

ANNO PRIMO & SECUNDO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

CAP. LXXXVII.

An Act to repeal certain Acts, passed in the Thirty-first, Thirty-third, Forty-fourth, and Forty-fifth Years of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, for regulating the Importation and Exportation of Corn, Grain, Meal, and Flour into and from *Great Britain*, and to make further Provisions in lieu thereof. [10th *July* 1821.]

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Thirty-first Year of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for regulating the Importation and Exportation of Corn, and the Payment of the Duty on Foreign Corn imported, and of the Bounty on* British *Corn exported:* And whereas an Act was passed in the Thirty-third Year of His said late Majesty, intituled *An Act to amend an Act made in the Thirty-first Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled 'An Act for regulating the Importation and Exportation of Corn, and the Payment of the Duty on Foreign Corn imported, and of the Bounty on* British *Corn exported:'* And whereas an Act was passed in the Forty-fourth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty, intituled *An Act to regulate the Importation and Exportation of Corn, and the Bounties and Duties payable thereon:* And whereas an Act was passed in the Forty-fifth Year of His said late Majesty, intituled *An Act to explain and amend an Act, made in the last Session of Parliament, to regulate the Importation and Exportation* 31 G.3. c.30. 33 G.3. c.65. 44 G.3. c.109. 45 G.3. c.86.

of Corn, and the Bounties and Duties payable thereon: And whereas it is expedient that the said Acts should be repealed, and that new Provisions should be made in lieu thereof; be it therefore enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of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the Authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this Act, the said Acts shall be, and the same are hereby repealed: Provided nevertheless, that all Acts or Parts of Acts, which shall have been repealed by virtue of any of the above-recited Acts, shall still be deemed and taken to be and remain repealed.

Recited Acts repealed.

No Corn ground, except Wheat Meal, Wheat Flour, Oatmeal, nor any Malt, to be imported.

II. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, no Corn ground, except Wheat Meal, Wheat Flour, and Oat Meal, nor any Malt, shall be imported into *Great Britain* from Parts beyond the Seas, under Penalty of the Forfeiture thereof, together with the Ship or Vessel in which the same shall be imported, with her Guns, Furniture, Ammunition, Tackle, and Apparel, and the same shall and may be seized by any Officer or Officers of the Customs.

Appointment of Towns for making Returns.

III. And whereas it is expedient to make Provision for ascertaining the Price of *British* Corn, according to which the Importation into the United Kingdom of Corn, Meal, or Flour, the Growth, Produce, or Manufacture of any Foreign Country, for the Purpose of Home Consumption, shall be regulated and governed; be it therefore enacted, That Weekly Returns of Purchases and Sales of such Corn shall be made in the Manner hereinafter directed, in the following Cities and Towns of *England* and *Wales;* that is to say, in

London,
Chelmsford,
Colchester,
Romford,
Maidstone,
Canterbury,
Dartford,
Chichester,
Lewes,
Rye,
Ipswich,
Woodbridge,
Sudbury,
Hadleigh,
Stowmarket,
Bury Saint Edmonds,
Beccles,
Bungay,
Lowestoft,
Cambridge,
Ely,
Wisbeach,
Norwich,
Yarmouth,
Lynn,
Thetford,
Watton,
Diss,
East Dereham,
Harleston,
Holt,
Aylesham,
Fakenham,
Northwalsham,
Lincoln,
Gainsborough,
Glanfordbridge,
Lowth,
Boston,
Sleaford,
Stamford,
Spalding,
York,
Bridlington,
Beverley,
Howden,
Hull,

Hull,
Whitby,
New Malton,
Durham,
Stockton,
Darlington,
Sunderland,
Barnard Castle,
Walsingham,
Belford,
Hexham,
Newcastle-upon-Tyne,
Morpeth,
Alnwick,
Berwick-upon-Tweed,
Carlisle,
Whitehaven,
Cockermouth,
Penrith,
Appleby,
Kirkby-in-Kendal,
Liverpool,
Ulverton,
Lancaster,
Preston,
Wigan,
Warrington,
Manchester,
Bolton,
Chester,
Nantwich,
Middlewick,
Four Lane Ends,
Holywell,
Mold,
Denbigh,
Wrexham,
Llanrwst,
Ruthin,
Beaumaris,
Llannerchymed,
Amlwk,
Carnarvon,
Pwhelli.
Conway,
Bala,
Corwen,
Dalgelly,
Cardigan,
Lampeter,
Aberystwith,
Pembroke,
Fishguard,
Haverfordwest,
Carmarthen,
Llandilo,
Kidwelly,
Swansea,
Neath,
Cowbridge,
Gloucester,
Cirencester,
Tetbury,
Stow-on-the-Wold,
Tewkesbury,
Bristol,
Taunton,
Wells,
Bridgewater,
Frome,
Chard,
Monmouth,
Abergavenny,
Chepstow,
Pontypool,
Exeter,
Barnstaple,
Plymouth,
Totness,
Tavistock,
Kingsbridge,
Truro,
Bodmin,
Launceston,
Redruth,
Helstone,
Saint Austell,
Blandford,
Bridport,
Dorchester,
Sherborne,
Shaston,
Wareham,
Winchester,
Andover,
Basingstoke,
Fareham,
Havant,
Newport,
Ringwood,
Southampton, and
Portsmouth.

And, for the Purpose of duly collecting and transmitting such Weekly Returns, there shall be appointed in each of the said Cities and Towns, in

in manner herein-after directed, a fit and proper Person to be Inspector of Corn Returns.

Appointment of Receiver of Corn Returns.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council appointed for the Consideration of all Matters relating to Trade and Foreign Plantations, shall from Time to Time appoint a fit and proper Person, to be called "Receiver of Corn Returns," to whom the said Inspectors shall transmit such Returns of the Prices of *British* Corn, in manner herein-after directed, with such Salary and Allowances as shall be deemed by the said Committee to be a just and reasonable Compensation for his Time and Labour in executing the said Office; and the said Receiver shall, and he is hereby authorized and required to obey such Instructions, with respect to the due Execution of the Laws relating to the Trade in Corn, as he shall from Time to Time receive from the Lords of the said Committee.

Receiver's Oath.

