


ANNO NONO

# GEORGII IV. REGIS.

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## CAP. LXII.

## An Act for the Regulation of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures of *Ireland*.

[15th *July* 1828.]

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for the better Regulation of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures of* Ireland; and it is expedient that the said Act should be repealed, and that the Powers required by the said Act to be executed by or under the Authority of the Trustees for encouraging the said Manufactures should cease and determine, and that other Regulations should be made for encouraging and protecting the Linen Manufacture of *Ireland;* 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of the same, That from and after the Commencement of this Act the said recited Act shall be and the same is hereby repealed; except so far as the said Act repeals the Whole or any Part of any other Acts, and except as to Matters and Things done and performed under the Authority of the said Act at any Time before the Commencement of this Act. 6 G. 4. c. 122. Recited Act repealed.

II. And be it further enacted, That from and after the Commencement of this Act all and singular the Appointments of Trustees for encouraging the said Manufactures, whether made before or since the All Appointments of Trustees, and of the Autho-

rities and Salaries of their Officers and Servants, revoked.

the passing of the said recited Act, shall cease and determine, and shall be and the same are hereby declared to be null and void; and that all Appointments made by the said Trustees of Officers and Servants, or Persons employed or deputed by such Officers and Servants to assist them in their respective Duties, save as hereafter mentioned, shall also cease and determine, and shall be and the same are hereby declared to be null and void; and that all and singular the several Powers, Authorities, and Duties assigned to the said Officers and Servants, or other Persons so employed or deputed by them, under and by virtue of the said recited Act, together with all Salaries, Allowances, or other Emoluments payable to the said Officers, Servants, or other Persons under the Authority of any Appointment or Appointments made by the said Trustees, save as herein-after mentioned, shall cease and determine.

All Flax sold in Fair or Market to be of equal Cleanness and Quality, under Penalty not exceeding 1s. per Stone.

III. And be it further enacted, That all Flax of the Growth of *Ireland*, sold in open Fair or Market, and all Flax sold by Sample in Fair or Market, shall be of equal Cleanness and Quality throughout each Parcel, upon pain that any Person selling such Flax, or the Owner thereof at the Time of Sale, shall forfeit and pay a Sum not exceeding the Amount of One Shilling for every Stone of Flax so sold which shall not be of equal Cleanness and Quality throughout each Parcel; and in all Cases of Fraud or false Representation in the Sale of Flax, whether the same shall have been sold in open Fair or Market, or otherwise sold, and in all Cases of Fraud or Neglect by Persons employed by the Owners of Flax in cleaning and preparing the same for Sale, whether such Flax shall have been afterwards sold in open Fair or Market, or otherwise sold, the Person selling such Flax, or the Owner thereof at the Time of Sale, or the Persons so employed to clean such Flax, shall forfeit a Sum not exceeding One Shilling for every Stone of such Flax so sold as aforesaid.

Magistrates may cause Flax to be examined.

IV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Justice or Justices of the Peace, or Chief Magistrate of any Town in *Ireland*, before whom any Complaint shall be made in respect to Flax for not being of equal Cleanness and Fineness throughout, or on account of any Fraud having been practised in the Sale thereof, in all Cases where it shall seem to him or them to be expedient or necessary, and such Justice or Justices or Magistrate is and are hereby required, to summon before him or them Three Persons skilled in Flax, and to swear such Persons well and truly to examine the Flax which shall be the Subject of Complaint, and a true Verdict to give, whether such Flax be of equal Cleanness and Quality throughout, or whether it has been fraudulently made up, or whether there has been any Fraud or false Representation in the Sale thereof, or whether there has been any Fraud or Neglect in the cleaning or preparing of such Flax for Sale, and their Opinion thereupon shall be final and conclusive: Provided always, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to, nor shall affect, the Manufacture and Sale of Flax, unless the same be sold in open Fair or Market, or unless in Cases of Neglect in the Preparation of the same for Sale, or of Fraud or false Representation in respect to the Sale thereof.

Not to extend to Flax unless sold in open Market, or in case of Fraud.

V. And

V. And be it further enacted, That all brown or unbleached or unpurged Linen Yarn of *Irish* Manufacture, sold in open Fair or Market, shall be well and sufficiently spun and made up into Hanks, each Hank to consist of Twelve Cuts, and no more; and every such Cut shall contain One hundred and twenty Threads, and no more; and every such Hank shall be One Yard and One Quarter in Length, or Two Yards and One Half in Circumference, and no more; and each such Cut in every such Hank shall be separated as the same shall be reeled, and not afterwards; and in reeling such Linen Yarn, no more than One Thread at a Time shall be reeled; and all the Yarn contained in every such Hank shall be of Flax Yarn only, or Tow Yarn only, of the same Colour and Fineness throughout each Hank; and when the Hank or Twelve Cuts are reeled, the same shall be made up in such Manner as to admit of opening thereof at every Part, at Ten Inches at least, for the Purpose of spreading on the Bleach Green; and all Yarn of *Irish* Manufacture under the Size or Grist of Two Hanks in the Pound, commonly called Pound Yarn or Head Yarn, shall be reeled according to the above Regulations, and such coarser Description may be made up and sold in Half Hanks of Six Cuts, and no less; and in case any Person or Persons shall sell in open Fair or Market any Yarn which shall not be conformable to the above Regulations respectively affecting the same, or which shall be deficient in Quality, Length, or Count, the Person or Persons selling such Yarn, or the Owner or Owners thereof at the Time of Sale, shall forfeit a Sum after the Rate of not less than Two-pence nor more than Four-pence for every Hank of such Yarn so sold as aforesaid; and that in all Cases of Fraud or false Representation in the Sale of Linen Yarn, whether such Yarn shall have been sold in open Fair or Market, or otherwise sold, the Person or Persons selling such Yarn, or the Owner or Owners thereof, shall forfeit a Sum after the Rate of Four-pence for every Hank of such Yarn so sold as aforesaid: Provided always, that nothing herein-before contained shall extend or be construed to extend to Mill-spun Yarn, and that no Mill-spun Yarn shall be subject to the Regulations aforesaid.

