (if any) to the Party or Parties, after deducting the Charges of making the ſame; provided that ſuch Conviction be made within Six Calendar Months after ſuch Offence committed.

For the better Diſcovery of Perſons buying or ſelling of Game.

II. And for the better Diſcovery of ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall buy or ſell any Hare, Pheaſant, Partridge, Moor Heath Game, or Grouſe, be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the Time of the paſſing of this Act, any Perſon that ſhall buy, ſell, or offer to ſell, or have unlawfully in his Poſſeſſion, any Hare, Pheaſant, Partridge, Moor Heath Game, or Grouſe, and ſhall make Diſcovery of any Perſon that hath within Six Calendar Months bought or ſold any ſuch Game as aforeſaid, ſo as any one ſhall be convicted of any ſuch Offence by virtue of this or any other Statute now in force, ſuch Diſcoverer ſhall be diſcharged of and from all Pains, Forfeitures, and Penalties to which he may be and ſhall have become liable, before and at the Time of the making ſuch Diſcovery, by reaſon of the buying or ſelling, or offering to ſell, or having unlawfully in his Poſſeſſion, any ſuch Game as aforeſaid, any Thing in any former Statute contained to the contrary notwithſtanding; and ſhall receive the ſame Benefit and Advantage as any other Informer ſhall be entitled to, by virtue of this Act, for ſuch Diſcovery and Information: Provided always, that nothing in this Act contained ſhall be held or conſtrued to diſcharge ſuch Diſcoverer of or from any Pains, Forfeitures, or Penalties, in reſpect whereof a Proſecution ſhall be actually pending, or a Conviction or Judgment ſhall have been had againſt him, at the Time of the making ſuch Diſcovery as aforeſaid.

Penalties under this Act may be ſued for to the ſole Uſe of Proſecutor.

III. And be it further enacted, That whereſoever any Perſon ſhall, for any Offence to be committed againſt the Proviſions of this Act, be liable or ſubject to any Forfeiture or Penalty upon Conviction before any Juſtice or Juſtices, Magiſtrate or Magiſtrates as aforeſaid, it ſhall and may be lawful for any other Perſon whatſoever, either to proceed to recover the ſaid Forfeiture or Penalty by Information and Conviction as aforeſaid, or to ſue for and recover the Whole of ſuch Penalty for his own Uſe by Action of Debt or on the Caſe, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majeſty's Courts of Record, wherein no Eſſoign, Wager of Law, or more than one Imparlance ſhall be allowed, and wherein the Plaintiff, if he recovers, ſhall have his Double Coſts; and that no Part of the ſaid Penalty recovered in any ſuch Suit or Action ſhall be paid or applied to or for the Uſe of the Poor of the Pariſh wherein ſuch Offence ſhall be committed: Provided always, that no ſuch Action, Suit, Bill, Plaint, or Information ſhall be brought or exhibited, but within the Space of Six Calendar Months next after the Offence committed; and that in caſe of any Second Proſecution for One Offence, the Perſon doubly proſecuted may plead in his Defence the former Proſecution pending, or the Conviction or Judgment thereupon had.

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