V. And be it further enacted, That such Receiver of Corn Returns, before he enters on the Execution of his Office, shall take the following Oath, *videlicet*,

'I *A. B.* do swear, That I will, to the best of my Skill and Knowledge, execute the Office of Receiver of Corn Returns, according to the Directions of an Act passed in the Second Year of the Reign of His Majesty King *George* the Fourth, intituled [*here set forth the Title of this Act*], and in all Things conform myself, as Receiver of Corn Returns, to the Provisions of the said Act.'

Which Oath any Justice of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex* is hereby empowered and required to administer.

Receiver to receive Packets free of Postage.

VI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Receiver of Corn Returns to send by the Post, to any Part of the United Kingdom, any Papers relating to the Business of this Act, which shall be signed by him on the Outside thereof, free from the Duty of Postage; and to receive all his Letters and Packets from the Inspectors, appointed by virtue of this Act, and from the Clerks of the Peace in the several Counties of *England* and *Wales*, and from the Collectors and other Chief Officers of the Customs, at the respective Ports of the United Kingdom, and from the Mayors or other Chief Officers of the Cities and Towns within named or to be named as aforesaid, on the Business in which he is employed, in pursuance of the Directions of this Act, free from the Duty of Postage, such Letters and Packets so sent or received, being certified on the Outside thereof to be on the Business of this Act; and that it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty's Postmasters General, his Secretary, or other Officer especially authorized by him, to examine and search all such Letters and Packets, and to charge with Treble Postage any Letter or Paper therein contained contrary to the Provisions of this Act.

Appointment of London Inspector.

VII. And be it further enacted, That the Inspector of Corn Returns for the City of *London* shall be appointed in the Manner herein-after directed; that is to say, the several Proprietors of the Corn Exchange in *Mark-lane* shall and they are hereby authorized and

required to meet, and under their Hands and Seals nominate and appoint a fit and proper Person (not being a Corn Factor, Merchant, Clerk, Agent, or other Person, buying Corn for Sale, or for the Sale of Malt, Meal, or Flour, made thereof) to be Inspector of Corn Returns, and so from Time to Time within Twenty-eight Days after the Death, Removal, or Resignation of any such Inspector, to nominate and appoint some other fit and proper Person as aforesaid to be Inspector of Corn Returns; and every such Inspector shall, and he is hereby required, within One Week after he has received his Appointment, to deliver the same to the Lord Mayor, or One of the Aldermen of the said City, and then enter into a Bond to the Lord Mayor of the City of *London*, with Two sufficient Sureties, to be approved of by the Lord Mayor or the said Alderman, in the Sum of Two hundred Pounds, for the faithful accounting for and Payment of all Monies that shall come to his Hands, by virtue of this Act; and he shall at the same Time take the following Oath; which Oath the said Lord Mayor or One of the said Aldermen is hereby authorized and empowered to administer:

Inspector to take the following Oath.

'I *A.B.* do swear, That I will at all Times make due and true Returns to the Receiver of Corn Returns, appointed by virtue of an Act passed in the Second Year of the Reign of King *George* the Fourth, intituled [*here set forth the Title of this Act,*] and in all Things, to the best of my Skill and Judgment, conform myself as Inspector of Corn Returns to the Directions of the said Act.'

And the said Appointment, and also a Certificate of his having taken such Oath, shall be delivered by the Lord Mayor or the said Alderman, at the next Session of the Peace for the said City, and shall be then and there enrolled; and the said Proprietors, or the major Part of them as aforesaid, shall, and they are hereby required from Time to Time to provide, out of the Monies arising from the Estates belonging to them as Proprietors of the Corn Exchange, a proper and convenient Office, either within the Corn Exchange, or as near thereunto as may be, for the Use and Accommodation of the said Inspector of Corn Returns, wherein all Books, Papers, and Returns belonging to such Inspector shall be deposited, and over which shall be written in legible Characters, "Office of Inspector of Corn Returns."

In case of Neglect to appoint Inspector as above directed, the Lord Mayor, &c. empowered so to do.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That in case the said Proprietors, or the major Part of them as aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect, within the respective Times herein-before mentioned, to nominate and appoint a fit and proper Person to be Inspector of Corn Returns, it shall and may be lawful for the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the said City, and they are hereby required, at the Sessions of the Peace that shall next immediately be held after such Neglect or Refusal as aforesaid, or at an Adjournment of the same, to be held within One Week thereafter for that Purpose, or at some subsequent Sessions, to nominate and appoint a fit and proper Person (not being a Miller, Maltster, Corn Factor, Merchant, Clerk, Agent, or other Person, buying Corn for Sale, or for the Sale of Meal, Flour, or Malt, made thereof) to be Inspector of Corn Returns; which Appointment shall be then and there enrolled, and the Person so appointed shall then take the Oath before directed, and a Certificate of his having taken

such Oath shall then and there be enrolled, and he shall, within Three Days at least after such Appointment, give Bond in the Manner and Form before required.

Power to remove London Inspector.

IX. And be it further enacted, That no Person who shall have been appointed as aforesaid to the said Office of Inspector of Corn Returns shall be removeable therefrom, except on Complaint of Misbehaviour, or Neglect of Duty in his Office, made at the Sessions of the Peace holden for the said City, and then and there heard and adjudged, in which Case it shall and may be lawful for the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, if they shall see good Cause for the same, to remove such Person from his Office, and they shall thereupon signify such Removal to the Secretary of the Corn Exchange for the Time being, or to some one of the Proprietors of the same as aforesaid, who shall forthwith proceed to nominate and appoint a new Inspector in manner herein-before directed.

In case of Inspector being disabled by Sickness, a Deputy may be appointed.

X. And be it further enacted, That in case any Inspector of Corn Returns shall be disabled by Sickness for the Space of One Week to execute the Duties of his Office, and the same shall be signified to the Secretary of the Corn Exchange, or any one of the Proprietors thereof as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the said Proprietors, or the major Part of them, and, in case of their Neglect or Refusal, for the Lord Mayor of the said City, and he or they is and are hereby required in like Manner to nominate and appoint a fit and proper Person (not being a Miller, Maltster, Corn Factor, Merchant, Clerk, Agent, or other Person buying Corn for Sale, or for the Sale of Meal, Flour, or Malt made thereof) to be Deputy, and to execute the Office of Inspector during the Disability of such Inspector by Sickness, and no longer; which Appointment shall in like Manner be enrolled, and the Deputy so appointed shall in like Manner enter into a Bond and take the Oath, and a Certificate of his having so taken the Oath shall in like Manner be enrolled, as is herein-before directed with regard to the Inspector of Corn Returns.