Regulations as to reeling and counting Linen Yarn when sold in Fair or Market.

Penalty for selling Yarn not conformable hereto.

Penalty in case of Fraud.

VI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Justice or Justices, or the Chief Magistrate of any Town, before whom a Complaint shall be made in respect to Yarn not conformable to the Regulations contained in this Act, or on account of any Fraud having been practised in the Sale thereof, in all Cases where it shall seem to him or them to be expedient and necessary, and such Justice or Justices or Magistrate is and are hereby required, to summon before them Three Persons skilled in Yarn, and to swear such Persons well and truly to examine the Yarn which is the Subject of such Complaint, and a true Verdict to give, whether such Yarn is conformable to the Regulations herein-before contained, or whether it be deficient in Quality, Length, or Count, or whether it is Mill-spun Yarn, or whether there has been any Fraud or false Representation in the Sale thereof, and their Opinion thereupon shall be final and conclusive.

Magistrates may cause Yarn to be examined.

VII. And be it further enacted, That all Linen Yarn which shall be sold or bought in any Fair or Market shall be sold or bought within

Places and Hours of Sale of Linen Yarn.

within the Custom Gaps or Custom Gates of such Fair or Market; and no Linen Yarn sold or brought to Sale in any Fair or Market shall be sold before the Hour of Eight of the Clock in the Morning on the respective Fair or Market Days; and any Person who shall sell or offer or contract to sell, or shall buy or offer or contract to buy, in such Fair or Market, otherwise than as aforesaid, shall be subject and liable to a Penalty after the Rate of Two-pence on each Hank of Yarn so sold.

Disputes between Buyers and Sellers of Yarn how to be adjusted.

VIII. And whereas Disputes frequently arise in Fairs or Markets between the Buyers and Sellers of Linen Yarn, in respect of Yarn bought or sold or agreed to be bought or sold; be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Seller of any Yarn in any Fair or Market, in all Cases where the Buyer of such Yarn shall refuse to pay the Person selling the same the Price agreed upon between them, or for the Buyer of such Yarn, if the Seller shall, without just Cause, refuse to deliver such Yarn to the Person buying the same, on being tendered the Price agreed to be paid for the same, to complain immediately or within Twenty-four Hours after to the next Justice of the Peace, or to the Chief Magistrate of the Town where such Dispute shall have arisen; and such Justice or Chief Magistrate respectively are hereby required and authorized to summon forthwith the Parties to appear either before such Justice and other Justices of the Peace, or before any Two Justices of the Peace, or before such Chief Magistrate; and if it shall appear to such Two Justices of the Peace or Chief Magistrate, that the Buyer of such Linen Yarn shall, without just and reasonable Cause, refuse or have refused to pay to the Seller of such Yarn the Price first agreed upon between them, it shall and may be lawful for such Justices of the Peace or for such Chief Magistrate, by Warrant under Hand and Seal respectively, to order such Yarn to be returned to the Seller thereof, and by such Warrant to direct any Penalty, not exceeding the Sum of Ten Shillings, to be levied off the Goods and Chattels of the Buyer of such Yarn; and if it shall appear to such Justices of the Peace or to such Chief Magistrate, that the Seller of such Yarn shall, without reasonable Cause, refuse or have refused to deliver up the said Yarn to the Person or Persons to whom he had sold or agreed to sell the same, such Justices of the Peace or Chief Magistrate may, by Warrant under their Hand and Seal respectively, order such Yarn to be delivered up to the Person who had bought or agreed to buy the same, and may also, by such Warrant, direct any Penalty, not exceeding the Sum of Ten Shillings, to be levied off the Goods and Chattels of the Seller of such Yarn: Provided always, that nothing hereinbefore mentioned shall extend or be construed to extend to, nor shall affect, the Manufacture and Sale of Yarn, unless the same be sold or offered to Sale in open Fair or Market, or unless in Cases of Fraud or false Representation in the Sale thereof.

Not to extend to Yarn unless sold in open Market, or in Cases of Fraud.

