

ed, traiterous and abominable usurpations, detested by this present parliament, as opposite in the highest degree to his sacred Majesty's most just and undoubted right, to whom and to his heirs and lawful successors, the imperial crowns of the realm of *England, Scotland and Ireland*, with their and every of the dominions and territories do of right appertain, and as violated and infringing the just rights and privileges of parliament as both houses thereof now assembled, or that hereafter shall be called and assembled.

Indictments of treason, &c. for levying war against Oliver Cromwell, &c. made void.

XIII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That all and every pretended indictment or indictments, outlawries, inquisition and all proceedings thereon, of high treason, against any person or persons whatsoever, for levying war against the late tyrant *Oliver Cromwell*, the pretended keepers of the liberty of *England* or any other usurped power, shall be from henceforth void and of none effect in law: (2) and that all grants, conveyances, leases, devices, assurances, statutes, recognizances and judgments for debt, damages heretofore had, made or suffered by any person, or his heirs, whose conviction, utlagary or attainder is by this act discharged or made void, shall be of the same force and effect as if no such conviction, outlawry or attainder had been. *Confirmed by 13 Car. 2. stat. 1. c. 7.*

C A P. XIII.

An act for the restraining the taking of excessive usury.

None shall take above six pounds for the loan of an hundred pounds for a year.
12 Ann. stat. 2. c. 16.

FORASMUCH as the abatement of interest from ten in the hundred in former times hath been found by notable experience beneficial to the advancement of trade and improvement of lands by good husbandry, with many other considerable advantages to this nation, especially the reducing of it to a nearer proportion with foreign states with whom we traffick: (2) and whereas in fresh memory the like fall from eight to six in the hundred, by a late constant practice hath found the like success, to the general contentment of this nation, as is visible by several improvements: (3) and whereas it is the endeavour of some at present to reduce it back again in practice to the allowance of the statute still in force to eight in the hundred, to the great discouragement of ingenuity and industry in the husbandry, trade and commerce of this nation:

The penalty.

II. Be it, for the reasons aforesaid, enacted by the King's most excellent majesty, and the lords and commons in this present parliament assembled, That no person or persons whatsoever, from and after the twenty-ninth day of *September* in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and sixty, upon any contract, shall from and after the said twenty-ninth of *September* take directly or indirectly for loan of any monies, wares, merchandize or other commodities whatsoever, above the value of six pounds for the forbearance of one hundred pounds for a year, and so after that rate for a greater or lesser sum, or for a longer or shorter time: (2) and that all bonds, contracts and assurances whatsoever, made after the time aforesaid

said for payment of any principal or money to be lent, or covenanted to be performed, upon or for any usury, whereupon or whereby there shall be reserved or taken above the rate of six pounds in the hundred, as aforesaid, shall be utterly void: (3) and that all and every person or persons whatsoever, which shall after the time aforesaid, upon any contract to be made after the said twenty-ninth day of September, take, accept and receive, by way or means of any corrupt bargain, loan, exchange, chevifance, shift, or interest of any wares, merchandize, or other thing or things whatsoever, or by any deceitful way or means, or by any covin, engine or deceitful conveyance, for the forbearing or giving day of payment for one whole year, of and for their money or other thing, above the sum of six pounds for the forbearing of one hundred pounds for a year, and so after that rate for a greater or lesser sum, or for a longer or shorter term, shall forfeit and lose for every such offence the treble value of the monies, wares, merchandize and other things so lent, bargained, sold, exchanged or shifted.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all and every scrivener and scriveners, broker and brokers, solicitor and solicitors, driver and drivers of bargains for contracts, who shall after the said twenty-ninth day of September take or receive directly or indirectly any sum or sums of money, or other reward or thing, for brokage, soliciting, driving or procuring the loan, or forbearing of any sum or sums of money, over and above the rate or value of five shillings for the loan or forbearing of one hundred pounds for a year, and so rateably, or above twelve-pence for the making or renewing of the bond or bill for loan, or for forbearing thereof, or for any counter-bond or bill concerning the same, shall forfeit for every such offence twenty-pounds, and have imprisonment for half a year; (2) the one moiety of all which forfeitures to be to the King our sovereign lord, his heirs and successors; and the other moiety to him or them that will sue for the same in the same county where the several offences are committed, and not elsewhere, by action of debt, bill, plaint or information; in which no essoin, wager of law or protection to be allowed. The forfeiture of a scrivener that shall take above five shillings for the forbearance of an hundred pounds for a year, and above twelve-pence for making a bond.
Confirmed by 13 Car. 2. stat. 1. c. 14.

CAP. XIV.

An act for a perpetual anniversary thanksgiving on the nine and twentieth day of May.

FORASMUCH as Almighty God the King of kings, and sole disposer of all earthly crowns and kingdoms, hath by his all-swaying providence and power miraculously demonstrated in the view of all the world his transcendent mercy, love and graciousness, towards his most excellent Majesty Charles the Second, by his especial grace, of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King, defender of the true faith, and all his Majesty's loyal subjects of this his kingdom of England, and the dominions thereunto annexed, by his Majesty's late most wonderful,
The wonderful power and goodness of God in the restoration of his Majesty.