Corn Factors in London to make a Declaration.

XI. And be it further enacted, That every Corn Factor carrying on his Trade or Business in the City of *London*, or in the Suburbs thereof, shall, within One Month after this Act shall have been in force, make a Declaration in the Form following; that is to say,

'I *A. B.* do hereby declare, That the Returns of the Quantities and Prices of *British* Corn, which henceforward shall be by or for me sold and delivered, shall, to the best of my Knowledge and Belief, contain the whole Quantity, and no more, of the Corn *bonâ fide* sold and delivered by or for me within the Period to which they shall refer, with the Prices of such Corn and the Names of the Buyers respectively, and of the Persons for whom such Corn shall have been sold by me respectively, and to the best of my Judgment conformable to the Directions of an Act passed in the Second Year of the Reign of King *George* the Fourth, intituled [*here set forth the Title of this Act*].'

Which Declaration shall be in Writing, and shall be subscribed with the Hand of such Corn Factor, and shall be by him or his Agent forthwith

with delivered to the Lord Mayor of the City of *London* for the Time being, who is hereby required to grant a Certificate thereof, to be registered by the Inspector of Corn Returns; and in case any Person shall carry on the Trade or Business of a Corn Factor, without making the said Declaration, agreeably to the Directions of this Act, every such Person shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds. Penalty, 50*l.*

XII. And be it further enacted, That every such Corn Factor shall, and he is hereby required to return or cause to be returned on the *Wednesday* in each and every Week, to the said Inspector of Corn Returns, an Account in Writing, signed with his own Name or the Name of his known Agent, of the Quantities of each respective Sort of *British* Corn so by him sold and delivered during the Week, with the Prices thereof, the Amount of every Parcel, with the total Quantity and Value of each Sort of Corn, and by what Measure or Weight the same was sold, with the Names of the Buyers thereof; and of the Persons for whom such Corn shall have been sold by him respectively, in Default whereof every such Corn Factor shall for every such Neglect forfeit and pay the Sum of Ten Pounds. Corn Factors in London to make Returns. Penalty, 10*l.*

XIII. And be it further enacted, That the said Inspector of Corn Returns shall duly and regularly enter in a Book or Books, to be provided and kept for that Purpose, the several Accounts of the Quantities and Prices of such Corn received by him from the respective Corn Factors, and shall transmit a Copy thereof weekly to the said Receiver of Corn Returns. Inspector to enter Corn Factors Returns in a Book.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That the Justices of the Peace for the several and respective Counties, Ridings, or Divisions thereof, in which the several Cities and Towns, from which Returns of the Prices of Corn shall be required by virtue of this Act, are situated, (the City of *London* excepted), shall and they are hereby authorized and required at the next Quarter Sessions held nearest to each said Market Town after the passing of this Act, to appoint such Person as to them shall appear best qualified for that Purpose, within their respective Jurisdictions, (not being a Miller, Maltster, Factor, Merchant, Clerk, Agent, or other Person buying Corn for Sale, or for the Sale of Meal, Flour, Malt, or Bread made thereof), residing within or near each and every of the said Cities or Towns, except such Cities or Towns as are Counties of themselves, or as have or enjoy an exempt Jurisdiction, and which do not contribute to the Rate of the County, Riding, or Division in which they are situated, to collect weekly an Account of the Prices and Quantities of the several Sorts of *British* Corn sold and delivered in such City or Town; and the Person so to be appointed shall be called Inspector of Corn Returns for such City or Town; and the said Justices shall, and they are hereby authorized and required, in the same manner from Time to Time, upon the Death, Removal, or Resignation of any such Inspector, at their next ensuing Sessions of the Peace, or at some subsequent Sessions, to appoint some other fit and proper Person as aforesaid, to be Inspector of Corn Returns for such City or Town. Appointment of Country Inspectors.

XV. And

Appointment of Country Inspectors for Counties of themselves.

XV. And be it further enacted, That the Mayor or other Chief Officer, and the Justices of the Peace of every such City or Town as is a County of itself, or has or enjoys an exempt Jurisdiction, and which doth not contribute to the Rate of the County, Riding, or Division in which it is situated, (the City of *London* excepted), shall, and they are hereby authorized and required, at the General Quarter Sessions of such City or Town respectively, or at any Adjournment thereof, in like Manner to appoint such Person as to them shall appear best qualified for that Purpose, (not being a Miller, Maltster, Factor, Merchant, Clerk, Agent, or other Person buying Corn for Sale, or for the Sale of Meal, Flour, Malt, or Bread made thereof), residing within or near such City or Town, to collect weekly an Account of the Prices and Quantities of the several Sorts of *British* Corn sold and delivered in such City or Town; and the Person so to be appointed shall be called Inspector of Corn Returns for such City or Town; and the said Mayor or other Chief Officer and Justices shall, and they are hereby authorized and required, in the same Manner from Time to Time, upon the Death, Removal, or Resignation of any such Inspector, to appoint some other fit and proper Person as aforesaid to be Inspector of Corn Returns for such City or Town.

Power to remove Country Inspectors.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That the said Justices of the Peace, and the said Mayor or other Chief Magistrate and Justices of the Peace of every such City or Town before mentioned as is a County of itself, or has or enjoys an exempt Jurisdiction as aforesaid, shall, at their respective Quarter Sessions, or at any Adjournment thereof, have Power to remove any Inspector, appointed as aforesaid, for Misbehaviour or Neglect of Duty, on Complaint being made before them, on Oath, of such Misbehaviour or Neglect of Duty, by any One credible Witness, which Oath such Justices and Mayor or other Chief Officer, are and is hereby authorized to administer, or on like Complaint made in Writing, and signed by the said Receiver of Corn Returns to be appointed by virtue of this Act: Provided always, that in case the Death or Resignation of any such Inspector shall happen at any Time previous to the holding such Quarter Sessions, it shall be lawful for Two Justices of the Peace acting for such County, Riding, or Division, or for the Mayor or other Chief Officer of such City or Town as is a County of itself, or has or enjoys an exempt Jurisdiction as aforesaid, to appoint some other fit and proper Person as aforesaid in the Place of such Inspector so dying or resigning; which Person shall execute the Office of Inspector of Corn Returns until the next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace.

