ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO QUARTO

# GEORGII III. REGIS.

## CAP. CXXVIII.

### An Act to amend the ſeveral Acts for regulating the Foundling Hoſpital in *Dublin*. [23d *July* 1814.]

WHEREAS by an Act made in the Parliament of *Ireland*, in the Eleventh and Twelfth Years of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, for better regulating the Founding Hoſpital and Workhouſe in the City of *Dublin*, and increaſing the Fund for the Support thereof; it is among other Things enacted, that all and every poor Child and Children under the Age of Six Years, who ſhall be found or taken up within the ſaid City and Liberties thereto adjoining, or ſent to the Foundling Hoſpital, ſhall be received and kept therein or ſent to nurſe therefrom: And whereas by an Act made in the Parliament of *Ireland* in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Years of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, for amending the ſaid recited Act of the Eleventh and Twelfth Years of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, it is among other Things enacted, that from and after the Twenty-fourth Day of *June* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-ſix, there ſhall not be received into the ſaid Hoſpital or ſent to nurſe therefrom any Child who ſhall appear to be above the Age of One Year old, upon any Account whatſoever; any Law to the contrary notwithſtanding: And whereas Doubts have ariſen how far all Infants (not being of the Age of more than Twelve Months) preſented at the ſaid [illegible] at all Times of the Day and Night, and on all Days in the Year, [illegible] entitled to be received into the ſaid Hoſpital: And whereas the Number of Infants preſented for Admiſſion at the Hoſpital has of late Years conſiderably increaſed, and there is reaſon to believe that ſeveral of them are the Children of Parents in Circumſtances ſufficient to enable them to maintain them, and it is has been found that great Mortality has taken place among the Infants ſent to the ſaid Hoſpital, particularly during the Winter and Spring Months: For Remedy whereof, be it enacted by the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty, by and with the Advice and

Iriſh Act, 11 & 12 G. 3.

15 & 16 G. 3.

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 it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the Governors of the ſaid Hoſpital, or any Three or more of them, from Time to Time to make Orders for ſuſpending and to ſuſpend the Admiſſion of Infants into the ſaid Hoſpital for any Space or Period of Time not exceeding Six Months in the Whole in any One Year, and alſo to make Orders for refuſing and to refuſe admitting any Infant into the ſaid Hoſpital at any Time unleſs the Perſon by whom ſuch Infant is brought for Admiſſion ſhall produce to ſome Officer of the ſaid Hoſpital, to be nominated or appointed for that Purpoſe, a Certificate ſigned by the Miniſter and Churchwardens of the Pariſh from which ſuch Infant is ſent, ſetting forth, that the ſaid Miniſter and Churchwardens have made diligent Inquiry reſpecting the Birth and Parentage of ſuch Child, and that they have not been able to diſcover the Parents of ſuch Child, or either of them, or that the Parents or Parent of ſuch Child is not in Circumſtances ſufficient to maintain ſuch Child, as the Caſe may be; any Thing in the ſaid recited Acts, or in any other Act or Acts, or any Law, Uſage, or Cuſtom to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Governors may ſuſpend the Admiſſion of Infants into the Hoſpital for Six Months in the Year, and alſo may refuſe Admiſſion to Infants unleſs a Certificate be produced that the Parents cannot be diſcovered.

II. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Governors of the ſaid Hoſpital ſhall, previous to the Periods of ſuſpending the Admiſſion of Children as aforeſaid, cauſe Public Notice of the Order for ſuch Suſpenſion, and of the Commencement and Continuance of the Duration of ſuch Suſpenſion, to be given by printed Advertiſements or Hand-bills for the Space of Three Months previous to the Commencement of ſuch Suſpenſion, and ſhall cauſe ſuch printed Hand-bills to be poſted on the Gates and in other conſpicuous Places in and about the ſaid Hoſpital, and ſhall alſo cauſe ſuch Advertiſements or Hand-bills to be diſtributed among the Clergy and Churchwardens of the ſeveral Pariſhes, and among the Magiſtrates of the ſeveral Counties in *Ireland*.

Notice to be publiſhed of ſuch Suſpenſion.

III. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon ſhall forge or counterfeit any Certificate of any Miniſter or Churchwarden required by this Act, or any Paper purporting to be ſuch Certificate, or ſhall forge or counterfeit the Name or Hand Writing of any Perſon or Perſons required to ſubſcribe any ſuch Certificate, the Offender, being thereof convicted according to Law, either at any Aſſizes or at any General or Quarter Seſſions of the Peace for the County, City, Town, or Place where ſuch Offence ſhall be committed, ſhall be impriſoned for any Term not leſs than Two Years, as the Court before whom ſuch Perſon was convicted ſhall order and direct.

Puniſhment for forging Certificates.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty. 1814.