Weaver to weave Two coarse Threads, and write his Name and

IX. And be it further enacted, That every Linen Weaver or Linen Manufacturer shall, across each End of every Piece of Linen Cloth woven by him or by his Journeymen or Apprentice, weave or cause to be woven Two coarse Threads or Cords, distant from each other about One Fourth Part of an Inch, and shall also write or cause to be

 written

written with Pen and Ink, close to such coarse Threads or Cord on each End, in legible Characters, his Christian Name, Surname, and Place of Residence, and shall also write or mark in Figures, or cause to be written or marked, upon the outside Fold thereof, the Length and Breadth of every such Piece of Linen; and in case any Weaver shall neglect to weave such coarse Threads as aforesaid, or to cause the same to be woven, or to write or cause his Name to be written as aforesaid, or shall neglect to write or mark, or to cause to be written or marked, the Length and Breadth thereon, he shall forfeit a Sum not exceeding Five Shillings for every such Offence; and if the Length or Breadth written or marked on any such Piece of Linen shall be afterwards found by the Purchaser thereof to be less than what was written or marked thereon, upon the said Linen being measured, either by a public Sealmaster or by the Purchaser himself, the Seller or Owner of such Linen shall, upon Complaint and Proof of such Deficiency, forfeit a Sum not exceeding Twenty Shillings for every such Offence, according to the Judgment and Discretion of the Justices or Chief Magistrate before whom any such Complaint shall be made.

Residence on every Piece of Linen; and also mark the Length and Breadth.

Penalty for Neglect, &c.

X. And be it further enacted, That no Person shall sell, in open Fair or Market, any Piece of Brown Linen Cloth, being of or exceeding the Set of Twelve hundred, made or intended to be of the Denomination commonly called Yard-wide, that shall not be, when brown, and before the same shall be bleached, Thirty-seven Inches and a Half broad at least, and that all Cloth of the Denomination of Yard-wide, being under the Set of Twelve hundred, shall be, when brown, Thirty-six Inches broad at least; and that no Person shall sell, in any public Market, any Piece of plain Linen Cloth, being of the Denomination commonly called Seven Eighths wide, that shall not be, when brown, and before the same shall be bleached, Thirty-two Inches broad at least; and that no Person shall sell, in any public Market, any Piece of plain Linen Cloth, being of the Denomination commonly called Three Quarters wide, that shall not be, when brown, and before the same shall be bleached, Twenty-eight Inches broad at least; and that no Person shall sell, in any public Market, any Piece of plain Linen Cloth, of the Denomination of Nine Eighths wide Sheeting, that shall not be, when brown, and before the same shall be bleached, Forty-one Inches broad at least; and that no Person shall sell, in any public Market, any Piece of plain Linen Cloth, of the Denomination of Five Quarters wide Sheeting, that shall not be, when brown, and before the same shall be bleached, Forty-five Inches broad at least; and that no Person shall sell, in any public Market, any Piece of plain Linen Cloth, of the Denomination of Six Quarters wide Sheeting, that shall not be, when brown, and before the same shall be bleached, Fifty-four Inches broad at least; and that if any Person shall sell, in any Fair or Market, any Linen Cloth or Sheetings, of the Denominations above mentioned, which shall not be respectively of the Widths above directed and specified, every such Person shall be subject to a Penalty of not less than Five Shillings nor more than Ten Shillings for each such Piece so sold.

Widths of Linen Cloth:

Yard-wide.

7-8ths wide.

3-4ths wide.

9-8ths wide.

5 Qrs. wide.

6 Qrs. wide.

Penalty.

How Linen Cloth shall be exposed to Sale in Fair or Market.

XI. And be it further enacted, That every Piece of brown or unbleached Linen Cloth which shall be exposed to Sale in open Fair or Market shall be so exposed in open Folds, and no ways tied at either End or in the Middle; and that every such Piece, excepting such as are generally known by the Name of Osnaburghs or Dowlasses, shall be also crisped; and that every Single Piece of such Linen Cloth, not containing more than Twenty-five Yards in Length, shall be in Folds not exceeding Twenty-seven Inches in Length in each Fold; and that every Double Piece of such Linen Cloth, not containing more than Fifty Yards in Length, shall be in Folds not exceeding Thirty-six Inches in Length in each Fold; and that every Double Piece of such Linen Cloth, containing more than Fifty Yards in Length, shall be in Folds not exceeding Forty Inches in each Fold; upon pain that any Person exposing to Sale any such Linen Cloth contrary to the Directions aforesaid shall forfeit not less than Two Shillings and Sixpence nor more than Five Shillings for every such Piece so exposed to Sale as aforesaid.

Linen to be of equal Fineness throughout.

XII. And be it further enacted, That no Person shall, in open Fair or Market, sell any Piece of brown or unbleached plain Linen Cloth which shall be thicker or finer in the Salvage than in the Body of such Piece, or which shall not be of equal Fineness and Thickness throughout every Part of the Length and Breadth of such Piece, under Penalty of Forfeiture of Double the Sum actually paid for such Piece of Linen so sold as aforesaid.

Linen not to be pasted or spouted.

