

ANNO SEPTIMO & OCTAVO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

****

CAP. XVIII.

An Act to prohibit the setting of Spring Guns, Man Traps, and other Engines calculated to destroy human Life, or inflict grievous bodily Harm. [28th *May* 1827.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to prohibit the setting of Spring Guns and Man Traps, and other Engines calculated to destroy human Life, or inflict grievous bodily Harm; be it therefore enacted and declared 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, if any Person shall set or place, or cause to be set or placed, any Spring Gun, Man Trap, or other Engine calculated to destroy human Life, or inflict grievous bodily Harm, with the Intent that the same or whereby the same may destroy or inflict grievous bodily Harm upon a Trespasser, or other Person coming in contact therewith, the Person so setting or placing, or causing to be so set or placed, such Gun, Trap, or Engine as aforesaid, shall be guilty of a Misdemeanor.

Persons setting or placing Spring Guns, Man Traps, &c. guilty of a Misdemeanor.

II. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained shall extend to make it illegal to set any Gin or Trap such as may have been or may be usually set with the Intent of destroying Vermin.

Proviso for Traps for destroying Vermin.

Persons permitting Guns, Traps, &c. set by others to continue, deemed to have set the same.

III. And be it further enacted and declared, That if any Person shall knowingly and wilfully permit any such Spring Gun, Man Trap, or other Engine as aforesaid, which may have been set, fixed, or left in any Place then being in or afterwards coming into his or her Possession or Occupation, by some other Person or Persons, to continue so set or fixed, the Person so permitting the same to continue shall be deemed to have set and fixed such Gun, Trap, or Engine, with such Intent as aforesaid.

Proviso for Guns, Traps, &c. set for the Protection of Dwelling Houses.

IV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act shall be deemed or construed to make it a Misdemeanor, within the Meaning of this Act, to set or cause to be set, or to be continued set, from Sunset to Sunrise, any Spring Gun, Man Trap, or other Engine which shall be set or caused or continued to be set in a Dwelling House for the Protection thereof.

Not to affect Proceedings already commenced.

V. Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted and declared, That nothing in this Act contained shall in any manner affect or authorize any Proceedings in any Civil or Criminal Court touching any Matter or Thing done or committed previous to the passing of this Act.

Not to extend to Scotland.

VI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to that Part of the United Kingdom called *Scotland*.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1827.