ANNO QUADRAGESIMO QUINTO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

****

C A P. LXXXIX.

An Act to alter and extend the Provisions of the Laws now in force for the Punishment of the Forgery of Bank Notes, Bills of Exchange, and other Securities, to every Part of *Great Britain.*

[10th *July* 1805.]

WHEREAS by an Act, passed in the Second Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled, *An Act* 2 G. 2. c. 25.
for the more effectual preventing and further Punishment of Forgery, Perjury, and Subornation of Perjury, and to make it Felony to steal Bonds, Notes, or other Securities for Payment of Money; and also by an Act, passed in the Seventh Year of the Reign of His said Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled, *An Act for the more effectual preventing* 7 G. 2. c. 22.
the forging or Acceptance of Bills of Exchange, or the Numbers or principal Sums of accountable Receipts for Notes, Bills, or other Securities for Payment of Money, or Warrants or Orders for Payment of Money or Delivery of Goods; and also by an Act, passed in the Thirty-first Year of the Reign of His said Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled, *An Act for granting* 31 G. 2. c. 22.
to His Majesty several Rates and Duties upon Offices and Pensions, and upon Houses, and upon Windows or Lights, and for raising the Sum of Five Millions by Annuities and a Lottery, to be charged on the said Rates and Duties; and also by an Act, passed in the Fifteenth Year of the Reign of His said Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled, *An Act for establishing an* 15 G. 2. c. 13.
Agreement with the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, *for advancing the Sum of One million six hundred thousand Pounds towards the Supply for the Service of the Year One thousand seven hundred and forty-two;* and also by an Act, passed in the Forty-first Year of the Reign of His present Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled, *An Act for the more* 41 G. 3. c. 39.
effectually preventing the Forgery of Bank Notes, Bank Bills of Exchange, and Bank Post Bills, certain Provisions were made and enacted for the preventing and punishing the Forgery of Bank Notes, and other Notes, Bills, and Instruments, in these Acts respectively mentioned: And whereas it is expedient that such Provisions should extend and be in force in every Part of *Great Britain*, with such Alterations and Amendments therein as are hereby made; 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 if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall, from and after the paſſing of this Act, falſely make, forge, counterfeit, or alter, or cauſe or procure to be falſely made, forged, counterfeited, or altered, or willingly act or aſſiſt in the falſe making, forging, counterfeiting, or altering any Deed, Will, Teſtament, Bond, Writing obligatory, Bill of Exchange, Promiſſory Note for Payment of Money, Indorſement or Aſſignment of any Bill of Exchange or Promiſſory Note for Payment of Money, Acceptance of any Bill of Exchange, or any Acquittance or Receipt either for Money or Goods, or any accountable Receipt for any Note, Bill, or other Security for Payment of Money, or any Warrant or Order for Payment of Money or Delivery of Goods, with Intention to defraud any Perſon or Perſons, Body or Bodies Politick or Corporate whatſoever; or ſhall offer, diſpoſe of, or put away any falſe, forged, counterfeited, or altered Deed, Will, Teſtament, Bond, Writing obligatory, Bill of Exchange, Promiſſory Note for Payment of Money, Indorſement or Aſſignment of any Bill of Exchange or Promiſſory Note for Payment of Money, Acceptance of any Bill of Exchange, Acquittance, or Receipt, either for Money or Goods, accountable Receipt for any Note, Bill, or other Security for Payment of Money, Warrant or Order for Payment of Money or Delivery of Goods, with Intention to defraud any Perſon or Perſons, Body or Bodies Politick or Corporate, knowing the ſame to be falſe, forged, counterfeited, or altered, then every Perſon or Perſons ſo offending, and being thereof lawfully convicted according to the due Courſe of Law, ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as a Felon without Benefit of Clergy.

Perſons forging Deeds, Wills, and Securities for Payment of Money, &c. or offering any ſuch, guilty of Felony, without Benefit of Clergy.

II. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall, from and after the paſſing of this Act, forge, counterfeit, or alter any Bank Note, Bank Bill of Exchange, Dividend Warrant, or any Bond or Obligation under the Common Seal of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, or any Indorſement thereon, or ſhall offer or diſpoſe of or put away any ſuch forged, counterfeit, or altered Note, Bill, Dividend Warrant, Bond, or Obligation, or the Indorſement thereon, or demand the Money therein contained or pretended to be due thereon, or any Part thereof, of the ſaid Company, or any their Officers or Servants, knowing ſuch Note, Bill, Dividend Warrant, Bond, or Obligation, or the Indorſement thereon, to be forged, counterfeited, or altered, with Intent to defraud the ſaid Governor and Company, or their Succeſſors, or any other Perſon or Perſons, Body or Bodies Politick or Corporate whatſoever, every Perſon or Perſons ſo offending, and being thereof convicted in due Form of Law, ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as a Felon without Benefit of Clergy.

Forgery of Bank Notes, &c. like Puniſhment.

III. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons (other than the Officers, Workmen, Servants, or Agents for the Time being of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, to be authorized and appointed for that Purpoſe by the ſaid Governor and Company, and for the Uſe of the ſaid Governor and Company only) ſhall, from and after the paſſing of this Act, make or uſe, or cauſe or procure to be made or uſed, or knowingly aid or aſſiſt in the making or uſing, or (without being authorized or appointed as aforeſaid) ſhall knowingly have in his, her, or their Cuſtody or Poſſeſſion (without lawful Excuſe, the Proof whereof ſhall

Puniſhment of Perſons, (except Officers of the Bank), making, or having in their Poſſeſſion, Frames for making Paper of the Deſcription herein mentioned, or having in their Poſſeſſion

ſhall lie upon the Party accuſed) any Frame, Mould, or Inſtrument for the making of Paper with curved or waving Bar Lines, or with the laying Wire Lines thereof in a waving or curved Shape, or with any Number, Sum, or Amount, expreſſed in a Word or Words in Roman Letters, viſible in the Subſtance of ſuch Paper; or ſhall manufacture, make, uſe, vend, expoſe to Sale, publiſh, or diſpoſe of, or cauſe or procure to be manufactured, made, uſed, vended, expoſed to Sale, publiſhed, or diſpoſed of, or aid or aſſiſt in the manufacturing, making, uſing, vending, expoſing to Sale, publiſhing, or diſpoſing of, or (without being authorized or appointed as aforeſaid) ſhall knowingly have in his, her, or their Cuſtody or Poſſeſſion, any Paper whatſoever with curved or waving Bar Lines, or with the laying Wire Lines thereof in a waving or curved Shape, or having any Number, Sum, or Amount expreſſed in a Word or Words in Roman Letters appearing viſible in the Subſtance of ſuch Paper; or if any Perſon or Perſons (except as before excepted) ſhall, by any Art, Myſtery, or Contrivance, cauſe or procure the Numerical Sum or Amount of any Bank Note, Bank Bill of Exchange, or Bank Poſt Bill, Blank Bank Note, Blank Bank Bill of Exchange, or Blank Bank Poſt Bill, in a Word or Words to appear viſible in the Subſtance of the Paper whereon the ſame ſhall be written or printed, or ſhall knowingly aid or aſſiſt in cauſing the Numerical Sum or Amount of any Bank Note, Bank Bill of Exchange, or Bank Poſt Bill, Blank Bank Note, Blank Bank Bill of Exchange, or Blank Bank Poſt Bill, in a Word or Words in Roman Letters to appear viſible in the Subſtance of the Paper whereon the ſame ſhall be written or printed, every Perſon or Perſons ſo offending in any of the Caſes aforeſaid, and being convicted thereof according to Law, ſhall be adjudged a Felon, and ſhall be tranſported for the Term of Fourteen Years.

Such Paper, to be Tranſportation.

IV. Provided alſo, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend, to reſtrain any Perſon or Perſons from iſſuing or negociating any Bill or Bills of Exchange, Promiſſory Note or Promiſſory Notes, having the Sum or Amount thereof expreſſed in Guineas, or in a Numerical Figure or Figures, denominating the Sum or Amount thereof in Pounds Sterling, appearing viſible on the Subſtance of the Paper upon which the ſame ſhall be written or printed; any Thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

Not to reſtrain the Iſſue or Negociation of Bills having the Amount expreſſed in Guineas, or Figures, denoting Pounds.