Penalty.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That no Person shall knowingly sell, in open Fair or Market, any Piece of brown or unbleached Linen, any Part whereof shall have been pasted or spouted, so as to make it look thick, or any Brown Linen dyed or stained, either in the Yarn or Cloth, with any Material which has a Tendency to render the Part so stained or dyed difficult to bleach, upon pain of forfeiting not less than Five Shillings nor more than Ten Shillings for every such Piece so sold as aforesaid.

Upon Complaint that Linen is not made conformable to Regulations, Justices may cause Inquiry to be made.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Justice or Justices, or Chief Magistrate of a Town, before whom any Complaint shall be made in respect to Linen not conformable to the Regulations contained in this Act, and such Justice or Justices or Magistrate is and are hereby authorized and empowered, in all Cases where it shall seem to them to be expedient and necessary, to summon before him or them Three Persons skilled in the weaving and dressing of Linen, and to swear them well and truly to examine any and every Piece of Linen which is the Subject of Complaint, and a true Verdict to give, whether the same or any of them is thicker or finer in the Salvage than in the Body of such Piece of Linen, and whether it be of equal Fineness and Thickness throughout every Part of such Piece, or whether it be pasted or spouted in manner before described, and their Opinion thereupon shall be final and conclusive.

Place and Time of Sale of Linen.

XV. And be it further enacted, That all Brown Linen which shall be sold or bought in open Fair or Market shall be sold or bought within

within the Custom Gap or Custom Gates of such Fair or Market; and that no Brown Linen sold or brought to Sale in any Fair or Market shall be sold before Ten of the Clock in the Morning on the respective Fair or Market Days; and if any Person shall sell or offer or contract to sell, or shall buy or offer or contract to buy, in such Fair or Market, otherwise than as aforesaid, every such Seller and Buyer shall be liable to a Penalty of Five Shillings on each Piece of Brown Linen so sold as aforesaid.

Disputes between Buyer and Seller of Linen in Fairs, how to be adjusted.

XVI. And whereas Disputes frequently arise in Fairs or Markets between the Buyer and Seller of Linen Cloth, in respect of Cloth bought or sold, or agreed to be bought or sold; for Remedy whereof, be it enacted, That if the Buyer of any such Cloth shall, without just Cause, refuse to pay to the Person selling the same the Price agreed upon between them, or if the Seller shall, without just Cause, refuse to deliver such Cloth to the Person buying the same, on being tendered the Price agreed upon to be paid for the same, it shall be lawful for the Buyer or Seller of such Cloth respectively to complain immediately, or at any Time within Twenty-four Hours, to the next Justice of the Peace, or to the Chief Magistrate of any Town where such Dispute shall have arisen; and every such Justice of the Peace or Magistrate is hereby required and authorized forthwith to summon the Parties to appear either before such Justice and any other Justice of the Peace, or before any Two Justices of the Peace, or before such Chief Magistrate; and if it shall appear to such Two Justices of the Peace or Chief Magistrate, that the Buyer of such Linen Cloth shall, without just and reasonable Cause, refuse or have refused to pay the Seller of such Cloth the Price first agreed upon between such Buyer and Seller at such Fair or Market, such Justice of the Peace or Magistrate may, by Warrant under Hand and Seal respectively, order such Cloth to be returned to the Seller thereof, and may, by such Warrant, direct any Penalty, not exceeding the Sum of Ten Shillings, to be levied off the Goods and Chattels of such Buyer of such Cloth; and if it shall appear to such Justices of the Peace or to such Chief Magistrate, that the Seller of such Cloth shall, without reasonable Cause, refuse or have refused to deliver up such Cloth to the Person or Persons to whom he had sold or agreed to sell the same, such Justice of the Peace or Chief Magistrate may, by Warrant under Hand and Seal, order such Cloth to be delivered up to the Person who had bought or agreed to buy the same, and may also, by such Warrant, direct any Penalty, not exceeding the Sum of Ten Shillings, to be levied off the Goods and Chattels of the Seller of such Cloth.

Penalty.

Brown Linens not to be subject to Regulations, except sold in open Market.

XVII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to, nor shall affect, Brown Linens not sold in open Fair or Market, it being the true Intent and Meaning of this Act that all Persons may manufacture and make up Brown Linens in any Manner they may think proper, and sell the same, without being subject to any of the aforesaid Regulations, unless they sell the same in open Fair or Market.

XVIII. And

Sealmasters of Brown Linens formerly appointed to be continued.

XVIII. And whereas it is expedient and necessary that fit and proper Persons should be provided to examine, measure, and stamp all brown or unbleached Linens sold in public Market, in all Cases where the Buyers of any such Linens shall require the said Linens to be examined, measured, and stamped by any such Persons, before they pay for the same; and to the end that no Inconvenience should be felt from the Want of any such Persons upon and immediately after the Commencement of this Act, be it enacted, That all Persons who at any Time before the Commencement of this Act have been appointed Sealmasters of Brown Linen by the Trustees of the Linen and Hempen Manufacturers, and who shall be acting in that Capacity at the Time of the Commencement of this Act, shall continue to act therein until the Appointment or Appointments of every such Sealmaster respectively shall be afterwards confirmed or revoked in manner directed by this Act.

