ANNO DECIMO TERTIO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. XLIII.

An Act to regulate the Importation and Exportation of Corn.

WHEREAS the several Acts of Parliament heretofore made concerning the Duties and Bounties respectively payable on the Importation and Exportation of Corn and Grain have greatly tended to the Advancement of Tillage and Navigation; yet nevertheless, it having been of late Years found necessary, on account of the small Quantities of Corn and Grain in Hand, and of the Shortness of the Crops, to suspend the Operation of those Laws by Temporary Statutes, whereby the Benefits derived from the said Acts of Parliament have been, during such Emergencies, withheld and suspended: And whereas the regulating the Importation and Exportation of Corn and Grain by a permanent Law, under such general Rules and Provisions as might render, for the Time to come, such temporary Laws unnecessary, Preamble.

would afford Encouragement to the Farmer, be the Means of increasing the Growth of that necessary Commodity, and of affording a cheaper and more constant Supply to the Poor, and preventing Abuse in that Article of Trade; 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 from and after the First Day of January, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-four, whenever the Price of middling British Wheat, at the Ports and Places where Wheat shall be imported into this Kingdom, shall appear according to the Methods directed by the several Acts of Parliament for ascertaining the Rates and Prices of Corn and Grain imported, or as herein-after directed by this Act to be at or above Forty-eight Shillings per Quarter, or whenever the Price of middling British Rye, Pease, or Beans, shall in like Manner appear respectively to be at or above Thirty-two Shillings per Quaarter, or whenever the Price of middling British Barley, Beer, or Bigg, shall in like Manner appear respectively to be at or above Twenty-four Shillings per Quarter, or whenever the Price of middling British Oats shall in like Manner appear to be at or above Sixteen Shillings per Quarter, all Customs and Duties now payable respectively, upon Wheat, Wheat-flour, Rye, Pease, Beans, Barley, Beer, Bigg, and Oats, imported into this Kingdom, shall respectively cease, determine, and be no longer paid or payable during the respective Continuance of such respective Prices as aforesaid; and in lieu of the former Duties, a Duty of only Sixpence per Quarter shall be laid upon all Wheat; and a Duty of Two-pence for every hundred Weight of Wheat-flour; and a Duty of Three-pence per Quarter shall be laid respectively upon all Rye, Pease, and Beans; and a Duty of Two-pence per Quarter shall be laid respectively upon all Barley, Beer, and Bigg; and a Duty of Two-pence per Quarter shall be laid

upon all Oats imported into such Ports and Places, during the Continuance of the Prices aforesaid; such Duties to be levied, collected, paid, and applied, in the same Manner as such former Duties were before the making of this Act: And such Wheat, Wheat-flour, Rye, Pease, Beans, Barley, Beer, Bigg, or Oats, may be carried Coastwise, and entered or landed in any other Ports of this Kingdom at which the Prices of middling British Corn, Grain, or Flour, are at or above the respective Rates aforesaid, and ascertained in Manner aforesaid, and in no other, under such Regulations as Wheat, Wheat-flour, Rye, Pease, Beans, Barley, Beer, Bigg, or Oats, of the Growth of this Kingdom, are now allowed to be carried Coastwise.

In case Wheat, Wheat-flour, Rye, &c. be imported, when the Duties not repealed shall be due, the same may be landed without Payment of Duties;

And it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case any Wheat or Wheat-flour, Rye, Pease, Beans, Barley, Beer, Bigg, or Oats, shall be imported into the Ports of Bristol, Berwick, Beaumaris, Dover, Exeter, Falmouth, Harwich, Hull, London, Lynn Regis, Lancaster, Liverpoole, Milford, Newcastle, Newhaven, Poole, Southampton, Stockton, Whitehaven, Yarmouth, Ayr, Leith, Port Glasgow, Aberdeen, Kirkwall, or any or either of them, at any Time when the Duties not repealed by this Act shall be due and payable for such Species of Corn, Grain, or Flour respectively, the same, upon due Entry thereof, may be forthwith landed from on Board the Ship or Vessel in which such Species of Corn, Grain, or Flour, shall be so imported, in the Presence of the proper Officer or Officers of the Customs, without Payment of the said Duties: Provided that an exact Account be taken of the Quantity thereof, and entered in a Book, to be kept by the proper Officer in the Custom-houses of the said Ports respectively; and that such Corn, Grain, or Flour, shall, upon landing, be immediately lodged and secured under the Joint Locks of the King and the Importer or Proprietor of such Corn, Grain, or Flour, in such Warehouses as shall be for that Purpose provided, at the sole Expence of the Importer or Proprietor of such Corn, Grain, or Flour, with the Approbation, and under the Care and Inspection, of the Commissioners of the Customs, or any Three or more of them, or the Collector and Comptroller of the Customs for the Port where such Corn, Grain, or Flour, shall be imported,

and warehoused under the Joint Locks of the King and the Importer.