V. Provided alſo, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained ſhall reſtrain or prevent any Perſon or Perſons from making, uſing, vending, expoſing to Sale, publiſhing, or diſpoſing of any Paper having waving or curved Lines, or any other Devices in the Nature of Watermarks viſible in the Subſtance of the Paper, not being Bar Lines or laying Wire Lines, provided the ſame are not contrived in ſuch Manner as to form the Ground-work or Texture of the Paper, or to imitate or reſemble the waving or curved laying Wire Lines or Bar Lines of the ſaid Paper of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, or to imitate or reſemble the Watermarks uſed by the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England* in the Bank Notes, Bank Bills of Exchange, and Bank Poſt Bills, iſſued by the ſaid Governor and Company; any Thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

Perſons allowed to make Paper having waved Lines, not being Bar Lines, or laying Wire Lines, and not imitating the Paper of the Bank.

VI. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall, from and after the paſſing of this Act, purchaſe or receive from any other Perſon

Puniſhment for purchaſing or receiving

forged Bank Notes, &c. to be Transportation.

Person or Persons any forged or counterfeited Bank Note, Bank Bill of Exchange, Bank Post Bill, or Blank Bank Note, Blank Bank Bill of Exchange, or Blank Bank Post Bill, knowing the same to be forged or counterfeited, or shall knowingly or wittingly have in his, her, or their Possession or Custody, or in his, her, or their Dwelling House, Outhouse, Lodgings, or Apartments, any forged or counterfeited Bank Note, Bank Bill of Exchange, or Bank Post Bill, or Blank Bank Note, Blank Bank Bill of Exchange, or Blank Bank Post Bill, knowing the same to be forged or counterfeited (without lawful Excuse, the Proof whereof shall lie upon the Person accused) every Person or Persons so offending, and being thereof convicted according to Law, shall be adjudged a Felon, and shall be transported for the Term of Fourteen Years.

Punishment of Persons engraving, &c. on any Plate, any Bank Note, or Part thereof, or using any such Plate, without the Authority of the Bank, to be Transportation.

VII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons, from and after the passing of this Act, shall engrave, cut, etch, scrape, or by any other Means or Device make, or shall cause or procure to be engraved, cut, etched, scraped, or by any other Means or Device made, or shall knowingly aid or assist in the engraving, cutting, etching, scraping, or by any other Means or Device, making, in or upon any Plate of Copper, Brass, Steel, Pewter, or of any other Metal or Mixture of Metals, or upon any Wood or any other Materials, or any Plate whatsoever, any Bank Note, Bank Bill of Exchange, Bank Post Bill, or Blank Bank Note, Blank Bank Bill of Exchange, or Blank Bank Post Bill, or Part of a Bank Note, Bank Bill of Exchange, or Bank Post Bill, purporting to be the Note, or Bill of Exchange, or Bank Post Bill, or Blank Bank Note, or Blank Bank Bill of Exchange, or Blank Bank Post Bill, or Part of the Note, or Bill of Exchange, or Bank Post Bill of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, without an Authority in Writing for that Purpose from the said Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*; or shall use any such Plate so engraved, cut, etched, scraped, or by any other Means or Device made, or shall use any other Instrument or Device for the making or printing any such Bank Note, Bank Bill of Exchange, or Bank Post Bill, or Blank Bank Note, or Blank Bank Bill of Exchange, or Blank Bank Post Bill, or Part of a Bank Note, or Bank Bill of Exchange, or Bank Post Bill, without such Authority in Writing as aforesaid; or if any Person or Persons shall, from and after the passing of this Act, without such Authority as aforesaid, knowingly have in his, her, or their Custody, any such Plate, Instrument, or Device, or shall, without such Authority as aforesaid, knowingly and wilfully utter, publish, dispose of, or put away any such Blank Bank Note, Blank Bank Bill of Exchange, or Blank Bank Post Bill, or Part of such Bank Note, Bank Bill of Exchange, or Bank Post Bill, every Person so offending in any of the Cases aforesaid, and being convicted thereof according to Law, shall be adjudged a Felon, and shall be transported for the Term of Fourteen Years.

Provisions to extend to every Part of Great Britain.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That all and every the Clauses and Provisions in this Act contained shall extend, and be deemed and construed to extend by all Courts, Judges, and Magistrates whatsoever, to every Part of *Great Britain*; any Thing herein-before contained, or any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

LONDON: Printed by George Eyre and Andrew Strahan, Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1805.