Lord Lieutenant to appoint a Committee in each County for regulating Sealmasters.

XIX. And be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the Time being from Time to Time to nominate and appoint, in any and every County in which the Linen Manufacture or any Branch thereof is or shall be carried on, Twelve such Persons residing in such County, or buying or selling Linens therein, as shall appear to be fit and proper Persons to be a Committee for appointing, directing, and controlling the Brown Linen Sealmasters of such County, conformably to the Regulations, Provisions, and Directions prescribed by this Act, of which Nomination and Appointment public Notice shall be given in the *Dublin Gazette*, and in some Paper published in every such County respectively; and in case of the Death or Resignation of any Person appointed to be a Member of such Committee, and in case of any Removal made by the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the Time being of any Person from the Situation of Member of the said Committee, which Removal the said Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the Time being is and are hereby empowered to make, it shall and may be lawful for such Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the Time being to nominate and appoint such other Person or Persons as he or they shall think fit, to be a Member or Members of such Committee, in the Room and Stead of the Person or Persons who shall have died or resigned, or who shall have been so removed; and Notice of every such Nomination or Appointment shall be given in the *Dublin Gazette*, and in any Newspaper of the County to which such Nomination shall relate.

Committee to require Sealmasters to give in their Name and Place of Abode, as also those of their Sureties.

XX. And be it further enacted, That the Committee appointed in any and every County for the Purposes before stated shall and may from Time to Time, and as often as they shall think fit, meet and assemble together in some convenient Place in such County, to settle and adjust such Matters as shall relate to the Objects of their Appointment; and it shall and may be lawful for such Committee, or any Five or more of them, so soon as they shall deem it necessary, to require every Person acting as a Sealmaster of Brown Linen in or for any Linen Market in such County, to return to such Committee, within

within a given Time, his Name and Place of Abode, and the Names and Residences of his Sureties; and it shall and may be lawful for the said Committee, or any Five or more of them, to dismiss any Sealmaster who shall refuse or neglect to make such Return within the Time required.

Committee may remove Sealmasters and appoint others.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That every such Committee, having formed a List of all Persons acting as Sealmasters in the County for which such Committee shall be appointed, shall then proceed to revise the said List; and it shall and may be lawful for every such Committee, or any Five or more of them, upon such Revision, to dismiss any Person from the Situation of Sealmaster, whom they shall consider to be unfit for such Situation, and to appoint another in place of the Person so dismissed, and so from Time to Time to dismiss and appoint every such Person as such Committee, or any Five or more of them, shall deem it right to dismiss from or appoint to the Office and Situation of a Sealmaster of Brown Linen, limiting or extending the Number of such Sealmasters according as it shall seem to such Committee to be expedient and necessary; and it shall and may be lawful for every such Committee, or any Five or more of them, to confine the Duties and Authorities of every Sealmaster to such particular Linen Market or Markets in their respective Counties as they shall think proper, and to dismiss any Sealmaster who shall refuse or neglect to obey any such Rules, Regulations, and Directions as such Committee shall lay down for the Government of such Sealmaster; provided that nothing contained in the said Rules, Regulations, and Directions, shall be contrary to any of the Provisions of this Act; and it shall be lawful for every such Committee, or any Five or more of them, so soon as they shall deem it expedient, to give public Notice to all Persons acting as Brown Linen Sealmasters in their County, under and by virtue of any Appointment formerly made by the Trustees of the Linen and Hempen Manufacturers, that from and after a Day to be named in such Notice no Person shall be permitted to act in their County in that Capacity, who shall not have previously thereto entered into a Security to such Committee, or to some Individual to be named by such Committee; and such Security shall stand in place and stead of any Security formerly given or required to be given to the Secretary of the Trustees for encouraging the Linen Manufacture, and shall be for such Sum as such Committee shall think proper; in which said Security Two Sureties, to be approved of by such Committee, shall join and be bound, jointly and severally, for such Sum in the Whole as such Committee shall in every Case think fit to require; and the Condition of every such Security shall be, that such Person so appointed Sealmaster shall duly and diligently execute his Office, and shall not seal, stamp, or lap, nor suffer his Seal or Stamp to be put upon any Linen which is not sound, merchantable, and free from Mildew, Rottenness, or any Fraud or Damage, except such Holes, not exceeding Three in each Piece, as shall be exposed to View, and marked on the Outside thereof; and that such Sealmaster, his Executors or Administrators, shall duly and without Delay pay all such Fines as shall be imposed on him from Time to Time by any such Committee, or any Five or more of them; and that in case of the Death

Security to be given by Sealmasters for the due Execution of their Office.

of any of his Sureties, such Sealmaster will, within One Month after such Death shall have come to his Knowledge, procure another sufficient Person to enter into a like Security; and that such Sealmaster, his Executors or Administrators, will surrender and give up his Seal or Stamp when thereunto required by such Committee, or any Five or more of them; and that he will not at any Time lend, hire out, or sell his Stamp or Seal, or suffer the same to be used by any Person but himself, or his known Servant or Assistant, at his usual Place of Residence.

