ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO TERTIO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

Cap. 179.

An Act for securing to *James Lee*, and the Public, the Benefit of his Invention of certain new Methods of preparing Hemp and Flax, by enabling him to lodge the Specification under certain Restrictions.

[2d *July* 1813.]

WHEREAS His present Majesty King *George* the Third, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, bearing Date the Ninth Day of *June* in the Fifty-second Year of His Reign, did give and grant unto *James Lee* of *Frizo Water House*, *Enfield Wash*, in the County of *Middlesex*, Gentleman, his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, the sole Use, Benefit, and Advantage, of a certain Invention of certain new Methods of preparing Hemp and Flax for their several Uses, and by which also other Vegetable Substances may be rendered applicable to many of the Purposes for which Hemp and Flax are used within *England* and *Wales* and the Town of *Berwick-upon-Tweed*, and in all His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations abroad; and by other Letters Patent under the Seal ordained to be kept and used in *Scotland* in the Place and Stead of the Great Seal thereof, bearing Date the Eighth Day of *August* in the said Fifty-second Year of His Majesty's Reign; and also by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of *Ireland*, bearing Date the Fourteenth Day of *August* in the said Fifty-second Year of His Reign, the like Benefit and Advantage of the said Invention in *Scotland* and *Ireland* respectively, for the Term of Fourteen Years from the respective Dates of the said Letters Patent;

Patent; with a Proviſo in each of the ſaid Letters Patent, that he ſhould by Writing under his Hand and Seal cauſe a particular Deſcription of the Nature of his ſaid Invention, and in what Manner the ſame is to be performed, to be inrolled in the Courts of Chancery in *England* and *Ireland*, and in the Chancellary in *Scotland* reſpectively, within Fifteen Months of the Dates of the ſaid reſpective Letters Patent: And whereas there is Reaſon to apprehend that if the ſaid particular Deſcription of the ſaid Invention be ſo inrolled in the ſaid Courts of Chancery, and in the ſaid Chancellary, Copies thereof will be obtained by Foreign Agents, and tranſmitted to Foreign Countries, the Inhabitants of which will thereby have the Benefit of making uſe of the ſaid Invention before His Majeſty's Subjects can by Law make uſe of the ſame; which would not only prevent the Patentee from deriving the full Advantage which he has Reaſon to expect therefrom, but might alſo tend to diminiſh the Benefit which the Linen and Hempen Manufactures of the United Kingdom may otherwiſe derive therefrom: 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 inſtead of cauſing the ſaid particular Deſcription of the ſaid Invention to be inrolled in the ſaid Courts of Chancery and Chancellary aforeſaid, as is required by the ſaid Proviſo in the ſaid Letters Patent reſpectively, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid *James Lee*, and he is hereby required, to deliver or cauſe to be delivered to the Lord High Chancellor, Lord Keeper or Lords Commiſſioners of the Great Seal of *Great Britain* for the Time being, within Fifteen Calendar Months from the Date of the ſaid firſt-mentioned Letters Patent, a particular Deſcription or Specification of the Nature of the ſaid Invention, and in what Manner the ſame is to be performed, by Writing under his Hand and Seal; which ſaid particular Deſcription or Specification, together with an Affidavit made before a Maſter in Chancery by the ſaid *James Lee*, that ſuch particular Deſcription or Specification fully, completely and accurately defines and deſcribes the Whole and every Part of ſuch Invention and Diſcovery, and the Method of uſing and employing the ſame for the Uſes and Purpoſes therein ſet forth, ſhall be incloſed in a Cover under the Seal of the ſaid Lord High Chancellor, Lord Keeper or Lords Commiſſioners of the Great Seal, and ſhall be lodged in the Office of One of the Maſters of the High Court of Chancery to be nominated ſucceſſively from Time to Time as Occaſion may require, by the ſaid Lord High Chancellor, Lord Keeper or Lords Commiſſioners of the Great Seal for the Time being; and the ſaid Maſter in Chancery ſo to be appointed is hereby required to receive and preſerve the ſame.

Specification to be depoſited under Seal for a certain Period, inſtead of being inrolled.

Regulations as to the Cuſtody and Uſe of the Specification, previous to Inrolment.

II. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Packet, to be delivered as aforeſaid, ſhall not be removed from the Care and Cuſtody of the ſaid Maſter in Chancery, in whoſe Cuſtody the ſame is to be placed as aforeſaid, on any Account or Pretence whatever, (except by Order of the ſaid Lord High Chancellor, Lord Keeper, or Lords Commiſſioners of the Great Seal for the Time being, who ſhall have Power and is and are reſpectively hereby enabled to call for and have the ſame whenever there ſhall be Occaſion to have recourſe thereto, either on account of Application being made for Patents for other Diſcoveries or Inventions which there may be Reaſon to apprehend, may be of a Nature ſimilar to the ſaid Invention

tion and Diſcovery, or on account of any Trial at Law reſpecting the ſame, or in any other Caſe in which it may be judged by the ſaid Lord High Chancellor, Lord Keeper, or Lords Commiſſioners of the Great Seal for the Time being, neceſſary or proper to inſpect the ſame; in all which Caſes the Seal of the ſaid Packet ſhall and may be broken by the ſaid Lord High Chancellor, Lord Keeper, or Lords Commiſſioners of the Great Seal for the Time being; and after ſuch Uſe ſhall have been made of the ſaid particular Deſcription or Specification as Occaſion ſhall require as aforeſaid, the ſame ſhall be again ſealed up in Manner aforeſaid, and depoſited with a Maſter in Chancery as before directed.

Specification to be delivered in Scotland and Ireland.