ported, with Liberty for the Proprietor or his Servants to screen, turn, and take such other Care of the same, as Necessity shall require, in the Presence of some Officer or Officers of the Customs, to be appointed for that Purpose by such Commissioners of the Customs, or the Collector and Comptroller of the Port; and such Corn, Grain, or Flour, shall not be delivered or taken out of any such Warehouse, but upon the following Conditions; that is to say, If such Corn, Grain, or Flour, or any Part thereof, shall be delivered, in order to be used or consumed in this Kingdom, the Person or Persons so taking out the same shall first pay down, in ready Money, such Duties as shall at the Time of taking out such Corn, Grain, or Flour, be due and payable for the like Sort of Corn, Grain, or Flour, imported into the same Port; and such Corn, Grain, or Flour, shall be measured out from the said Warehouses, and shall pay the Duties by the Bricken Bushel, and not by the heaped Bushel, and shall, in all other Respects be liable to the same Restrictions and Regulations as it would have been liable to if the same had not been warehoused in pursuance of this Act; and if such Corn, Grain, or Flour, so warehoused as aforesaid, shall be delivered or taken out for Exportation to foreign Parts, the Owner or Exporter thereof, together with One other sufficient Person, to be approved of by the Collector and Comptroller of the Customs at the Port of Exportation), shall enter into Bond to His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Treble the Amount of the full Duties which would be then due and payable for such Corn, Grain, or Flour, if the same was consumed in this Kingdom, with Condition that no Part of such Corn, Grain, or Flour, shall be retained in Great Britain, Ireland, the Islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, Sark, or Man, or the Islands of Faro or Feroe, which Bonds shall be discharged without Fee or Reward, upon Certificate returned under the Common Seal of the Chief Magistrate for, or under the Hands and Seals of Two known British Merchants residing at, the Place where such Corn, Grain, or Flour, was landed, or upon Proof by credible Persons, that such Corn, Grain, or Flour, was taken by Enemies, or perished in the Seas, the Examination and Proof thereof being left to the Judge-

Conditions of Delivery of such Corn, Grain, or Flour.

ment of the respective Commissioners of the Customs where such Bond was given, or any Three or more of them; and if the said Bond shall not be prosecuted within Three Years, the same shall be void.

Provided always, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to the prohibiting such Corn, Grain, or Flour, as hath been, under the Permission herein allowed, transported from Ireland into this Kingdom, and here warehoused, from being again carried back to Ireland, subject to the like Securities and Restrictions in all other Respects as is required upon the Exportation of any other foreign Corn, Grain, or Flour. Corn transported from *Ireland* may be carried back.

And the better to prevent the relanding of such Corn, Grain, or Flour, be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all such Corn, Grain, or Flour, so delivered as aforesaid for Exportation, shall be exported directly from the Port where the same was so delivered, and shall not be removed or carried, by Land or Water, to any other Port or Place in this Kingdom; and if the same shall be so removed or carried, or relanded, or unshipped to be relanded in this Kingdom, over and besides the Forfeiture of the Bond herein before mentioned, all such Corn, Grain, or Flour, together with the Boats, Lighters, or any other Vessels, Horses, Carts, or other Cattle or Carriages, which shall be employed or made use of in the Removal, Carriage, or Conveyance, of such Corn, Grain, or Flour, as also the Ship or Vessel from which the same shall be unloaded, together with her Tackle, Apparel, and Furniture, shall be also forfeited, and shall and may be seized by any Officer or Officers of the Customs; and all and every Person and Persons who shall be assisting, or otherwise concerned in such removing or carrying, or the unshipping or relanding of such Corn, Grain, or Flour, or to whose Hands the same shall knowingly come after the unshipping thereof, shall also forfeit Treble the Value of such Corn, Grain, or Flour; which said Penalties and Forfeitures shall and may be prosecuted, sued for, recovered, and divided, in such Manner and Form, and by such Rules and Regulations, as Penalties and Forfeitures inflicted for unshipping prohibited or uncustomed Goods in this Kingdom, may be prosecuted, sued for, recovered, and divided, by any Law now in Force. Penalty on relanding Corn, Grain, or Flour, so delivered.

