ANNO DECIMO TERTIO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. XXXII.

An Act for repealing ſo much of an Act, made in the Twenty-third Year of His late Majeſty King *George* the Second, as relates to the preventing the ſtealing or deſtroying of Turnips; and for the more effectually preventing the ſtealing or deſtroying of Turnips, Potatoes, Cabbages, Parſnips, Peaſe, and Carrots.

WHEREAS the Cultivation of Turnips, Potatoes, Cabbages, Parſnips, Peaſe, and Carrots, is of great Conſequence to this Kingdom, and the Laws in being are ineffectual for preventing the ſtealing and deſtroying the ſame; 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 Preamble.

After *June* 1, 1773, Persons stealing Turnips, Potatoes, Cabbages, &c. from any Garden, Lands, &c. shall forfeit 10 *s.* on Conviction, beside the Value of the Goods stolen.

and after the First Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-three, if any Person shall steal and take away, or maliciously pull up or destroy, any Turnips, Potatoes, Cabbages, Parsnips, Pease, or Carrots, growing or being in any Garden, Lands, or Grounds, open or inclosed, and shall be thereof convicted before any Justice or Justices of the Peace for the County or Place where the Offence shall be committed, either by the Confession of the Party offending, or by the Oath of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, (which Oath such Justice or Justices is and are hereby impowered to administer), every Person so offending, and being convicted as aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay, upon such Conviction, such Sum of Money not exceeding the Sum of Ten Shillings, over and above the Value of the Goods stolen, as to such Justice or Justices shall seem meet; which Sum of Money shall be distributed between the Owner of such Turnips, Potatoes, Cabbages, Parsnips, Pease, or Carrots, and the Overseers of the Poor, or other Persons having the Charge and Disposal of the Funds of the Poor of such Parish or Place where the Offence shall be committed, for the Use of the Poor of such Parish or Place, in such Proportion as such Justice or Justices shall think fit; or the whole of such Sums shall be given to the Owner of such Turnips, Potatoes, Cabbages, Parsnips, Pease, or Carrots, or to the Overseers of the Poor, or other Persons having the Charge and Disposal of the Funds for the Use of the Poor of such Parish or Place, according to the Discretion of such Justice or Justices: And in Default of Payment of such Penalty, of which the Offender hath been convicted as aforesaid, such Justice or Justices shall and may commit such Offender to the House of Correction, there to be kept to hard Labour for any Time not exceeding One Calendar Month, unless such Penalty shall be sooner paid or satisfied: And if the Offence is committed in that Part of Great Britain called Scotland, such Justice or Justices shall and may commit such Offender to Prison, there to remain for any Time not exceeding One Calendar

Month, unless such Penalty shall be sooner paid or satisfied: And the bringing the Offender or Offenders before such Justice or Justices of the Peace may be done, and the Proceedings against Offenders, under the Authority of this Act, may be carried on, in the most summary Manner.

Informations of Owners to be taken and allowed.

And, for the more easy Conviction of Persons offending against this Act, be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in all Informations, and other Proceedings for any of the Offences aforesaid, the Evidence of the Owner or Owners of such Turnips, Potatoes, Cabbages, Parsnips, Pease, or Carrots, and of the Inhabitants of the Parish or Place where the Offence shall be committed, shall be taken and allowed; any Law, Custom, Rule, Order, or Usage, to the Contrary notwithstanding.

Where Conviction shall be on Oath of the Owners, the Forfeiture to be paid to the Overseers of the Poor.

Provided always, That where any such Conviction shall be upon the Oath of the Owner or Owners, the whole of the Penalty or Forfeiture shall be paid to the Overseer or Overseers of the Poor for the Parish or Place where the Offence shall be committed, for the Use of the Poor of such Parish or Place.

Conviction to be drawn in the following Form.

And, for the more easy and speedy Conviction of Offenders against this Act, be it further enacted, That all and every the Justice or Justices of the Peace, before whom any Person or Persons shall be convicted of any Offence against this Act, shall and may cause the Conviction to be drawn up in the following Form of Words, or in any Form of Words to the same Effect, as the Case shall happen, videlicet:

BE it remembered, That on the Day of in the Year of our Lord

A. B. having been brought before me, or having been duly summoned, and not having appeared, or having appeared, *(as the Case may happen)*, and having confessed, or being convicted, *(as the Case may happen)*, of the Charge exhibited against him, is duly convicted before me *C. D.* One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of [*specifying the Offence, and the Time and Place when and where the same was committed, as the Case shall be*]. Given under my Hand and Seal, the Day and Year aforesaid.

Proviſo. **Provided always, That no Perſon ſhall be proſecuted for any ſuch Offence, unleſs ſuch Proſecution be begun within Thirty Days after the Offence committed.**

Act 23 *Geo.* II. ſo far as the ſame relates to the ſtealing Turnips, **And be it further enacted, That ſo much of an Act, made in the Twenty-third Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King** George **the Second, intituled,** An Act to continue ſeveral Laws for the better regulating of Pilots for the conducting of Ships and Veſſels from *Dover*, *Deal*, and *Iſle of Thanet*, up the River of *Thames* and *Medway*; and for permitting Rum or Spirits of the *Britiſh* Sugar Plantations to be landed before the Duties of Exciſe are paid thereon; and to continue and amend an Act for preventing Frauds in the Admeaſurement of Coals within the City and Liberty of *Weſtminſter*, and ſeveral Pariſhes near thereunto; and to continue ſeveral Laws for preventing Exactions of Occupiers of Locks and Weirs upon the River *Thames*, Weſtward, and for aſcertaining the Rates of Water Carriage upon the ſaid River; and for the better Regulation and Government of Seamen in the Merchants Service; and alſo to amend ſo much of an Act, made in the Firſt Year of the Reign of King *George* the Firſt, as relates to the better Preſervation of Salmon in the River *Ribble*; and to regulate Fees in Trials at Aſſizes, and *Niſi Prius*, upon Records iſſuing out of the Office of Pleas of the Court of Exchequer; and for the apprehending of Perſons in any County or Place, upon Warrants granted by Juſtices of the Peace in any other County or Place; and to repeal ſo much of an Act, made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of King *Charles* the Second, as relates to the Time during which the Office of Exciſe is to be kept open each Day, and to appoint for how long Time the ſame ſhall be kept open upon each Day for the future; and to prevent the ſtealing or deſtroying of Turnips; and to amend an Act, made in the Second Year of His preſent Majeſty, for better Regulation of Attorneys and Solicitors; **ſo far as the ſame relates to the ſtealing of Turnips; ſhall, from and after the Commencement of this preſent Act, be repealed.**

ſhall, after the Commencement of this Act, be repealed.

FINIS. 4

ANNO REGNI

GEORGII III.

REGIS

Magnæ Britanniæ, Franciæ, & Hiberniæ,

DECIMO TERTIO.

At the Parliament begun and holden at *Weſtminſter*, the Tenth Day of *May*, *Anno Domini* 1768, in the Eighth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Third, by the Grace of God, of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, *&c.*

And from thence continued, by ſeveral Prorogations, to the Twenty-ſixth Day of *November*, 1772, being the Sixth Seſſion of the Thirteenth Parliament of *Great Britain*.



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MDCCLXXIII.

CH 33