III. And be it further enacted, That Two Copies of the ſaid particular Deſcription or Specification ſo to be delivered as aforeſaid, ſhall be made, together with an Affidavit of the ſaid *James Lee*, that the ſame are true Copies, and fully, completely, and accurately define and deſcribe the Whole and every Part of ſuch Invention and Diſcovery, and the Method of uſing and employing the ſame; and One of the ſaid Copies, ſigned and ſealed by the ſaid *James Lee*, together with the Affidavit to be made relating to the ſame as aforeſaid, ſhall, within Fifteen Months of the Date of the ſaid Letters Patent for *Ireland*, be delivered under Cover, ſealed with the Seal of the ſaid *James Lee*, to the Lord High Chancellor or Lords Commiſſioners of the Great Seal of *Ireland*, who ſhall depoſit the ſame in the Cuſtody and Care of One of the Maſters in Chancery in *Ireland*, to be nominated ſucceſſively from Time to Time by the Lord High Chancellor or Lords Commiſſioners of the Great Seal of *Ireland* for the Time being, for the Purpoſes herein mentioned; and that the other of the ſaid Two Copies, alſo ſigned and ſealed by the ſaid *James Lee*, together with the Affidavit to be made relating to the ſame as aforeſaid, ſhall, within Fifteen Months of the Date of the ſaid Letters Patent for *Scotland*, be delivered under Cover, ſealed as aforeſaid, to the Lord Chief Baron of His Majeſty's Exchequer in *Scotland*, who ſhall depoſit the ſame in the Cuſtody and Care of the King's Remembrancer in His Exchequer in *Scotland*, or the Deputy of the ſaid Remembrancer for the Time being, for the Purpoſes herein mentioned.

Specifications to be produced in Scotland and Ireland when neceſſary.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Packets containing Copies to be tranſmitted to the Lord High Chancellor, or Lords Commiſſioners of the Great Seal of *Ireland*, and Lord Chief Baron of His Majeſty's Exchequer in *Scotland* reſpectively as aforeſaid, ſhall be kept as herein-before directed with reſpect to the Original, and ſhall in like Manner, and on ſuch Occaſions as herein-before mentioned, be produced and inſpected, as the Lord High Chancellor or Lords Commiſſioners of the Great Seal of *Ireland*, and Lord Chief Baron in *Scotland* for the Time being, ſhall reſpectively from Time to Time judge neceſſary; and ſhall alſo, in like Manner, be again incloſed and ſealed up with the Seal of the ſaid Lord High Chancellor or Lords Commiſſioners of the Great Seal of *Ireland*, and Lord Chief Baron in *Scotland* reſpectively.

Specifications to be inrolled after the Expiration of Seven Years.

V. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid ſeveral Packets ſo to be depoſited as aforeſaid, ſhall be kept and remain ſealed and unopened (except as aforeſaid) until the Expiration of the ſaid Term of Seven Years from the paſſing of this Act, at which Time the ſaid particular Deſcription and Specification ſhall be inrolled in the ſaid Courts of Chancery, and in the

the ſaid Chancellary reſpectively, in Manner directed and required by the Proviſo contained in the ſaid ſeveral Letters Patent, there to be and remain public for the Benefit of all His Majeſty's Subjects; and the ſaid ſeveral Perſons in whoſe Care and Cuſtody the ſame ſhall then be, and the ſaid *James Lee*, his Executors, Adminiſtrators, and Aſſigns, are hereby directed and required to cauſe the ſame to be inrolled accordingly.

The Delivery of the Specification, according to this Act, to be deemed a Compliance with the Proviſo in the Letters Patent requiring Inrolment.

VI. And be it further enacted, That the Delivery of the ſaid particular Deſcription or Specification, and the Inrolment thereof, within Four Calendar Months next after the Expiration of the ſaid Term of Seven Years in Manner aforeſaid, ſhall be held, deemed, and taken as a full and ſufficient Performance of the above-mentioned Proviſo in each of the ſaid Letters Patent, which thereupon ſhall be as good, firm, valid, ſufficient, and effectual in the Law, during the ſaid Term of Fourteen Years therein ſpecified, as if the ſaid particular Deſcription or Specification had been actually inrolled within the Time limited as aforeſaid in the ſaid Courts of Chancery and in the ſaid Chancellary reſpectively; any Thing in the ſaid reſpective Letters Patent contained to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

Docquet of the Patent, and Title of the Act to be entered on the Specification Rolls.

VII. Provided always, and it is hereby enacted, That a Docquet or Abſtract of the ſaid ſeveral Letters Patent, containing the Date of the ſaid reſpective Letters Patent, and the Words in which the ſaid Invention is therein deſcribed, ſhall within Four Calendar Months from the paſſing of this Act, be written and entered on the Rolls kept in *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, reſpectively, for the Inrolment of Specifications of Inventions.

Letters Patent to become void, in Default of inrolling the Specification.

VIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in caſe a particular Deſcription or Specification of the Nature of the ſaid Invention, and in what Manner the ſame is to be performed, ſhall not be inrolled in the ſaid Courts of Chancery and the Chancellary aforeſaid, within Four Calendar Months next after the Expiration of the ſaid Term of Seven Years, to be computed from the paſſing of this Act, then the ſaid Letters Patent, and all Privileges and Advantages thereby granted, ſhall utterly ceaſe, determine, and become void; any Thing in this Act contained to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

Public Act.

IX. And be it further enacted, That this Act ſhall be deemed and taken to be a Public Act, and ſhall be judicially taken Notice of as ſuch, by all Judges, Juſtices, and others, without being ſpecially pleaded.

LONDON: Printed by George Eyre and Andrew Strahan, Printers to the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty. 1813.