

ANNO QUINTO & SEXTO

GULIELMI IV. REGIS.

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CAP. LVI.

An Act to regulate the Admeasurement of the Tonnage and Burthen of the Merchant Shipping of the United Kingdom. [9th *September* 1835.]

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Third and Fourth Years of the Reign of His present Majesty, for the registering of *British* Vessels, certain Rules are established for ascertaining the Tonnage of Ships as well on shore as afloat, and of Vessels propelled by Steam; and the Account of such Tonnage, whenever the same shall have been ascertained according to the Rules therein prescribed (except in the Case of Ships admeasured afloat), it is thereby enacted shall be deemed the Tonnage of such Ships, and shall be repeated in every subsequent Registry of such Ships, unless any Alteration shall have been made in their Form and Burthen, or unless it be discovered that the Tonnage had been erroneously computed: And whereas it is considered that the Capacity of a Ship is the fairest Standard by which to regulate its Tonnage, that internal Measurements will afford the most accurate and convenient Method of ascertaining that Capacity, and that the Adoption of such a Mode of Admeasurement will tend to the Interests of the Ship Builder and the Owner, as well as to the proper Collection of the Dues which by Law are payable on Tonnage; and it is expedient to alter and amend the Law in this respect: 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, 3 & 4 W. 4. c. 55.

Rules established by recited Act for ascertaining Tonnage repealed.

That from and after the Commencement of this Act so much of the said recited Act as establishes Rules for ascertaining the Tonnage of Ships shall be and the same is hereby repealed so far as respects the Merchant Shipping of the United Kingdom to be thereafter registered.

The Rule by which Tonnage of Vessels is to be ascertained.

II. And be it further enacted, That from and after the Commencement of this Act the Tonnage of every Ship or Vessel required by Law to be registered shall, previous to her being registered, be measured and ascertained while her Hold is clear, and according to the following Rule; (that is to say,) Divide the Length of the Upper Deck between the Afterpart of the Stem and the Forepart of the Stern-post into Six equal Parts. Depths: At the foremost, the middle, and the aftermost of those Points of Division, measure in Feet and Decimal Parts of a Foot the Depths from the under Side of the Upper Deck to the Ceiling at the Limber Strake. In the Case of a Break in the Upper Deck, the Depths are to be measured from a Line stretched in a Continuation of the Deck. Breadths: Divide each of those Three Depths into Five equal Parts, and measure the Inside Breadths at the following Points; *videlicet*, at One Fifth and at Four Fifths from the Upper Deck of the foremost and aftermost Depths, and at Two Fifths and Four Fifths from the Upper Deck of the midship Depth. Length: At Half the midship Depth measure the Length of the Vessel from the Afterpart of the Stem to the Forepart of the Stern-post; then to Twice the midship Depth add the foremost and the aftermost Depths for the Sum of the Depths; add together the upper and lower Breadths at the foremost Division, Three Times the upper Breadth, and the lower Breadth at the midship Division, and the upper and Twice the lower Breadth at the after Division, for the Sum of the Breadths; then multiply the Sum of the Depths by the Sum of the Breadths, and this Product by the Length, and divide the final Product by Three thousand five hundred, which will give the Number of Tons for Register. If the Vessel have a Poop or Half Deck, or a Break in the Upper Deck, measure the Inside Mean Length, Breadth, and Height of such Part thereof as may be included within the Bulk-head; multiply these Three Measurements together, and dividing the Product by 92·4, the Quotient will be the Number of Tons to be added to the Result as above found. In order to ascertain the Tonnage of open Vessels, the Depths are to be measured from the upper Edge of the upper Strake.

Tonnage, when ascertained, to be entered on Register.

III. And be it further enacted, That the Tonnage or Burthen of every Ship belonging to the United Kingdom, ascertained in the Manner herein-before directed, shall, in respect of any such Ship which shall be registered after the Commencement of this Act (except as herein-after excepted), be inserted in the Certificate of the Registry thereof, and be taken and deemed to be the Tonnage or Burthen thereof for all the Purposes of the said recited Act.

Mode of ascertaining Tonnage of Steam Vessels.

IV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in each of the several Rules herein-before prescribed, when applied for the Purpose of ascertaining the Tonnage of any Ship or Vessel propelled by Steam, the Tonnage due to the Cubical Contents of the Engine Room

Room shall be deducted from the Total Tonnage of the Vessel as determined by either of the Rules aforesaid, and the Remainder shall be deemed the true Register Tonnage of the said Ship or Vessel. The Tonnage due to the Cubical Contents of the Engine Room shall be determined in the following Manner; that is to say, measure the Inside Length of the Engine Room in Feet and Decimal Parts of a Foot from the foremost to the aftermost Bulk-head, then multiply the said Length by the Depth of the Ship or Vessel at the midship Division as aforesaid, and the Product by the Inside Breadth at the same Division at Two Fifths of the Depth from the Deck taken as aforesaid, and divide the last Product by 92·4, and the Quotient shall be deemed the Tonnage due to the Cubical Contents of the Engine Room.

Length and Cubical Contents of Engine Room to be set forth in Description of Steam Vessel.

V. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Tonnage due to the Cubical Contents of the Engine Room and also the Length of the Engine Room shall be set forth in the Certificate of Registry as Part of the Description of the Ship or Vessel, and that any Alteration of such Tonnage due to the Cubical Contents of the Engine Room or of such Length of the Engine Room, after Registry, shall be deemed to be an Alteration requiring Registry *de novo* within the Meaning of the said Act for the registering of Ships or Vessels.

For ascertaining Tonnage of Vessels when laden.

VI. And be it further enacted, That for the Purpose of ascertaining the Tonnage of all such Ships, whether belonging to the United Kingdom or otherwise, as there shall be Occasion to measure while their Cargoes are on board, the following Rule shall be observed and is hereby established; (that is to say,) Measure, first, the Length on the Upper Deck between the Afterpart of the Stem and the Forepart of the Stern-post; secondly, the Inside Breadth on the Underside of the Upper Deck at the middle Point of the Length; and, thirdly, the Depth from the Underside of the Upper Deck down the Pump-well to the Skin; multiply these Three Dimensions together, and divide the Product by One hundred and thirty, and the Quotient will be the Amount of the Register Tonnage of such Ships.

Amount of Register Tonnage to be carved on Main Beam.

VII. And be it further enacted, That the true Amount of the Register Tonnage of every Merchant Ship or Vessel belonging to the United Kingdom, to be ascertained according to the Rule by this Act established in respect of such Ships, shall be deeply carved or cut in Figures of at least Three Inches in Length on the Main Beam of every such Ship or Vessel, prior to her being registered.

Not to alter Tonnage of Vessels already registered.

VIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained shall extend to alter the present Measure of Tonnage of any Ship or Vessel which shall have been registered prior to the Commencement of this Act, unless in Cases where the Owners of any such Ships shall require to have their Tonnage established according to the Rule herein-before provided, or unless there shall be Occasion to have any such Ship admeasured again on account of any Alteration which shall have been made in the Form or Burthen of the

the same, in which Cases only such Ships shall be re-admeasured according to the said Rule, and their Tonnage registered accordingly.

Commencement of Act.

IX. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall commence and take effect upon and from the First Day of *January* One thousand eight hundred and thirty-six.

Act may be altered this Session.

X. And be it further enacted, That this Act may be altered, amended, or repealed by any Act or Acts to be passed in the present Session of Parliament.

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