

CHAP. 57.

An Act to amend the Law relating to the Protection of Seamen's Clothing and Property. [2d August 1869.] A.D. 1869.

WHEREAS the clothing and property of soldiers are protected by the restraint of the sale thereof, and it is expedient to make the like provisions with respect to seamen's clothing and property:

Be it enacted by the Queen'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, as follows:

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as The Seamen's Clothing Act, 1869.

Extent of Act.

2. The dockyard towns to which this Act extends are the towns specified in the schedule to this Act, and for the purposes of this Act the limits of those dockyard towns shall be the limits specified in the second column of the said schedule.

Interpretation of Terms.

3. In this Act—

The term "the Admiralty" means the Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom, or the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral:

The term "seaman" means every person not being a commissioned, warrant, or subordinate officer who is in or belongs to Her Majesty's navy, and is borne on the books of any one of Her Majesty's ships in commission, and every person, not being an officer as aforesaid, who, being borne on the books of any hired vessels in Her Majesty's service in time of war, is by virtue of any Act for the time being in force for the discipline of the navy, subject to the provisions of such Act:

The term "seaman's property" means any clothes, slops, medals, and necessaries, or articles usually deemed to be necessaries for sailors on board ship which belong to any seaman.

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Penalty on purchaser of seamen's clothing in dockyard towns.

4. If any person in any dockyard town to which this Act extends detains, buys, exchanges, takes on pawn, or receives from any seaman, or any person acting for a seaman, any seaman's property, or solicits or entices any seaman, or is employed by any seaman, to sell, exchange, or pawn, any seaman's property, he shall, unless he proves that he acted in ignorance of the same being seaman's property, or of the person with whom he dealt being or acting for a seaman, or that the same was sold by order of the Admiralty or Commander-in-Chief, be liable, on summary conviction, to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds, and if convicted of a second offence, to the same penalty, or, in the discretion of the justices, to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months, with or without hard labour.

Penalty on dealer, &c. found in possession of seaman's property and not accounting for it.

5. If in any dockyard town to which this Act extends any seaman's property is found in the possession or keeping of any person, and he is taken or summoned before a justice of the peace, (which taking and summoning are hereby authorized,) and the justice sees reasonable grounds for believing the property so found to have been stolen, or to have been detained, bought, exchanged, pawned, or otherwise received contrary to the provisions of this Act, then if such person does not satisfy the justice that he came by the seaman's property so found, lawfully and without any contravention of this Act, he shall be liable, on summary conviction before a justice, to a penalty not exceeding five pounds; and for the purposes of this section seaman's property shall be deemed to be in the possession or keeping of any person if he knowingly has any such property in the actual possession or keeping of any other person, or in any house, building, lodging, apartment, field, or place, open or inclosed, whether occupied by himself or not, and whether the same are so had for his own use or benefit or for the use or benefit of another.

Certain parts of 24 & 25 Vict. c. 96. incorporated with this Act.

6. The following sections of the Act of the session of the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter ninety-six, "to consolidate and amend the statute "law of England and Ireland relating to larceny, and other similar "offences," are hereby incorporated with this Act, and shall for the purposes of this Act be read as if they were herein enacted, and as if the term "this Act" in those sections included the present Act; namely, section ninety-nine (relating to the punishment of abettors), section one hundred and three (relating to the apprehension of offenders, and search warrants), and sections one hundred and seven to one hundred and thirteen, both inclusive, and section one hundred and twenty (relating to proceedings in the case of summary offences, and appeals therefrom).

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7. Nothing in this Act shall prevent any person from being indicted, or being liable under any other Act or otherwise to any other or higher penalty or punishment than is provided for any offence by this Act, so that no person be punished twice for the same offence.

Not to prevent persons being indicted under this Act, &c.

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SCHEDULE.

Names of Places.	Limits of Places.
Portsmouth - -	The limits of the municipal borough of Portsmouth, and of the residue of the island of Portsea, and of the parish of Alverstoke, and of the township of Landport.
Plymouth and Devonport.	The limits of the following places; namely, The municipal borough of Plymouth. The parliamentary borough of Devonport. The parish of Laira. The tithing of Pennycross or Western Peveril. The tithing of Compton Gifford. Torpoint, in the county of Cornwall, within the distance of half a mile from the Ferry gate.
Chatham - -	The limits of the following places; namely, Chatham; Gillingham; Saint Nicholas, Rochester; Saint Margaret, Rochester; The Precincts, Rochester; Brompton; New Brompton; Strood; and Frindsbury; The hamlet of Grange otherwise Grench.
Sheerness - -	The limits of the parish of Minster, and of the township of Queenborough.
Cork - - -	The limits of the borough of Cork for municipal purposes.
Queenstown - -	The limits of the town of Queenstown for the purposes of town improvement.

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