Lord Lieutenant may direct the Committee to report the Grounds upon which they have dismissed any Sealmaster; and cause such Report to be inquired into; and confirm or revoke such Dismissal.

XXII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland*, in his or their Discretion, to order and direct that such Committee as aforesaid shall, within a Time to be specified, make a Report of the Grounds upon which any Dismissal of any Sealmaster may have taken place by or under the Orders of such Committee, and which Report such Committee are hereby required to make accordingly, within such Time as shall be specified for that Purpose; and it shall and may be lawful for the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the Time being to direct that the Matter of such Report shall be inquired into by any Person or Persons to be named and appointed for that Purpose by such Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland*; and according to the Result of such Inquiry, or in case no Report shall be made by such Committee within the Time so specified, it shall and may be lawful for the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* either to confirm such Dismissal, or to revoke the same, and to direct that the Person so dismissed shall be restored to his Situation of Sealmaster.

Committee to prescribe the Forms of Seals or Stamps to be used by Sealmasters. Forging Seals.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for every such Committee, or any Five or more of them, to choose and prescribe the Form and Device of the Seal or Stamp to be used by the Sealmasters of their respective County, and to alter the same as often as such Committee shall think fit; and if any Person shall forge or counterfeit any Seal or Stamp of any Sealmaster appointed or to be appointed by such Committee, or any Five or more of them, to any Piece or Part of a Piece of Brown Linen, such Person, being thereof lawfully convicted, shall be imprisoned, with or without hard Labour, for any Period not exceeding One Year, at the Discretion of the Judge or Judges who shall try such Offence.

Residence of Sealmasters.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That every Sealmaster of Brown Linen, except such as are or shall be appointed to particular Markets, shall reside within the Parish mentioned on his Seal; and that One of the Persons who shall enter into Security for him as aforesaid shall be resident within the same Parish, or in or within One Mile of the next Market Town thereto within the same County; and that a Sealmaster appointed for any particular Market shall be at liberty to use his Seal or Stamp in respect to all Linens prepared for Sale in such Market, without reference to his Place of Residence.

Duties of Sealmasters.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That every Sealmaster of brown or unbleached Linen appointed as aforesaid shall carefully view, examine, and measure every Piece of such Linen which shall be produced and offered to him to be sealed; and if the same shall appear to him to be merchantable, and to be in every respect conformable to the Directions aforesaid, then, and not otherwise, such Sealmaster shall affix or cause to be affixed a fair Impression of such Seal as shall be appointed for him by the said Committee, with Lamp Black or Vermillion or Stone Blue and Size or Common Oil, on the Middle of such Fold, at no more than Thirteen Inches from the End of such Piece; and shall likewise mark or caused to be marked, with such Ingredients as aforesaid, on the Back or Outside of every such Piece, the Length of such Piece, and the Number of Inches it contains in Breadth, and also the Half Inch, if the same shall be in Breadth Half an Inch more than any Number of Inches, without regard to any lesser Fractions of an Inch, together with the Name of such Sealmaster, and the Parish and County where he resides, or the Name of the Market Town for which he may be appointed to act; and if any Parts of such Piece shall be damaged or faulty, but not so damaged or faulty as to render the same unmerchantable, every such damaged or faulty Part shall be fairly exposed in the Lap or Bosom of such Piece, so as that the same may be easily seen; and opposite to such damaged or faulty Part, upon the Bosom of every such Piece, such Sealmaster shall affix or cause to be affixed an Impression of his Seal, with such Ingredients as aforesaid, to denote such damaged or faulty Part; and such Sealmaster shall and may demand and take the Sum of One Penny, and no more, for every Piece of brown or unbleached Linen containing Twenty-five Yards or under, which shall be by him sealed as aforesaid, and so in proportion for a greater Quantity; and if any such Sealmaster shall offend, by neglecting or transgressing any one of the Regulations aforesaid, every such Sealmaster shall forfeit a Sum not less than Five Shillings nor exceeding Twenty Shillings for every such Offence.

Their Fees; 1*d.* for every 25 Yards.

Penalty for Neglect.

No Person to sell or buy any unbleached Linen not sealed.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That no Person shall, in open Fair or Market in *Ireland*, sell or expose to Sale, buy or agree to buy, any Pieces of brown or unbleached Linen which shall not at the Time of selling or exposing the same to Sale be sealed and marked as required by this Act, upon pain of forfeiting the Sum of Five Shillings for every Piece of Linen so sold or exposed to Sale.

Sealmasters to measure between Buyer and Seller.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That all Brown Linen shall be measured between Seal and Seal, and bad and insufficient Ends shall not be taken into the Length thereof; and such Linen shall be bought and sold by no other Measure than the Statute Yard, containing Thirty-six Inches, and no extraordinary Measure or Allowance, except the Breadth of a Thumb, as is now generally practised to every Yard in the measuring thereof, shall be made therein by the Seller to the Buyer, or required or accepted of or taken by the Buyer from the Seller, upon pain that every Person buying or selling any such Linen, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, shall

shall forfeit not less than Two Shillings and Sixpence nor more than Five Shillings for every such Offence.

