ANNO SEXTO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

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C A P. XXXIII.

An Act to repeal certain Acts relating to the Governor and Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *Levant* Seas, and the Duties payable to them; and to authorize the Transfer and Disposal of the Possessions and Property of the said Governor and Company, for the Public Service. [10th *June* 1825.]

Letters Patent 14th Dec. 3 Jac. 1. incorporating the Levant Company recited.

WHEREAS His late Majesty King *James* the First, by his Letters Patent bearing Date the Fourteenth Day of *December*, in the Third Year of his Reign, did grant to several Persons therein named, and to their Sons and such others as should thereafter be admitted and made free, that they should be One Fellowship, and One Body Corporate and Politic, by the Name of "The Governor and Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *Levant* Seas;" and by the same Name should have perpetual Succession, with certain Rights and Privileges in the said Letters Patent specified: And whereas His late Majesty King *Charles* the Second, by his Letters Patent bearing Date the Second Day of *April*, in the Thirteenth Year of his Reign, did ratify and confirm the said Letters Patent of King *James* the First, and did grant further Authorities and Privileges to the said Governor and Company: And whereas by divers Acts certain Regulations have been made respecting the said Company, and the Dues and Duties payable to the said Company, that is to say, an Act made in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled *An Act for enlarging and regulating the Trade into the* Levant *Seas;* an Act made in the Twentieth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, among other things, for the allowing the Importation into and Exportation from *Ireland* of such Goods as may be imported into or exported from *Great Britain* by the Merchants of *England* trading to the *Levant* Seas; an Act made in

Confirmed by Patent 2 April, 13 Car. 2.

26 G. 2. c. 18.

20 G. 3. c. 18.

in

43 G. 3. c. 153. in the Forty-third Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *George* the Third, to permit the Importation into *Great Britain* and *Ireland* of certain Goods, Wares, and Merchandize in Neutral Vessels; an Act made in the Fifty-fifth Year of the Reign of His 55 G. 3. c. 29. late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act to regulate the Trade between* Malta *and its Dependencies and His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in* America, *and also between* Malta *and the United Kingdom;* an Act made in the Fifty-seventh Year of the Reign of 57 G. 3. c. 4. His said late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act to extend the Privileges of the Trade of* Malta *to the Port of* Gibraltar; and an Act made in the Fifty-ninth Year of the Reign of His said 59 G. 3. c. 110. late Majesty King *George* Third, intituled *An Act to remove Doubts respecting the Dues payable to the* Levant *Company:* And whereas it would be beneficial to the Trade of the United Kingdom, and especially to the Trade carried on in the *Levant* Seas, that the exclusive Rights and Privileges of the said Governor and Company under the said Letters Patent and Acts of Parliament should cease and determine: And whereas the said Governor and Company are willing and desirous to surrender up the said Letters Patent into His Majesty's Hands: 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 whenever and so soon as any Deed or Instrument by which the said Governor and Company shall so surrender up to His Majesty the said Letters Patent, and all Rights, Powers, and Privileges thereby granted or confirmed to the said Governor and Company, shall be made and executed under the Common Seal of the said Governor and Company, and shall be enrolled in His Majesty's High Court of Chancery, the said several Letters Patent and Grants herein-before recited, and every Matter, Clause, and Thing therein contained, shall be and become, and the same are hereby declared to be and become null and void; and that from and immediately after the Inrolment of such Deed or Instrument, the said Governor and Company shall cease to be a Body Politic and Corporate, and the said Corporation shall be dissolved to all Intents, Constructions, and Purposes whatsoever; and all Rights, Powers, and Privileges by the said Letters Patent, or by the said several herein-before recited Acts, or by any other Authority or Means granted to or possessed by the said Governor and Company, shall from thenceforth cease and determine; any thing in the said several Letters Patent and Acts, or any of them, to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding; and the said Governor and Company shall be and they are hereby divested of and from all Land, Houses, and Buildings, by whatever Tenure holden, at any Time heretofore purchased, acquired, or holden by the said Governor and Company, and which are holden, possessed, or claimed by the said Governor and Company, within the United Kingdom, or at *Smyrna* or elsewhere, and all such Land, Houses, Buildings, and all Right, Title, Estate, or Interest therein or thereto, holden, purchased, acquired, possessed, enjoyed, or claimed by the said Governor and Company, shall thenceforth be and the same and every of them are and is hereby declared and enacted to be fully and absolutely vested in His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for ever.

As soon as the Company shall by Deed under their Common Seal, enrolled in Chancery, surrender the Letters Patent and the Rights thereby granted, the same shall become void, and the Corporation shall cease;

and their Houses, &c. shall be vested in the King.

