ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO SEPTIMO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

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C A P. LIII.

An Act for the more effectual Puniſhment of Murders and Manſlaughters committed in Places not within His Majeſty's Dominions. [27th *June* 1817.]

WHEREAS grievous Murders and Manſlaughters have been committed at the Settlement in the Bay of *Honduras* in *South America*, the ſame being a Settlement, for certain Purpoſes, in the Poſſeſſion and under the Protection of His Majeſty, but not within the Territory and Dominion of His Majeſty, by Perſons reſiding and being within the ſaid Settlement; and the like Offences have alſo been committed in the *South Pacific* Ocean, as well on the High Seas as on Land, in the Iſlands of *New Zealand* and *Otaheite*, and in other Iſlands, Countries, and Places not within His Majeſty's Dominions, by the Maſters and Crews of *Britiſh* Ships, and other Perſons who have for the moſt Part deſerted from or left their Ships, and have continued to live and reſide amongſt the Inhabitants of thoſe Iſlands; whereby great Violence has been done, and a general Scandal and Prejudice raiſed againſt the Name and Character of *Britiſh* and other *European* Traders: And whereas ſuch Crimes and Offences do eſcape unpuniſhed, by reaſon of the Difficulty of bringing to Trial the Perſons guilty thereof: For Remedy whereof 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 all Murders and Manſlaughters committed or that ſhall be committed on Land at the ſaid Settlement in the Bay of *Honduras* by any Perſon or Perſons reſiding or being within the ſaid Settlement, and

Murders and Manſlaughters committed in certain Foreign Parts, may be

tried in any of His Majesty's Foreign Plantations, in same manner as Offences committed on the High Seas:

all Murders and Manslaughters committed or that shall be committed in the said Islands of *New Zealand* and *Otaheite*, or within any other Islands, Countries, or Places not within His Majesty's Dominions, nor subject to any *European* State or Power, nor within the Territory of the United States of *America*, by the Master or Crew of any *British* Ship or Vessel, or any of them, or by any Person sailing in or belonging thereto, or that shall have sailed in or belonged to and have quitted any *British* Ship or Vessel to live in any of the said Islands, Countries, or Places, or either of them, or that shall be there living, shall and may be tried, adjudged, and punished in any of His Majesty's Islands, Plantations, Colonies, Dominions, Forts or Factories, under or by virtue of the King's Commission or Commissions, which shall have been or which shall hereafter be issued under and by virtue and in pursuance of the Powers and Authorities of an Act passed in the Forty-sixth Year of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for the more speedy Trial of Offences committed in distant Parts upon the Sea*, in the same Manner as if such Offence or Offences had been committed on the High Seas.

46 G. 3. c. 54.

But not to repeal or affect any of the Provisions in the Act 33 H. 8. c. 23.

II. Provided always, That nothing herein contained shall repeal or affect, or be construed to repeal or affect, the Provisions of an Act made and passed in the Thirty-third Year of King *Henry* the Eighth, intituled *An Act to proceed by Commission of Oyer and Terminer against such Persons as shall confess Treason, etc. without remanding the same to be tried in the Shire were the Offence was committed.*

Act may be altered this Session.

III. And be it further enacted, That this Act may be altered, amended, or repealed, by any Act or Acts to be passed in this present Session of Parliament.

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