Buyers may recover from Sealmasters for Damage or Deficiency in Linen.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall sustain any Loss or Damage in the buying any Piece of brown or unbleached Linen, by any damaged Part being concealed in the Folds thereof, or by its not answering the Measure as to the Length or Breadth marked thereon by any Sealmaster, it shall and may be lawful to and for such Person to sue for and recover from the Sealmaster of such Piece, or the Person who shall at the Time of such sealing be bound as Security for his faithful Discharge of the Office of Sealmaster, the full Value of the Loss or Damage so sustained.

Penalty on Embezzlement.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Weaver or other Person entrusted with any Linen or Linen Yarn, or Hempen Cloth or Hempen Yarn, or Cotton or Cotton Yarn, or with any Materials or working Tools for manufacturing the same, shall fraudulently sell or embezzle or pawn the same, or any Part thereof, every such Offender, and the Receivers of any such Article knowing the same to have been so fraudulently embezzled, shall forfeit Four Times the Value of the same.

Weavers to fulfil their Agreements.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That every Weaver shall well and sufficiently weave all sound and sufficient Linen and Hempen Yarn to him delivered to be woven, within such Time, and in such Reeds, and into Cloth of such Breadths, as shall be agreed upon between the Owner or Owners of such Yarn and such Weaver, upon pain of forfeiting the full Value of such Yarn, or the full Price agreed upon for weaving the same.

Justices may administer Oaths and take Affidavits.

Affirmation of a Quaker.

Perjury.

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for every Justice of the Peace and Chief Magistrate to administer any Oath to, and to take any Affidavit required by Law from, any Person whomsoever, touching or concerning any Matter or Thing in anywise relating to or concerning the Linen Manufacture, or any Branch thereof; and wherever any such Oath is required by Law to be taken, the solemn Affirmation of any Person being a Quaker shall be sufficient in the place of such Oath or Affidavit; and every Person who shall knowingly swear or affirm any thing false in any such Oath or Affirmation shall, upon Conviction, suffer such Punishment as Persons convicted of wilful and corrupt Perjury are by the Laws in force in *Ireland* subject to.

Complaints where Penalty does not exceed 10*l.* may be heard before Two Justices, or Chief Magistrate of a Town.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That all Complaints which shall be made of any Offence or Offences committed against any of the Regulations or Directions contained in this Act, the Penalty or Forfeiture in respect whereof shall not exceed in Value the Sum of Ten Pounds, shall and may be heard and finally determined before Two or more Justices of the Peace, whether acting at Petty Sessions or otherwise, within their Jurisdictions, or before the Chief Magistrate of any Town presiding in his Court in such Town; and it shall be lawful for any One Justice to summon any Party complained of, and any Witness

Witness, to appear before such Justice and any other Justice, or before any Two Justices, and for such Chief Magistrate to summon any such Party complained of, and any Witness, to appear before such Magistrate in his Court; and such Justices or Chief Magistrate may determine any such Complaints on the Oath of any Witness or Witnesses, and which Oath such Justices or Chief Magistrate are and is hereby authorized and empowered to administer; and all such Penalties and Sums of Money shall and may be awarded by such Two Justices or Chief Magistrate as are directed to be awarded by this Act in respect of or for the Punishment of the several Offences; and in default of the Payment of any such Penalty or Sum of Money as shall be so awarded by any such Justices or Chief Magistrate upon the Hearing of any such Complaint, it shall and may be lawful for such Justices or Chief Magistrate to issue their or his Warrant to any Constable for the Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of any Person liable to the Payment of any such Penalty or Sum of Money; and in case no sufficient Distress shall be found, then to commit any such Person to Gaol or to the House of Correction, for any Period not exceeding One Calendar Month, unless such Penalty or Sum of Money shall be sooner paid.

Application of Penalties.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That any Sum of Money which shall be awarded and levied by any such Justices or Chief Magistrate as aforesaid, acting in pursuance of the Provisions and under the Authorities of this Act, shall and may be directed by such Justices or Chief Magistrate to be applied in manner following; that is to say, in every Case where the Person preferring the Complaint shall appear to have suffered any Damage, Costs, Loss of Time, or other Injury, in the Matter being the Subject of Complaint, any such Sum of Money shall and may be paid to such Person; or if no Damages, Costs, Loss of Time, or other Injury shall appear to have been sustained by such Person, then such Sum of Money shall be paid to the Committee appointed in manner herein-before directed, in the County in which the Complaint originated, to be applied by such Committee towards forming a Fund for defraying any Expences in executing the Duties assigned to them by this Act; or it shall and may be lawful for such Justices or Chief Magistrate to direct any Portion of any such Sum so levied to be paid to the Party aggrieved, and the remaining Portion of such Sum to be paid to such Committee.

Penalties exceeding 10*l.* recoverable by Action.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That all Penalties or Forfeitures incurred under any Clause or Article in this Act, exceeding in Value Ten Pounds, shall and may be sued for and recovered by any Person who will sue for the same by Suit or Action at Law, or by Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of King's Bench, Common Pleas, or Exchequer, in *Ireland*, wherein no Essoign, Protection, nor Wager of Law, nor more than One Imparlance, shall be allowed; and that in all such Actions, Suits, or Prosecutions which shall be brought or prosecuted for Recovery of such Forfeitures or Penalties, shall be laid in the County, or in the County of the City, or the County of the Town, wherein such Forfeitures or Penalties were incurred, and in none other.