Oath of Country Inspectors.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That every Person so appointed Inspector of Corn Returns as aforesaid, shall, previous to his taking upon him the said Office, take and subscribe, before any one Justice of the Peace for the County, Riding, Division, City, or Town where he shall reside, the following Oath, (or being of the People called *Quakers*, affirm,) which Oath or Affirmation such Justice is hereby authorized and required to administer; *videlicet*,

"I *A. B.* do swear, [*or*, affirm], That I will at all Times make due and true Returns to the Receiver of Corn Returns, appointed by

'virtue of an Act passed in the Second Year of the Reign of King 'George the Fourth, intituled [*here set forth the Title of this Act,*] 'of the weekly Quantities and Prices of *British* Corn in the [City 'or Town] of , according to the Accounts delivered 'to me by the several Dealers in Corn in the said City or Town; 'and that I will use my best Endeavours to procure true Accounts 'of such Quantities and Prices from such Dealers; and in all 'Things, to the best of my Skill and Judgment, conform myself, as 'Inspector of Corn Returns, to the Directions of the said Act.'

Country Dealers in Corn to make Returns.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That as soon as Inspectors of Corn Returns shall have been appointed in manner herein-before mentioned, all Millers, Maltsters, Factors, Merchants, Clerks, Agents, and other Persons, being Dealers in Corn for Sale, or for the Sale of Meal, Flour, Malt, or Bread made thereof, shall and they are hereby required to return, or cause to be returned, to the said Inspector of Corn Returns for the City or Town whereat they shall respectively buy any Corn, an Account in Writing, signed with their own Name, of the Amount of each and every Parcel of each respective Sort of *British* Corn, and the Price thereof, and by what Weight or Measure the same was so bought by them during the Week, on the First Market Day in the Week then next ensuing, and the Names of the Sellers of each of the said Parcels respectively; and in case of any such Parcels of Corn being bought or sold by any Miller, Maltster, Factor, Merchant, Clerk, Agent, or Person being a Dealer for or on account of any other Person, then the Names of such other Persons, and also of the Buyers thereof; in default whereof, every such Miller, Maltster, Factor, Merchant, Clerk, Agent, or other Person, being a Dealer in Corn as aforesaid, shall for every such Neglect forfeit and pay a Sum not exceeding Ten Pounds nor less than Forty Shillings.

Country Dealer's Declaration.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That every Miller, Maltster, Factor, Merchant, Clerk, Agent, or other Person, being a Dealer in Corn for Sale, or for the Sale of Meal, Flour, Malt, or Bread made thereof, shall, within One Calendar Month from the Time he shall begin to deal in Corn in any City or Town before mentioned, make Declaration in the Form following:

'I *A. B.* do hereby declare, That the Returns of the Quantities and 'Prices of *British* Corn, which henceforward shall be bought by 'me, together with the Names of the Persons from whom I shall 'make such Purchases, shall, to the best of my Knowledge and 'Belief, be true and just, and to the best of my Judgment con- 'formable to the Directions of an Act passed in the Second Year of 'the Reign of His Majesty King *George* the Fourth, intituled [*here 'set forth the Title of this Act*].'

Which Declaration shall be in Writing, and shall be subscribed with the Hand of such Miller, Maltster, Factor, Merchant, Clerk, Agent, or other Person, being a Dealer in Corn for Sale, or for the Sale of Meal, Flour, Malt, or Bread made thereof, and shall be by them, or their Agents respectively, forthwith delivered to the Chief Magistrate

of each such City or Town, or to the nearest Justice of the Peace for the respective County, Riding, Division, City, or Town, who are hereby required to certify the same to, and such Certificate is hereby required to be filed by, the Clerk of the Peace for the County, Riding, or Division, or by the Town Clerk of such City or Town respectively, who are also hereby required to notify the same to the Receiver of Corn Returns in *London*; and in case any Person shall buy Corn of any Sort for Sale as aforesaid, without having made the said Declaration, or shall wilfully make a false Return of the Quantities and Prices, such Person shall, for every such Neglect and for every such false Return, forfeit and pay a Sum not exceeding Ten Pounds nor less than Forty Shillings.

Penalty.

Inspectors to enter Returns in a Book.

XX. And be it further enacted, That every such Inspector shall duly and regularly enter in a Book to be provided and kept for that Purpose, the several Accounts of the Quantities and Prices of Corn returned to him by the respective Dealers as aforesaid; and every such Inspector shall return to the Receiver of Corn Returns, appointed by virtue of this Act, on the *Tuesday* in each Week, an Account of the Weekly Quantities and Prices of the several Sorts of *British* Corn sold in the City or Town for which he is appointed Inspector, according to the Returns so made to him as aforesaid, in such Form and according to such Directions as he shall from Time to Time receive from the Receiver of Corn Returns, on pain of forfeiting for every such Neglect the Sum of Ten Pounds; which Account shall be lodged with and remain in the Custody of the said Receiver of Corn Returns, for the Purposes of this Act.

Putting up Returns in Market Place.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That each and every Inspector of Corn Returns shall, and he is hereby required, on each and every Market Day to put up, or cause to be put up in the Market Place of the City or Town for which he shall be appointed Inspector (or if there shall be no Market Place in such City or Town, in some other conspicuous Place therein), a Copy of the last Return made by him to the Receiver of Corn Returns in *London*, omitting the Names of the Parties who may have sold the said Corn or Grain; and that each and every such Inspector shall also again put up such Account on the Market Day immediately following that on which it shall first have been put up, in case the same shall from Accident or other Cause have been removed, and shall take due Care that the same shall remain up for public Inspection, until a new Account for the ensuing Week shall have been prepared and put up.

Inspection of Books.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That the said Inspectors, as well in *London* as in all other Cities and Towns in which, by virtue of this Act, Inspectors may be appointed, shall and may, upon Application made to them to that Effect, allow the Entries made in such Book to be inspected, subject to such Regulations and Directions as the said Inspectors may from Time to Time receive from the Receiver of Corn Returns, under the Authority of the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council appointed for the Consideration of all Matters relating to Trade and Foreign Plantations; provided, however, that the Person so applying shall be permitted only to examine the Entry

of any Return of *British* Corn bought or sold, which he shall himself have either bought or sold.

