ANNO TRICESIMO SEPTIMO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. LXX.

An Act for the better Prevention and Puniſhment of Attempts to ſeduce Perſons ſerving in His Majeſty's Forces, by Sea or Land, from their Duty and Allegiance to His Majeſty, or to incite them to Mutiny or Diſobedience. [6th *June* 1797.]

WHEREAS divers wicked and evil diſpoſed Perſons, by the Publication of written or printed Papers, and by malicious and adviſed Speaking, have of late induſtriouſly endeavoured to ſeduce Perſons ſerving in His Majeſty's Forces by Sea and Land from their Duty and Allegiance to His Majeſty, and to incite them to Mutiny and Diſobedience; 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 paſſing of this Act, any Perſon who ſhall maliciouſly and adviſedly endeavour to ſeduce any Perſon or Perſons ſerving in His Majeſty's Forces, by Sea or Land, from his or their Duty and Allegiance to His Majeſty, or to incite or ſtir up any ſuch Perſon or Perſons to commit any Act of Mutiny, or to make, or endeavour to make, any mutinous Aſſembly, or to commit any traiterous or mutinous Practice whatſoever, ſhall, on being legally convicted of ſuch Offence, be adjudged guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as in Caſes of Felony without Benefit of Clergy.

Preamble.

Any Perſon who ſhall attempt to ſeduce any Sailor or Soldier from his Duty, or incite him to Mutiny, &c. to ſuffer Death.

Where Offences may be profecuted.

II. Provided always, and be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That any Offence committed againſt this Act, whether committed on the High Seas or within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, ſhall and may be proſecuted and tried before any Court of Oyer and Terminer or Gaol Delivery for any County in that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, in ſuch Manner and Form as if the ſaid Offence had been therein committed.

Perſons tried for Offences againſt this Act, not to be tried again for the ſame, as High Treaſon, or Miſpriſion of High Treaſon, &c.

III. Provided always, and it is hereby declared and enacted, That any Perſon who ſhall be tried and acquitted, or convicted of any Offence againſt this Act, ſhall not be liable to be indicted, proſecuted, or tried again for the ſame Offence or Fact, as High Treaſon, or Miſpriſion of High Treaſon; and that nothing in this Act contained ſhall be conſtrued to extend, to prevent any Perſons guilty of any Offence againſt this Act, and who ſhall not be tried for the ſame as an Offence againſt this Act, from being tried for the ſame as High Treaſon, or Miſpriſion of High Treaſon, in ſuch Manner as if this Act had not been made.

Continuance of Act.

IV. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That this Act ſhall continue and be in force until the Expiration of One Month after the Commencement of the next Seſſion of Parliament, and no longer.

FINIS.