Venue to be laid in the County.

Defendant may plead General Issue.

XXXV. And be it further enacted, That if any Action or Suit shall be commenced or brought against any Person for doing or causing to be done any Act, Matter, or Thing in pursuance of this Act, 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; and if upon such Action, or in such Suit, Judgment shall be given for the Defendant or Defendants, or the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs therein shall become nonsuit, or discontinue his, her, or their Action or Suit, the Defendant or Defendants therein shall have Double Costs.

Linen and Yarn Halls and Houses, &c. vested in the Lord Lieutenant.

XXXVI. And whereas the Linen and Yarn Halls in the City of *Dublin*, and the Houses, Offices, and Grounds adjoining thereto, and the other Estates and Property, whether Real or Personal, vested by former Acts of Parliament in the Trustees of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures of *Ireland*, were, by the herein-before recited and repealed Act of the Sixth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, continued to be vested in the said Trustees and their Successors; and it is expedient and necessary to divest the said Trustees of their Title to the said Buildings, Houses, Grounds, and other Properties, and to vest the same in the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland*, for the Purposes herein-after mentioned; be it therefore enacted, That the said Linen and Yarn Halls in the City of *Dublin*, and the Houses, Offices, and Grounds adjoining thereto, and all other Estates and Property whatsoever, whether Real or Personal, vested in the said Trustees and their Successors under and by virtue of the said recited Act hereby repealed, shall, from and after the Commencement of this Act, be and the same are hereby vested in the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the Time being, with Power to such Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors to demand, take, and receive, or cause to be demanded, taken, and received, such Rent or Rents for the same as he or they shall think fit and direct from the Factors or others engaged in the Linen, Yarn, or Cotton Trades of *Ireland*, who shall be allowed to occupy the said Linen and Yarn Halls, or Houses or Grounds thereto adjoining: Provided always, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to, or in anywise to affect, any of the Leases hitherto granted by the said Trustees of any Part or Parts of the said Halls or Buildings to any Factors or other Persons, so far as any of the said Leases are or shall be subsisting; and if any Part or Parts of the said Linen or Yarn Halls, or any of the Houses or Grounds adjoining thereto, not comprised in any subsisting Leases, shall be thought unnecessary for the Purposes of the Linen, Yarn, or Cotton Trades of *Ireland*, by the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the Time being, it shall be lawful for such Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors, and he and they is and are hereby authorized and empowered, to appropriate such Part or Parts thereof to any other public Purposes to which it may seem expedient to apply the same, demanding, taking, and receiving such Rents, for the Use and Occupation thereof, as such Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors shall appoint; and all such Rents shall be applied in like Manner as the Rents now payable under the Leases subsisting at present, towards maintaining the said Buildings in repair and good

Nothing herein to affect subsisting Leases.

 Condition;

Condition; and if the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the Time being shall at any Time see fit and proper Reason for selling and finally disposing of any Part or Parts of such Linen or Yarn Halls, or any of the Houses or Grounds thereto adjoining, not comprised in any subsisting Lease, it shall and may be lawful for such Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* to sell and finally dispose of the same.

Lord Lieutenant may appoint a Committee for the Management of the Linen Halls, &c.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* to appoint any Number of Persons (being Factors in the said Linen and Yarn Halls, or other Persons,) to act as a Committee in and for the Care and Management of the said Linen and Yarn Halls and Houses, and Grounds and Estates, and from Time to Time to revoke the Appointment of all or any such Persons, and to appoint others in their room, or not; and it shall be lawful for such Committee to exercise such Powers, and to perform such Duties, as such Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors shall direct and authorize, in respect to the Letting or Sale of such Linen and Yarn Halls and Houses, and Grounds and Estates, or any of them, and to the accounting for the Rents and Produce of such Letting and Sale, and to the applying any Part of such Produce in the repairing and maintaining any of the Houses or Buildings not sold under this Act; and all Monies which shall arise or be received from every Letting or Sale under this Act, and which shall not be applied in maintaining and repairing any of the said Houses or Buildings not so sold, shall, under the Orders and Directions of such Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors, be carried to and made Part of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom arising in *Ireland*.

Their Powers.

Term of Act.

XXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That this Act, so far as the same imposes any Rule, Regulation, Restraint, Restriction, Fine, Penalty, Forfeiture, or other Punishment, in respect of the manufacturing, dressing, making, or Sale of Flax or of Linen Yarn, or to the weaving, dressing, measuring, stamping, buying, or selling of Linen Cloth, or to the different Breadths prescribed for the several Sorts of Linen Cloth, shall remain and continue in force for Three Years from the Commencement of this Act, and from the Expiration of such Three Years until the End of the next Session of Parliament.

Commencement of Act.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall commence and take effect on and from the Fifth Day of *September* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight.

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