And

Corn of the Species mentioned not to be transported; *viz. British* Wheat, when at 44 *s. per* Quarter;

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That whenever the Price of middling British Wheat, at any Port or Place within the Kingdom of Great Britain from whence the same shall be intended to be exported, shall appear to be at or above the Price of Forty-four Shillings per Quarter, such Price being ascertained in Manner aforesaid, no Person or Persons whatsoever shall, directly or indirectly, export, transport, carry, or convey, or cause or procure to be exported, transported, carried, or conveyed, out of or from any such Port or Place, or load or lay on board, or cause or procure to be laden or laid on board, in any Ship or other Vessel, or Boat, in order to be exported or carried out of any such Port or Place, any Wheat, Wheat-meal, or Flour of Malt, Bread, Biscuit, or Starch, made of Wheat; And whenever the Price of middling British Rye, Pease or Beans, at such Port or Place, shall appear respectively to be at or above the Price of Twenty-eight Shillings per Quarter, such Price being ascertained in Manner aforesaid, no Person or Persons whatsoever shall, directly or indirectly, export, transport, carry, or convey, or cause or procure to be exported, transported, carried, or conveyed, out of or from any such Port or Place, or load or lay on board, or cause or procure to be laden or laid on board, in any Ship or other Vessel, or Boat, in order to be exported or carried out of any such Port or Place, any Rye, Pease, or Beans respectively, ground or unground, or any Bread or Biscuit made of Rye, Pease, or Beans respectively; And whenever the Price of middling British Barley, Beer, or Bigg, at such Port or Place, shall appear respectively to be at or above the Price of Twenty-two Shillings per Quarter, such Price being ascertained in Manner aforesaid, no Person or Persons whatsoever shall, directly or indirectly, export, transport, carry, or convey, or cause or procure to be exported, transported, carried, or conveyed, out of or from any such Port or Place, or load or lay on board, or cause or procure to be laden or laid on board, in any Ship or other Vessel or Boat, in order to be exported or carried out of any such Port or Place, any Barley, Beer, or Bigg, or Malt, or Bread or Biscuit made of Barley, Beer, or Bigg respectively:

British Rye, Pease, or Beans, when at 28 *s. per* Quarter;

British Barley, Beer, or Bigg, when at 22 *s. per* Quarter;

ſpectively: And whenever the Price of middling Britiſh Oats ſhall appear to be at or above the Price of Fourteen Shillings per Quarter, ſuch Price being aſcertained in Manner aforeſaid, no Perſon or Perſons whatſoever ſhall, directly or indirectly, export, tranſport, carry, or convey, or cauſe or procure to be exported, tranſported, carried, or conveyed, out of or from any ſuch Port or Place, or load or lay on board, or cauſe or procure to be laden or laid on board, in any Ship or other Veſſel, or Boat, in order to be exported or carried out of any ſuch Port or Place, any Oats or Oatmeal, or Malt, Bread or Biſcuit made of Oats, under the Penalties and Forfeitures herein-after mentioned; that is to ſay, That all and every the ſaid Commodities that ſhall be ſo exported, or ſo laden or laid on board in any Ship or other Veſſel, or Boat, in order to be exported or carried out contrary to this Act, ſhall be forfeited; and that every Offender or Offenders therein ſhall forfeit the Sum of Twenty Shillings for every Buſhel of Wheat, Wheat-meal, or Flour, Rye, Peaſe, or Beans, Barley, Beer, or Bigg, Oats, or Oatmeal, or Malt, made of any of the Grains aforeſaid, ground or unground, and Twelve-pence for every Pound Weight of Bread, Biſcuit, or Starch, as aforeſaid, which ſhall be ſo exported, or ſo laden or laid on board in any Ship or other Veſſel, or Boat, in order to be exported or carried out; and alſo the Ship, Veſſel, or Boat, in which any of the ſaid Articles herein-before ſpecified ſhall be exported, or upon which any of the ſaid Articles ſhall be laden or laid, in order to be exported, and all her Guns, Tackle, Apparel, or Furniture, ſhall be forfeited, and ſhall and may be ſeized by any Officer or Officers of the Cuſtoms; and One Moiety of all the ſaid Penalties and Forfeitures ſhall be to the King's Majeſty, his Heirs and Succeſſors, and the other Moiety to him or them who will ſue for the ſame: And for Offences which ſhall be committed in that Part of Great Britain called England, ſuch Penalties and Forfeitures ſhall be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majeſty's Courts of Record at Weſtminſter, or before the Judges of Aſſize, or at the Great Seſſions in Wales; or

Britiſh Oats, when at 14 *s.* *per* Quarter;

under Penalty of forfeiting the ſaid Commodities, and 20 *s.* *per* Buſhel of the Grain aforeſaid;

with the Ship, Veſſel, or Boat, in which they are laden.