II. And

II. And whereas certain Grants of Money have been from Time to Time made to the said Governor and Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *Levant* Seas, by sundry Acts, for the Purpose of better enabling them to carry into Effect the Objects for which they were incorporated: And whereas it is just and expedient that all such Property as shall belong to or be at the Disposal of the said Governor and Company under or by virtue of the said Letters Patent and Acts, or any of them respectively, at the Time of such their Dissolution, should, after the Payment of all Debts and Demands to which the said Governor and Company may be liable as such Corporation, be applied to the Public Service, in the Manner herein-after directed; be it therefore enacted, That from and immediately after the Inrolment of any such Deed or Instrument as aforesaid, whereby the said Corporation shall be dissolved in manner directed by this Act, all Monies in the Public Funds, and all other Monies, Goods, Chattels, Property, and other Personal Estate and Effects whatsoever, in the Possession or at the Disposal of the said Governor and Company as such Corporation as aforesaid, or to which the said Governor and Company as such Corporation are or shall be entitled, or which shall or may be due to the said Governor and Company as such Corporation, shall be and become vested, and are hereby vested in the Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* for the Time being; and that it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners of the Treasury now and for the Time being, or any Three of the said Commissioners, to accept, receive, and recover, and to sell, transfer, and dispose of all such Funds, Monies, Goods, Chattels, Property, and other Personal Estate and Effects whatsoever, and to apply the Produce thereof, in the first place, in and for the Payment of all just Debts and Demands to which the said Governor and Company are or shall be liable at the Dissolution of such Corporation, on account of any Matter or Thing relating to such Corporation; and from and after Payment of all such Debts and Demands, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners of the Treasury for the Time being, or any Three or more of them, and they are hereby authorized and required to direct, that all the Remainder and Surplus of the Produce of such Public Funds, Monies, Goods, Chattels, Property, and other Personal Estate as aforesaid shall be paid into the Receipt of His Majesty's Exchequer at *Westminster*, and shall be placed to the Account of and made Part of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*.

Funds and Effects of the Corporation vested in the Treasury, for Payment of the Company's Debts, and the Surplus to be carried to the Consolidated Fund.

III. And be it further enacted, That from and immediately after the Inrolment in His Majesty's High Court of Chancery of such Deed or Instrument as aforesaid, the said recited Act of the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *George* the Second, and also the said recited Act of the Fifty-ninth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, and all Powers for the levying of any Duties or Dues heretofore payable to the said Governor and Company, shall be and the same are hereby repealed; and all such Duties and Dues, and all Powers for levying the same, shall cease and determine, except only so far as relates to the Payment and Recovery of any Arrears of Duties and Dues which shall be payable to the said Company at the Time of the Inrolment of such Deed or Instrument; and

26 G. 2. c. 18. and 59 G. 3. c. 110. repealed, and the Duties payable to the Company shall cease, except as to Arrears remaining due.

All Clauses in the before recited Acts relating to the said Company repealed.

and also that from and after such Inrolment of such Deed or Instrument, all and every Clause, Matter, and Thing contained in the said several herein-before recited Acts made in the Twentieth, Forty-third, Fifty-fifth, and Fifty-seventh Years of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *George* the Third, in any way extending or relating to the said Governor and Company, shall be and the same are from thenceforth hereby repealed; any thing in the said recited Acts or any of them, or any other Law, Usage, or Custom to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Authority of Consuls as exercised under the Letters Patent, &c. shall be vested in Consuls to be appointed by the King.

IV. And be it further enacted, That from and immediately after the Inrolment of any such Deed or Instrument as aforesaid, all such Rights and Duties of Jurisdiction and Authority over His Majesty's Subjects resorting to the Ports of the *Levant* for the Purposes of Trade or otherwise, as were lawfully exercised and performed, or which the said recited Letters Patent or Acts, or any of them, authorized to be exercised and performed by any Consuls or other Officers appointed by the said Company, or which such Consuls or other Officers lawfully exercised and performed under and by virtue of any Power or Authority whatever, shall, from and after the Inrolment of such Deed or Instrument as aforesaid, be and become vested in, and shall be exercised and performed by such Consuls and other Officers respectively as His Majesty may be pleased to appoint, for the Protection of the Trade of His Majesty's Subjects in the Ports and Places respectively mentioned in the said Letters Patent and Acts, or any or either of them.

Treasury may grant Allowances and Pensions to Officers of the Company, &c. losing their Offices under this Act.

V. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, or any Three or more of them, and they are hereby empowered and authorized to grant reasonable Allowances and Pensions to such of the Officers and Servants in *England* of the said Company, and to such other Person or Persons as, by reason of the Dissolution of the said Company, may lose and be deprived of their Offices, Employments, and Pensions, and to charge the same upon the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom; and all such Allowances and Pensions to be so granted, shall be payable and paid Quarterly at the Receipt of the Exchequer at *Westminster*, out of the said Consolidated Fund, free and clear of and from all Taxes, Charges, and Deductions whatsoever; and the said Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury shall yearly and every Year before the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* in each Year, if Parliament be sitting, and in case Parliament shall not be sitting, then within Twenty Days after the Meeting of Parliament then next following such Twenty-fifth Day of *March*, cause an Account and Estimate to be laid before Parliament of the total Amount of such Allowances and Pensions payable to such Officers and Servants in *England* of the said Company, and to such other Persons as are herein-before mentioned, for One Year ending on the Fifth Day of *January* preceding every such Twenty-fifth Day of *March* respectively.

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