Inspectors and others acting under former Acts to continue to discharge their Duties till other Appointments are made.

XXIII. And whereas a certain Time must necessarily be required after the passing of this Act for the Purpose of selecting and appointing the Inspectors or other Officers to be appointed by virtue of this Act; be it therefore enacted, That all Inspectors or other Persons who at the passing of this Act shall hold Appointments and discharge any Duties required of them by the Laws in force previous to the passing of this Act, shall and they are hereby authorized and required to proceed forthwith to discharge the Duties required of them by this Act, in the same Manner as if they had been appointed under the Provisions of this Act, and shall receive the Remuneration granted by this Act to the Inspectors of Corn Returns, until new Appointments shall have been made in the Manner required by this Act.

Receiver to enter Returns in a Book.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That the said Receiver of Corn Returns shall and he is hereby required, at the End of every Week, to make up from the Returns received by him in the Week immediately preceding, in pursuance of the Directions of this Act, an Account of the total Quantities and Prices of each respective Sort of *British* Corn, of the Sales of which Returns shall have been made to him by the said Inspectors of Corn Returns; and the said Receiver is hereby required to enter the same in a Book, and to publish the said Accounts every Week in the *London Gazette*, in such Form and Manner as shall be directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council, appointed for the Consideration of all Matters relating to Trade and Foreign Plantations.

Mode of computing aggregate Averages to govern Importation. 55 G. 3. c. 26.

XXV. And whereas by an Act passed in the Fifty-fifth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act to amend the Laws now in force for regulating the Importation of Corn*, certain Provisions were made for regulating the Price at which Foreign Corn, Meal, and Flour should thereafter be permitted to be imported into the United Kingdom, or be taken out of the Warehouse for Home Consumption; be it enacted, That the Average Prices of all *British* Corn, by which the Importation of Foreign Corn, Meal, or Flour for Home Consumption shall in future be regulated, shall be made up and computed at Four Quarterly Periods in each and every Year, in Manner following (that is to say), the said Receiver of Corn Returns shall within Seven Days after the Fifteenth Day of *February*, the Fifteenth Day of *May*, the Fifteenth Day of *August*, and the Fifteenth Day of *November* in each Year, add together the total Quantities of each Sort of *British* Corn, and also the total Prices for which the same were sold, as shall appear from the Returns received by the said Receiver of Corn Returns in the Six last Weeks immediately preceding the said Fifteenth Day of *February*, Fifteenth Day of *May*, Fifteenth Day of *August*, and Fifteenth Day of *November* in each Year, and shall divide the said total Prices by the said total Quantities of each respective Sort of Corn, and the Sum produced thereby shall be deemed and taken to be the aggregate Average Price of each such Sort of Corn, in and for the Six Weeks immediately

ately preceding the before mentioned Periods respectively, by which the Importation of Foreign Corn, Meal, and Flour for Home Consumption, or the taking out the same from the Warehouse for Home Consumption, shall be governed and regulated in the United Kingdom.

Publishing aggregate Average Prices in the Gazette, &c.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That the said Receiver of Corn Returns shall enter the said Accounts of the aggregate Average Prices of each Sort of *British* Corn in a Book, as soon as he shall have made up and computed the same in the Manner herein-before directed, and shall at the same Time cause the same to be published in the *London Gazette*, and shall transmit a Certificate thereof to the Collector or other Chief Officer of the Customs, at each of the several Ports in *Great Britain*, and to the Commissioners of Customs in *Ireland*, who are hereby required forthwith to transmit Copies thereof to the Collectors or other Chief Officers of the Customs in the several Ports in *Ireland*; and the Importation of each Sort of Foreign Corn, Meal, and Flour for Home Consumption, in the United Kingdom, and the taking the same out of Warehouse for the Purpose of being so consumed, shall be governed and regulated by the said aggregate Average Prices, until new Average Prices shall, under the Provisions of the said above recited Act of the Fifty-fifth Year of His said late Majesty, or under the Provisions of this Act, be made up and computed, and a Certificate thereof be received by such Collectors or other Chief Officers.

Ports of Isle of Man, &c. to be shut and opened at same Time with English Ports.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That whenever the Ports of the United Kingdom shall be shut against the Importation of Foreign Corn, Meal, or Flour for Home Consumption, the Ports in the *Isle of Man*, and in the Islands of *Guernsey*, *Jersey*, *Alderney*, and *Sark*, shall in like Manner be shut against the Importation of such Foreign Corn, Meal, or Flour for Home Consumption; and that whenever any such Foreign Corn, Meal, or Flour shall be permitted to be imported into the Ports of the United Kingdom for Home Consumption, Foreign Corn, Meal, or Flour, may in like Manner be imported into the Ports of the *Isle of Man*, and of the Islands of *Guernsey*, *Jersey*, *Alderney*, and *Sark*, for Home Consumption.

Receiver of Corn Returns in London shall Four Times a Year transmit a Certificate of the Average Prices to the Collectors of Customs, by which Importation shall be regulated.

XXVIII. And in order that due Notice may be given of the opening or shutting of the Ports of the United Kingdom, for the Purposes above stated; be it further enacted, That the Receiver of Corn Returns in *London* shall, and he is hereby required within Seven Days after the Fifteenth Day of *November*, the Fifteenth Day of *February*, the Fifteenth Day of *May*, and the Fifteenth Day of *August* in each and every Year, transmit to the Collectors or Chief Officers of the Customs in the Ports of the said Islands respectively, a Certificate of the Average Prices of *British* Corn, made up and computed in the Manner herein-before required; and such Collector or other Chief Officer shall cause the same to be put up in some conspicuous Place in the Custom House; and the Importation of Foreign Corn, Meal, and Flour into the Ports of the said Islands shall be governed and regulated by such Average Prices, until new Average Prices shall in like Manner be made up and

transmitted to such Collectors or other Chief Officers, and be by them received.