Penalty how recoverable.

where the Value of such Penalties or Forfeitures shall not exceed the Sum of Fifty Pounds, the same may be recovered by Information, at any General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the County, City, Riding, Division, or Place, where the Offence was committed; and in such Suit no Essoin, Protection, Privilege, or Wager of Law, shall be allowed: And for Offences which shall be committed in that Part of Great Britain called Scotland, the same may be recovered by Action, or summary Bill or Information, in the Courts of Session or Exchequer in Scotland; or where the Value of such Penalties or Forfeitures shall not exceed the Sum of Fifty Pounds, the same may be recovered by summary Bill or Information, at any General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, by Action in the Sheriffs or Stewards Court of the County, or Stewartry where the Offence shall be committed: And that the Master and Mariners of any such Ship, Vessel, or Boat, wherein any such Offence shall be committed, knowing such Offence, and wittingly and willingly aiding and assisting thereunto, and being thereof duly convicted in any such Courts respectively, as aforesaid, shall be imprisoned for the Space of Three Months, without Bail or Mainprize.

Not to extend to the Sustenance of Ships of War, &c.

Provided always, That this Act, or any Thing herein contained, shall not extend to prohibit the Exportation or carrying out of such or so much of the said Articles herein-before enumerated as shall be necessary to be carried in any Ship or Ships, or other Vessel or Vessels, in their respective Voyages out and Home, for the Sustenance, Diet, and Support of the Commanders, Masters, Mariners, Passengers, or others, in the same Ships or Vessels only, and taking their Passage in such Ships or Vessels, or for the victualling or providing any of his Majesty's Ships of War, or other Ships or Vessels in his Majesty's Service, or for his Majesty's Forces, Forts, or Garrisons; any Thing herein contained to the Contrary notwithstanding.

nor to Vessels carrying the same Coastwise.

Provided also, That this Act, or any Thing herein contained, shall not extend to prohibit any Person or Persons to ship or put on board any of the Articles aforesaid, to be carried Coastwise; that is to say, From any

Port,

Port, Creek, Member, or Part of the Kingdom of Great Britain, to any other Port, Creek, Member, or Part of the same respectively, having such or the like Coast Cocquet, or Sufferance for that Purpose, or such or the like sufficient Security being first given for the landing and discharging the same, in some other Port, Member, Creek, or Part of the said Kingdom, and returning a Certificate in Six Months, as is required by Law in Cases where Goods which are liable to pay Duties on Exportation are carried Coastwise from One Port of Great Britain to another.

Articles which may be exported from Ports mentioned.

Provided also, That nothing herein-before contained shall extend to prohibit the several Articles herein-after expressed being exported out of and from the respective Ports in this Kingdom herein-after mentioned, and from no others, to the several Places as herein-after mentioned, for the Sustenance and Use of the Inhabitants thereof, so as the same do not exceed the several Quantities respectively limited to those Places within Twelve Calendar Months; (that is to say),

From the Port of *London*,	To *Gibraltar*,	Any Quantity of Wheat, Meal, Flour, Rye, Barley, or Malt, not exceeding Two thousand five hundred Quarters in the Whole.
	To *Minorca*,	Any Quantity of Wheat, Meal, Flour, Rye, Barley, or Malt, not exceeding Three thousand five hundred Quarters in the Whole.
	To *St. Helena*,	Any Quantity of Wheat, Meal, Flour, Rye, Barley, or Malt, not exceeding Five hundred Quarters in the Whole.
From the Port of *Southampton*,	To the Islands of *Guernsey* and *Jersey*,	Any Quantity of Wheat, Meal, Flour, Rye, Barley, or Malt, not exceeding Five thousand Quarters in the Whole to both Places.

From the Ports of *Whitehaven* and *Liverpoole*,	To the *Isle of Man*.	Any Quantity of Wheat, Barley, Oats, Meal, or Flour, not exceeding Two thousand five hundred Quarters in the Whole; One Moiety thereof to be exported from the said Port of *Whitehaven*, and the other Moiety thereof to be exported from the said Port of *Liverpoole*.

Security to be taken from the Exporters without Fee or Reward.

So as the Exporters, before the shipping thereof, do declare the Island or Place for which the said Articles are respectively designed, and do become bound to His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, with One other sufficient Security, (to be approved by the Collector and Comptroller of the Customs at the Port of Exportation), in Treble the Value thereof, with Condition that the said Articles so permitted to be exported shall be landed at the respective Island or Place for which the same shall be so declared and entered for the Use and Sustenance of the Inhabitants there, and shall not be landed or sold in any other Parts whatsoever, the Danger of the Seas and Enemies excepted; and that a Certificate, under the Hand and Seal of the Collector, Comptroller, or other Chief Officer of the Customs, or if no such, of the Naval Officer, or some other principal Officer of the Place where the same shall be landed, shall, within Twelve Calendar Months from the Date of the Bond given for landing such Commodities in Gibraltar or Minorca, and within Eighteen Calendar Months from the Date of the Bond given for landing such Commodities in Saint Helena, and within Six Calendar Months from the Date of the Bond given for landing such Commodities in the Islands of Guernsey, Jersey, or Man, (the Danger of the Seas excepted), be returned to the Officers who took the said Bonds, that the said Commodities have been landed at the Place for which the same shall have been so declared and entered; and for the taking such Security, and giving such Certificate, which the respective

Officers are hereby required on Demand to give), no Fee or Reward shall be demanded or received: And if any Officer shall make any false Certificate of any such Commodities being so landed, such Officer shall forfeit the Sum of Two hundred Pounds, and lose his Employment, and be incapable of serving His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, in any Office relating to the Customs: And if any Person shall counterfeit, erase, or falsify any Certificate, directed or required by this Act, or knowingly publish any such counterfeit, erased, or false Certificate, he shall forfeit the Sum of Two hundred Pounds; and such Certificate shall be void and of no Effect: Which said Penalties, for Offences committed in Great Britain, shall be recovered in the same Courts, and in the same Manner, as the other Penalties inflicted by this Act are recoverable; and for Offences committed in any other the Dominions belonging to the Crown of Great Britain in Europe, shall be recovered in the High Court of Admiralty, or in any other chief Court of Civil or Criminal Jurisdiction, in such respective Dominions, and shall be divided into equal Moieties between His Majesty and the Informer; and the said Bond or Bonds, if not prosecuted within Three Years, shall be void.

Penalty on making a false Certificate.

Provided also, That nothing herein contained shall extend to prohibit the Exportation of Beans to the British Forts, Castles, or Factories, in Africa, or for the Use of the Ships trading upon that Coast that have been usually supplied with the same from Great Britain, or to prohibit the Committee of the Company of Merchants trading to Africa from exporting annually any Quantity of Wheat-flour, not exceeding Two hundred Quarters, or any Quantity of Bread or Biscuit, not exceeding Fifteen Tons in the whole of such Bread or Biscuit, or of such Bread and Biscuit together, to the British Forts, Castles, or Factories, in Africa, for the Support of the Persons residing there, so as the Exporter of such Articles hereby said to such Forts, Castles, or Factories aforesaid, doth, before the shipping thereof, enter into such or the like Bond or Bonds as are herein-before directed to be entered into by the Exporters from the Port of London to the Island of Saint Helena, of the particular Species

Beans may be exported to Africa.

and Quantity of Corn, Grain, or Flour, allowed by this Act to be exported to that Island.

Not to prohibit Grain from being exported to *Ireland*.

Provided also, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to prohibit Corn, Grain, or Flour, from being exported from Great Britain to the Kingdom of Ireland, during such Time, and so long as any General Prohibition of, or Embargo on, the Exportation of Corn, Grain, or Flour, shall be in Force in that Kingdom, but that it shall and may be lawful, during the Time that such Prohibition or Embargo shall be in Force in that Kingdom, to export Corn, Grain, or Flour, from Great Britain to Ireland, so as the Exporters of all such Corn, Grain, or Flour, from Great Britain do, before the shipping thereof, declare, that all such Corn, Grain, or Flour, is intended to be imported into Ireland, and also do become bound to His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in the like Bond or Bonds as are by this Act directed to be entered into by the Exporters of Corn, Grain, or Flour, to the Islands of Guernsey, Jersey, or Man, under Condition of returning, in the like Time, Certificates under the Hands and Seals of the Collector, Comptroller, and Surveyor of the Customs, or of any Two of them, in such Port or Ports where such Corn, Grain, or Flour, shall be landed, of such Corn, Grain, or Flour, being landed in Ireland, as are hereby directed to be returned with respect to the landing of Corn, Grain, or Flour, in the Islands of Guernsey, Jersey, or Man; and that all Persons who shall, within the Kingdom of Ireland, counterfeit, erase, or falsify, any Certificate directed or required by this Act, or knowingly publish any such counterfeit, erased, or false Certificate, shall be liable to all the like Penalties and Forfeitures as Persons committing the like Offences are liable to in Great Britain; which said Penalties for Offences so committed in Ireland shall be recovered in His Majesty's Courts of Record in Dublin, and shall be divided between His Majesty and the Informer, in like Manner as is herein-before directed, so as the said Bonds be prosecuted within the like Time as is herein-before directed for the Prosecution of Bonds of the like Nature.