No Account of Sales to be received, unless on Proof that the Dealer has previously made the Declaration.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, the Inspectors appointed for the several Cities and Towns named or to be named by virtue of this Act, shall not admit into the Returns to be by them made to the Receiver of Corn Returns in *London*, of the Quantities and Value of Corn sold in the said Cities and Towns respectively, any Account of Sales or Purchases of Corn which shall be tendered to them by the Dealers or other Persons required by Law to deliver in such Accounts, unless such Inspectors shall respectively have received satisfactory Proof that the Person or Persons tendering such Account shall have made the Declaration required by Law, at least One Calendar Month previous to the Sale or Purchase referred to in such Accounts.

Power to alter, add to, or omit Towns which are to make Returns.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That if any Justices of the Peace in any of the Counties, Ridings, or Divisions, in which any of the Cities or Towns mentioned in this Act are situated, shall think it necessary or expedient that any Alterations should be made in the List of Cities and Towns herein-before specified, from which Returns of the Prices of *British* Corn are to be made, or that any such City or Town should be struck out of the said Lists, or that any other City or Town should be inserted in lieu thereof, or in addition thereto, and shall direct a Representation to be made to His Majesty for the above Purpose, it shall be lawful for His Majesty in Council to direct such Alteration, Addition, or Omission to be made accordingly: Provided nevertheless, that no such City or Town shall be added to the said List, unless the same be situated in some County, Riding, or Division, in which one or more of the Cities or Towns mentioned in this Act are situated.

In case any Town shall be added to the List in this Act, Justices, &c. to appoint an Inspector.

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That in case any City or Town shall be added to the List contained in this Act, from which Returns of Corn are to be made, the Justices of the Peace for the County, Riding, or Division in which such City or Town shall be situated, or the Mayor or other Chief Officer thereof, if such City or Town shall have or enjoy an exempt Jurisdiction, shall and they are hereby authorized and required forthwith to appoint an Inspector of Corn Returns for such City or Town, in like Manner as is required by this Act, with respect to the Appointment of Inspectors of the other Cities and Towns named in this Act.

Returns from Two Thirds of the Towns to be sufficient.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That if the Returns conformable to the Directions of this Act shall be made to the Receiver of Corn Returns from not less than Two Thirds of the Cities and Towns from which such Returns are required to be made, such Number of Returns made conformable to the Directions of this Act shall be deemed to be sufficient for forming the aggregate Average Prices by such Receiver of Corn Returns, for the Purpose of governing and regulating the Importation of Foreign Corn, Meal, and Flour, or the taking of the same out of Warehouse for Home Consumption in the United Kingdom.

British Corn brought into the River Thames to be charged 1*d.* per Last; Foreign Corn, 2*d.* per Last.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That all *British* Corn that shall be brought into the River *Thames*, Eastward of *London* Bridge, and shall be sold and delivered, shall be charged with the Sum of One Penny *per* Last or Ten Quarters; and that all Foreign Corn, when delivered out of any Ship or Vessel in the Port of *London*, shall be charged with a Sum of Two-pence *per* Last or Ten Quarters; and that it shall be lawful for the Inspector of Corn Returns for the City of *London* to demand, collect, and receive the same, from every Corn Factor or Importer of Corn respectively, on whose Account such *British* or Foreign Corn shall be sold and delivered, or shall be delivered out of the Ship or Vessel in which the same shall have been imported, as the Case may be; and that the Corn Factor or Importer shall deliver a full and true Account of the Quantity of the said Corn, to the Corn Inspector, within One Week after the Sale and Delivery thereof, or the Delivery thereof from the Ship or Vessel, with the Name of the Master or Commander of such Ship or Vessel.

Corn Factor to give an Account of the Quantity of Corn sold.

An Account of the Monies received by Inspector or his Deputy to be delivered to the Lord Mayor, &c. twice a Year.

Inspector, &c. may retain any Sum not exceeding 200*l.* nor less than 100*l.* per Annum.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That an Account of the Monies so received by the said Inspector of Corn Returns, or the Deputy then executing the said Office during any such Disability, by Sickness as aforesaid, twice in every Year; (that is to say), at the Quarter Sessions holden for the City of *London* next after *Christmas* and *Midsummer*, shall be stated and delivered by him to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen then and there assembled; and it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Lord Mayor and Aldermen, and they are hereby authorised and required, under their Hands and Seals, to empower the said Inspector of Corn Returns, out of the said Sum and Sums so received, to retain and apply to his own Use and Benefit any Sum not exceeding the Rate of Two hundred Pounds *per Annum*, nor less than One hundred Pounds *per Annum*, from which said Sum shall always be first deducted such Sum as shall by the said Lord Mayor and Aldermen be directed and ordered, (which Order and Direction they are hereby empowered to make), to be paid to or retained by any Deputy or Deputies then executing, or who hath or have executed, the said Office during any such Disability by Sickness as aforesaid; and such Part of the Residue or Overplus of the Monies so collected and received, shall be paid over without Delay to such of the Proprietors of the said Estate of the Corn Exchange, as manage and regulate the same as aforesaid, to the Use and Benefit of the said Estate, as shall be sufficient to repay thereunto all such Monies as may have been therefrom issued or expended, in providing, completing, and keeping in repair such Apartment or Office; and the Remainder thereof (if any) shall be paid to the Receiver General of His Majesty's Customs; and after such Payment made, the said Inspector of Corn Returns, or any Deputy executing such Office as aforesaid, their Heirs, Executors, Administrators, and Successors, shall be for ever discharged and exonerated.

Application of the Residue.

Lord Mayor, &c. in Sessions may inquire of Inspector, &c. whether any Persons have

XXXV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Lord Mayor and Aldermen, at any Sessions holden in the Months of *April*, *July*, *October*, and *January* yearly, for the said City, to inquire into and examine the said Inspector of Corn Returns, or the Deputy then executing the said Office as aforesaid, and he is hereby

required to declare and make known, whether any of the said Corn Factors or Importers as aforesaid have neglected or refused to pay and discharge (the same having been demanded) any Sum or Sums of Money from him due and owing, on account of the said Penny charged on *British* Corn, or Two-pence on Foreign Corn *per* Last, by him so sold and delivered, or so imported, as the Case may be; and in case the same shall, upon due Proof and Hearing, appear to the Satisfaction of the Court, then it shall be lawful for the Lord Mayor, or any Two Aldermen, by Warrant of Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Party so neglecting or refusing, to cause to be levied such Sum of Money as shall be thereupon due and owing; and after rendering the Overplus (if any) to the Party whose Goods shall be so distrained and sold, (the Charges of such Distress and Sale being first deducted), the Money so levied shall be paid over to the said Inspector of Corn Returns, or his Deputy then executing the said Office, to be accounted for as herein directed and required.

neglected to pay the Dues on Corn; and may issue Warrant to levy the same.