And

And it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the First Day of January, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-four, the several Bounties which are now allowed by Law upon the Exportation of any Sort of Corn or Grain, ground or unground, shall cease and determine, and instead and in lieu thereof, when the Prices of the Corn or Grain hereinafter mentioned, (the same being ascertained according to the Methods directed by the several Acts of Parliament for ascertaining the Rates and Prices of Corn and Grain imported, or as herein-after directed by this Act), shall appear to be under the Rates herein-after respectively mentioned, at the Ports or Places in this Kingdom from whence the same shall be exported, there shall be allowed upon the Exportation of such Corn or Grain, either ground or unground, being the Growth and Product of this Kingom, and put on Board in British Shipping, the Master and at least Two-thirds of the Mariners of such Ship being His Majesty's Subjects, the following Bounties; that is to say, When the Price of middling British Wheat shall be under Forty-four Shillings per Quarter, there shall be allowed a Bounty of Five Shillings for every Quarter of Wheat, and Five Shillings for every Quarter of Malt made of Wheat; when the Price of middling British Rye shall be under Twenty-eight Shillings per Quarter, there shall be allowed a Bounty of Three Shillings for every Quarter of Rye; when the Price of middling British Barley, Beer, or Bigg, shall be under Twenty-two Shillings per Quarter, there shall be allowed a Bounty of Two Shillings and Sixpence for every Quarter of Barley, Beer, or Bigg, and Two Shillings and Sixpence for every Quarter of Malt made of Barley, Beer, or Bigg; and when the Price of middling British Oats shall be under Fourteen Shillings per Quarter, there shall be allowed a Bounty of Two Shillings for every Quarter of Oats, and Two Shillings and Sixpence for every Quarter of Oatmeal, computed at the Rate of Two hundred and seventy-six Pounds Averdupois to the Quarter; which said respective Bounties shall be paid and allowed in all other Respects not altered

After *January* 1, 1774, the Bounties on Grain are to determine and cease, and the Bounties mentioned take Place.

altered by this Act, by the same Rules and Regulations, and subject to the same Securities, Restrictions, Penalties, and Forfeitures, as the former Bounties on Corn or Grain exported were paid and allowed, and were subject and liable to, in as full and ample Manner as if the several Clauses relating thereto were again repeated and enacted in this present Act.

Not to prohibit Persons who shall have entered the above Articles when the Prices shall be under the Rates mentioned, from exporting the same.

Provided always, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person shall have entered outwards any of the Articles herein-before mentioned, and shall have begun to ship or lay the same on Board, during the Time that the Prices of middling British Corn in this Kingdom shall be under the Rates herein-before respectively specified, such Person shall not be prohibited from exporting the said Articles actually so shipped or laden on Board, or so much of the said Articles expressed in such Entry as shall be so shipped or laden on Board, within Twenty Days from the Entry thereof, at the Custom-house for Exportation, nor from receiving the Bounty by this Act granted thereon; any Thing in this Act contained to the Contrary notwithstanding, although the Prices of Corn in this Kingdom may have arisen above the Rates herein-before respectively specified, after such Articles shall have been shipped, and before the Exportation thereof.

Any Corn for which Duty has been paid, if again exported within Six Months, the Duty to be drawn back, and repaid.

Provided always, and it is hereby enacted and declared by the Authority aforesaid, That in all Cases where any Corn, Grain, or Flour, for which the Duties hereby granted have been paid, shall at any Time or Times be again exported by any Merchant or Merchants within Six Calendar Months from the Importation thereof, the Duty by this Act granted, and which shall have been actually paid for such Corn, Grain, or Flour, shall, without any Delay or Reward, be drawn back, and repaid unto such Merchant or Merchants who shall export the same to any Place where a Drawback is allowed on the Exportation of any foreign Goods from this Kingdom by any Act or Acts of Parliament now in Force, and to no other: And such Drawback shall, in all other Respects, be paid and allowed, under the like Restrictions, Rules, and Regulations,

gulations, and shall be subject to the like Penalties and Forfeitures, as the Drawback upon foreign Goods exported is subject and liable to.

And whereas the Modes directed by the several Acts of Parliament for ascertaining the Rates and Prices of Corn and Grain in England, for regulating the Duties payable for Corn and Grain imported into England, cannot easily, and with Certainty, be carried into Execution in Scotland: And whereas by the Ninth Act, passed in the Parliament of Scotland, holden by Her late Majesty Queen Anne, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and three, intituled, An Act discharging Importation of *Irish* Victual, Beef, and Cattle, the Importation of Victual from Ireland, or any other Places beyond the Seas into Scotland, was restrained and prohibited, under several Penalties contained in the said Act, and in other Acts of the Parliament of Scotland therein referred to; but with this Proviso, That when, by reason of Dearth, the Prices of Victual should exceed the Rates specified in the said Act, the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council of Scotland should have Power, after due Trial by them taken of the Prices of Victual, to suspend and discharge the Execution of the said prohibitory Acts for such Space of Time as the Exigence of the Dearth should require: And whereas, by the Sixth Article of the Treaty of Union, it is provided, that the Prohibition, as then in Force by the Law of Scotland against the Importation of Victual from Ireland, or any other Place beyond the Seas, into Scotland, should, after the Union, remain in the same Force as it then was, until more proper and effectual Ways should be provided by the Parliament of Great Britain for discouraging the Importation of the said Victual from beyond the Sea: And whereas by an Act, passed in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty George the Second, intituled, An Act for licensing the Importation of Victual from *Ireland*, and other Parts beyond the Seas, into *Scotland*, in Time of Dearth and Scarcity, the Power of suspending and discharging the Execution of the said prohibitory Laws, which was before vested in the Lords of the Privy Council,

Recital of Act of the *Scots* Parliament, 1703;

Act VI. Treaty of Union;

and Act 14 *Geo.* II.

ill, by the ſaid Act of her late Majeſty Queen Anne, paſſed in the Year One thouſand ſeven hundred and three, in the Parliament of Scotland, was thereby veſted in the Judges of the Court of Seſſion, Juſticiary, and Exchequer, in Scotland; and it is declared, that any Nine of them, in Time of Seſſion, and any Five of them, in Time of Vacance, upon the Petition of any Perſon or Perſons deſirous to import Victual from Ireland, or other Parts beyond the Seas, into Scotland, are authoriſed and required to examine, inquire into, and determine the common Market Prices of middling Corn and Grain, as the ſame ſhall and may be commonly bought in County and City of Edinburgh, and to fix and aſcertain the ſame by a proper Act or Determination, to be publiſhed and made known in the Manner therein directed; and if the ſaid Act and Determination ſhall aſcertain the current Prices of Victual in the City and County of Edinburgh to exceed the Rates and Prices ſpecified in the ſaid Act, it is declared to be a ſufficient Warrant to the Collector and other Officers of the ſeveral Ports in Scotland to allow Victual from Ireland, or other Parts beyond the Seas, to be entered, unſhipped, and landed, upon Payment of the Duties charged and directed to be paid upon Foreign Corn imported in and by an Act, paſſed in the Twenty-ſecond Year of his late Majeſty Charles the Second, intituled, An Act for the Improvement of Tillage and the Breed of Cattle; which Duties are to be collected and paid according to the Rates and Prices to be aſcertained and determined by the ſaid Judges, in purſuance of the ſaid Act paſſed in the Fourteenth Year of his late Majeſty King George the Second; and the Judges are likewiſe authoriſed and required to determine and aſcertain the Prices of Victual, when they do not exceed the Rates and Prices ſpecified in the ſaid Act, ſo that the aforeſaid prohibitory Laws may thereupon be revived, to prevent further Importation of Victual from Ireland, or other Parts beyond the Seas: And whereas the Mode of aſcertaining the Prices by the ſaid Act for permitting the Importation of Victual from Ireland, and other Parts beyond the Seas, has been found to be attended with great Inconvenience, and is inconſiſtent with the Principle of this Act, in making the Prices of Corn and Grain at the Ports and Places of Importation and Exportation to regulate the Prohibitions, Bounties, and Duties, at ſuch reſpective Ports and Places: For Remedy hereof, and for rendering this Act more eaſy to be executed in that Part of Great Britain called Scotland, be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after