XXXVI. And be it further enacted, That the Inspectors appointed in pursuance of this Act, for the several Cities and Towns therein mentioned, (the City of *London* excepted), shall be paid Quarterly, by the Collector or other Chief Officer of His Majesty's Customs or Excise in each of the said Towns respectively, such a Sum for each Return made by such Inspectors as shall appear to the said Magistrates or Mayors, or other Chief Officers, to be a fit and reasonable Allowance to such Inspector for the Discharge of his Duties, under the Provisions of this Act: Provided that the total Amount of such Allowance shall in no case exceed the yearly Sum of Thirty Pounds, to each Inspector; and provided further, that the Receiver of Corn Returns shall have certified to the said Collector or other Chief Officer of His Majesty's Customs or Excise, previous to the Payment of such Allowance, that the Returns for which such Allowance is claimed by the Inspectors, have been properly made, which Certificate the said Receiver is hereby required to make and transmit Quarterly; and provided also, that before any such Payment shall be made to any such Inspector, he shall have produced his Book, containing the Entries of the several Returns received by him from the Dealers in Corn, to a General or Petty Sessions, in order that the same may be examined, and if approved, be signed by the Magistrates thereat, a Certificate of which Approbation shall also be signed by the said Magistrates, and be delivered in Duplicate to the said Inspector, one Copy thereof to be produced by him to the said Collector, or other Chief Officer of His Majesty's Customs or Excise, and the other Copy to be transmitted to the Receiver of Corn Returns in *London*.

Payment of Country Inspectors.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That the Bushel by which all Corn shall be measured and computed, in pursuance of the Directions of this Act, shall be the *Winchester* Bushel, and that a Quarter shall be deemed to consist of Eight such Bushels; and that the said Justices of the Peace for each County, Riding, and Division, and the Mayor or other Chief Officer of the Cities or Towns which are Counties of themselves, or have or enjoy exempt or peculiar Jurisdiction, shall cause a Standard *Winchester* Bushel to be provided and kept in each City and Town, from which any Returns of the Prices of

All Corn to be measured by the Winchester Bushel.

of Corn are by this Act directed to be made; and that all Computations by Measure, to be made for the Purposes of this Act, be made by the stricken and not by the heaped Bushel; and that in all Cases where Corn shall be sold by Weight, Fifty-seven Pounds Avoirdupoise of Wheat shall be deemed equal to every such *Winchester* Bushel of Wheat, and that Fifty-five Avoirdupoise Pounds of Rye shall be deemed equal to every such Bushel of Rye, and that Forty-nine Avoirdupoise Pounds of Barley shall be deemed equal to every such Bushel of Barley, and that Forty-two Avoirdupoise Pounds of Beer or Bigg shall be deemed equal to every such Bushel of Beer or Bigg, and that Thirty-eight Avoirdupoise Pounds of Oats shall be deemed equal to every such Bushel of Oats.

Penalty on making fraudulent Returns.

XXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That if any such Factor or Dealer as aforesaid shall make a false Return to any of the said Inspectors, or shall in any way endeavour to make the Amount of Corn or Grain sold or bought by him, appear to be either more or less than the true *bonâ fide* Amount of the said Corn or Grain, according to the *Winchester* Bushel as aforesaid, every such Factor or Dealer shall for every such false Return forfeit and pay a Sum not exceeding Twenty Pounds nor less than Forty Shillings; and whenever any of the said Inspectors shall have reason to believe that any such Factor or Dealer has made a false Return, or has endeavoured to make the Amount of the Corn or Grain sold or bought by him appear to be either more or less than the true *bonâ fide* Amount of the said Corn or Grain, according to the *Winchester* Bushel as aforesaid, such Inspector shall notify the same to the Receiver of Corn Returns at the Time that he makes his Return; and the said Receiver of Corn Returns is hereby authorized and required to strike out of the said Return the Amount and Price of any such Corn or Grain as aforesaid, and shall not admit the same into any Account or Average which he may make up under the Provisions of this Act, or of any other Act.

Inspectors to transmit Comparison of Measures.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That every Inspector of Corn Returns shall and he is hereby authorized and required to make a Comparison between the *Winchester* Measure and the Measure or Measures commonly used in the City or Town for which he is appointed Inspector; and within One Month after his Appointment, to cause a Statement in Writing of such Comparison to be hung up in some conspicuous Place in the Market and Town Hall of such City or Town, and from Time to Time renew the same if it shall become defaced or illegible, and shall return a Copy of the same to the Receiver of Corn Returns.

Present Manner of measuring Corn, &c. in London to continue.

XL. And be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend to alter the present Practice of measuring Corn, or any of the Articles aforesaid, to be shipped from or to be landed in the Port of *London*, but that the same shall be measured by the Sworn Meters appointed for that Purpose, by whose Certificate the Searchers or other proper Officers of His Majesty's Customs are hereby empowered and required to certify the Quantity of Corn or other

Articles as aforesaid so shipped or landed; and that nothing in this Act contained shall extend to lessen or take away the Tolls or Duties due and payable to the Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens of the City of *London*, or to the Mayor of the said City for the Time being.

XLI. And whereas by an Act passed in the Fifty-fifth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty, intituled *An Act to amend the Laws now in force for regulating the Importation of Corn*, it is enacted, that Corn, Meal, or Flour, the Growth, Produce, or Manufacture of any Foreign Country, which may by Law be imported into the United Kingdom, shall and may at all Times be allowed to be brought to the said United Kingdom, and be warehoused there under the Regulations and Provisions of the Laws in force relating to Corn, without Payment of any Duty whatever, and not taken out but under the Regulations and Provisions required by Law: And whereas considerable Quantities of Corn, Meal, and Flour have been imported and warehoused under the Regulations of the before-recited Act, and Frauds may be committed in procuring Corn, Meal, or Flour to be taken out of Warehouses contrary to the before-recited Act; be it therefore enacted, That no Corn, Meal, or Flour shall be permitted to be taken out of the Warehouse or Warehouses in which the same shall have been warehoused, until the Proprietor or Proprietors, Occupier or Occupiers of such Warehouse or Warehouses shall enter into Bond, with Two sufficient Sureties to His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in the Sum of Two thousand Pounds, with Condition that no such Corn, Meal, or Flour shall be taken out of such Warehouse or Warehouses, otherwise than under the Regulations and Provisions now by Law in force. 55 G. 3. c. 26.