after the Commencement of this Act, the Mode of ascertaining the Prices of Victual prescribed by the aforesaid Act, passed in the Fourteenth Year of his late Majesty King George the Second, and the Powers vested in the Judges of the Courts of Session, Justiciary, and Exchequer, for that Purpose, shall cease and determine; and that thereafter the Sheriff or Steward-deputes of the several Shires and Stewartries in Scotland, within which there are Ports and Places for the Importation and Exportation of Goods and Merchandise, or their Substitutes, shall, and they are hereby authorised and required, Four Times in every Year; that is to say, Upon the First Day of November, First Day of February, First Day of May, and First Day of August, or as soon after these Days as may be, to summon and convene before them Two or more honest and substantial Persons of their respective Counties or Stewartries, not being Corn Merchants nor Factors for Corn, nor any Way interested or concerned in any Corn to be imported, and being skilful in the Prices of Corn; and upon the Oaths of such Two or more Persons, which Oaths the said Sheriff or Steward-deputes, or their Substitutes respectively, are hereby impowered to administer, and by such other Ways and Means as to them shall seem proper and necessary, to examine, inquire into, and determine the common Market Prices of middling British Corn and Grain, and Oatmeal, as the same shall and may be commonly bought in their respective Counties or Stewartries, and to fix and ascertain the same, by proper Acts or Determinations to be subscribed by them respectively; and thereafter, without Delay, to transmit their respective Acts or Determinations to the Collector or Chief Officer of every Port within their respective Counties or Stewartries, and the Collector or chief Officer of the several Ports, to whom such Acts or Determinations shall be transmitted are hereby ordered and required to hang up the same in some publick Place in the Custom-house of the respective Ports, to which all Persons may resort for their Information, there to remain until a succeeding Act and Determination shall be transmitted to be hung up in its Place, and to transmit a Copy thereof to the Commissioners of the Customs at Edinburgh, and the Prices so ascertained shall regulate the Prohibitions in this Act, and the Duties and Bounties upon the Importation and Exportation of all Corn and Grain imported into or exported from the several Counties in Scotland, where the Prices are ascertained in

Mode of ascertaining Prices of Victual by the last-mentioned Act to cease;

and Market Prices of Corn, &c. to be examined and fixed by Sheriffs and Steward deputes;

who are to transmit Copies of their Determinations to the Collector at the Ports.

Manner before directed; and every Act and Determination shall remain in Force for that Purpose, until a subsequent Act or Determination shall be transmitted to supply its Place; and the Sheriffs or Stewards, who shall fix and ascertain the Prices of middling British Corn and Oatmeal in Manner before directed, are hereby ordered and required to cause preserve, as Matter of Record of their respective Courts, the Evidence upon which their Acts or Determinations of the Prices are founded; and the Clerks of their respective Courts are hereby ordered and required to give Extracts of the Evidence to all Persons calling for the same, upon receiving Payment of the usual Fees exigible for Extracts of judicial Proceedings.

When the Price does not exceed 16*s.* *per* Boll, Oatmeal from *Ireland*, &c. with the Vessel, [illegible] before [illegible]

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Commencement of this Act, all Oatmeal imported from Ireland, or from any other Part beyond the Seas, into any Port or Place in Scotland, where the Price of Oatmeal, ascertained in the Manner before directed, does not exceed Sixteen Shillings per Boll, weighing Eight Stone Troys, as also the Ship or Vessel in which such Oatmeal shall be imported, together with her Tackle, Apparel, and Furniture, shall be forfeited, and shall and may be seized by any Officer or Officers of the Customs; and all and every Person and Persons who shall be aiding and assisting in the unshipping of such Oatmeal, or to whose Hands the same shall knowingly come after the unshipping thereof, shall forfeit Treble the Value of such Oatmeal; and which said Forfeitures and Penalties shall and may be prosecuted, sued for, and recovered, and divided in such Manner and Form, and by such Rules and Regulations, as Penalties and Forfeitures inflicted for unshipping prohibited and unaccustomed Goods in this Kingdom may be prosecuted, sued for, recovered, and divided, by any Law now in Force.

When Oatmeal does exceed 16*s.* it may be imported.

Provided always, That from and after the Commencement of this Act, it shall be lawful to import Oatmeal from Ireland, or from any other Part beyond the Seas, into any Port or Place in Scotland, where the Price of Oatmeal ascertained in Manner directed by this Act does exceed the Price of Sixteen Shillings per Boll, weighing Eight Stone Troys.

FINIS.