No Corn, &c. shall be taken out of Warehouse until Bond is entered into that certain Conditions shall be complied with.

XLII. And be it further enacted, That the Proprietor or Proprietors, Occupier or Occupiers, of any Warehouse or Warehouses, in which any Corn, Meal, or Flour, which shall hereafter be warehoused under the Regulations of the before recited Act, shall enter into Bond, with Two sufficient Sureties to His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in the Sum of Two thousand Pounds, with Condition that no such Corn, Meal, or Flour, shall be taken out of such Warehouse, otherwise than under the Regulations and Provisions now by Law in force: Provided always, that Bond as herein-before required shall not have been already entered into by the Proprietor or Proprietors, Occupier or Occupiers of such Warehouse or Warehouses.

Proprietor or Occupier of Warehouse to enter into such Bond.

XLIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the proper Officer or Officers of the Customs, to take a Sample, not exceeding Half a Peck, from the Bulk of each Importation of Corn which have been already warehoused, and also from the Bulk of each Importation which hereafter shall be made and warehoused, and to keep the same until such Corn shall be taken out of the Warehouse, either for Exportation or Home Consumption, and to compare such Sample with the Corn so to be taken out, and if the same shall be found to agree therewith in Quality, the same to be returned; but if it shall appear not to agree therewith, in consequence of any Exchange of the Corn imported and warehoused having taken

Officer of Customs to take Samples of Corn that is warehoused.

place, then and in such Case, the Corn so intended to be taken out shall be forfeited, and shall and may be seized by any Officer or Officers of the Customs.

Penalty for obstructing Officers in taking Samples, 200*l.*

XLIV. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall obstruct or hinder any such Officer or Officers of the Customs in taking any such Sample or Samples, the Person or Persons offending therein shall for each and every such Offence severally forfeit the Sum of Two hundred Pounds.

Corn when taken out of Warehouses to be re-measured, &c.

XLV. And be it further enacted, That before any such Corn, Meal, or Flour shall be taken out of the Warehouse in which the same shall have been deposited, either for Home Consumption or Exportation, the said Corn shall be re-measured, and the said Meal or Flour re-weighed, in like Manner as when the same were imported at the Charge and Expence of the Proprietor or Proprietors, Occupier or Occupiers of such Warehouse or Warehouses, under the Inspection of and Certificate thereof delivered to the proper Officer of the Customs, in order to ascertain whether any of the Quantity originally imported and warehoused had or had not been removed or taken out of such Warehouse.

All Acts for securing Revenue to continue in force.

XLVI. And be it further enacted, That every Act of Parliament in force on and immediately before the passing of this Act, by which any Conditions, Rules, Regulations, or Restrictions were made, established, or directed for the better securing the Revenue of Customs, or for the regular Importation into or Exportation from *Great Britain*, or the bringing or carrying Coastwise, or from Port to Port, within the said Kingdom, or the entering, landing, or shipping of any Goods, Wares, or Merchandizes whatever, except where any Alteration is expressly made by this Act, shall and they are hereby declared to be and remain in full force and effect, and shall be applied to the Subject of this Act, and for carrying the same into Execution, as fully and effectually as if they had been repeated and re-enacted in this present Act.

No Fee on taking Oath.

XLVII. And be it further enacted, That no Fee shall be taken by the Clerk of any Justice of Peace, or other Person before whom any Oath, Affirmation, or Declaration shall be taken or made, by the Directions of this Act, on account of such Oath, Affirmation, or Declaration.

How Penalties to be recovered.

XLVIII. And be it further enacted, That all Forfeitures created and Penalties inflicted by this Act, shall and may be sued for, prosecuted, and recovered, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, in such Manner, and by such Ways, Means, and Methods, as Penalties inflicted, or Forfeitures created, for any Offences against the Laws of Customs, may now legally be sued for, prosecuted, and recovered, and the Produce disposed of in the like Manner, and applied to the like Uses and Purposes, unless otherwise specially provided for by this Act: Provided always, that any Penalty or Forfeiture inflicted by this Act on any Corn Factor, or on any Dealer in Corn, Malt, Meal, or Flour, for Sale as aforesaid, or on any Inspector

tor of Corn Returns, may be sued for and recovered before any Two Justices of the Peace of the County, Riding, Division, City, or Town where such Corn Factor, or Dealer in Corn, Malt, Meal, or Flour for Sale, or Inspector of Corn Returns shall reside; and such Two Justices shall and they are hereby authorized and required, if upon due Proof and Examination of the Matter it shall appear to them that such Corn Factor, or Dealer in Corn, Malt, Meal, or Flour for Sale, or Inspector of Corn Returns, is guilty of the Offence against this Act, then alleged against him, to convict him thereof, and by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to levy such Penalty by Distress and Sale of his Goods and Chattels; and such Penalty shall be applied in manner herein-before mentioned.

Determination of Justices final.

XLIX. Provided, and it is hereby declared and enacted, That no Bill, Plaint, or Information, shall be brought or sued for in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, for any Offence against this Statute, in Cases where such Offences are by this Act cognizable by Justices of the Peace, relating to the same Offences, or any Forfeitures or Penalties for the same, but that the Determination of the Justices of the Peace in the County where such Offence or Offences shall be committed, shall be final to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever; any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

General Issue.

L. And be it further enacted, That if any Action or Suit shall be brought or commenced against any Person or Persons for any thing by him, her, or them done by virtue or in pursuance of this Act, such Action or Suit shall be commenced within Three Months next after the Matter or Thing done, and shall be laid in the proper County; and the Defendant or Defendants in such Action or Suit shall and may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the special Matter in Evidence, at any Trial to be had thereupon; and if afterwards a Verdict shall pass for the Defendant or Defendants, or the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall discontinue his, her, or their Action or Actions, or be nonsuited, or Judgment shall be given against him, her, or them, upon Demurrer or otherwise, then such Defendant or Defendants shall have Treble Costs awarded to him, her, or them, against such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs.

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