

of our Lord one thousand six hundred seventy and three, every merchant, denizen or alien shall pay for all sorts of fish caught by *Englishmen*, and exported in *English* shipping, and whereof the master and three fourths of the mariners shall be *English*, such customs and subsidies only and no greater or other than merchants being natives of this realm do pay for the same. *Continued by 2 Will. & Mar. c. 4. f. 3. 1 Ann. st. 1. c. 13. f. 2. 9 Ann. c. 6. f. 2. 3 Geo. I. c. 7.*

## CAP. VII.

*An act for the encouragement of the Greenland and Eastland trades, and for the better securing the plantation-trade.*

**F**Orasmuch as the whale-fishing is a very considerable and profitable trade, giving employments to great numbers of seamen and shipping: and whereas neighbouring nations do yearly make great advantage thereby; not only supplying themselves with that sort of oil and fins, but vending into other parts great quantities thereof, and particularly into this kingdom, where the said trade is in a manner quite decayed and lost: for remedy thereof and encouragement of such as shall be willing to employ themselves and their estates in this trade; (2) 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 it shall and may be lawful for all his Majesty's subjects of this his realm of *England* and *Wales*, and town of *Berwick* upon *Tweed*, and for every other person or persons of what nation soever residing and inhabiting here, during the time of such their residence, freely to trade into and from *Greenland* and those seas, and there to take whales and all other sorts of fish, and to import into this kingdom all sorts of oil, blubber and fins thereof, and to use and exercise all other trade to and from *Greenland* and those parts. (3) And for the further encouraging of the said trade, be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for any person or persons, native or foreigner, to import train-oil or blubber of *Greenland* and parts adjacent, and those seas, or of *Newfoundland*, or of any other his Majesty's colonies and plantations, made of fish or of any other creature living in the seas, and whale-fins caught in any ships or vessels truly and properly belonging to *England* and *Wales*, or town of *Berwick* upon *Tweed*, and imported in such ships, without paying any custom or other duty for the same; (4) and for the ton of such oil taken by any shipping belonging to any of his Majesty's colonies and plantations, and imported in such shipping, there shall be paid the sum of six shillings; (5) and for every ton of whale-fins taken and imported in such shipping, the sum of fifty shillings; (6) and for the ton of such oil taken by the said shipping but imported in shipping belonging to *England*, *Wales* or the town of *Berwick* upon *Tweed*, the sum of three shillings; (7) and for every ton of whale-fins taken and imported in such shipping the sum of five and twenty shillings; (8) and for the ton

Liberty given to all persons to trade into *Greenland*, and to import all sorts of oil, &c.

Without paying any custom or duty for such goods brought in by any English or Welsh vessel. If by any shipping of the King's colonies or plantations, then the several

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rates mentioned in this act.

Liberty given to have one moiety of harponiers, and one moiety of English mariners in any English vessel, with the same privilege as before.

By 4 & 5 W. & M. c. 17. s. 27. one third English is sufficient.

The English built ship, which is to have the benefit of this act, must proceed from England to Greenland.

12 Car. 2. c. 18.

of all such oil and blubber of foreign fishing, the sum of nine pounds; (9) and for every ton of whale-fins of foreign fishing, the sum of eighteen pounds, and no more. (10) And in regard there are at present great want of harponiers and seamen skilled and exercised in the trade of whale-fishing; (11) be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for any ship or vessel truly belonging to *England*, *Wales* or the town of *Berwick upon Tweed*, and whereof the master shall be an *Englishman*, and inhabiting within the places aforesaid, from and after the first day of *May*, which shall be in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred seventy and three, and until the five and twentieth day of *March* which shall be in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred eighty and three, employed for the catching of whales, during such voyage to be navigated with one moiety of the harponiers and one moiety of the rest of the mariners only *English*, and yet to pay no further or other custom for the oil, blubber, or fins, caught or imported in such ship or vessel, than if such ship or vessel had been navigated with three fourths of the mariners *English*; any law, statute or usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

II. Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no *English* built ship, or other ship or vessel belonging to *England*, *Wales* or the town of *Berwick upon Tweed*, importing whale, oil or blubber, or other fish, oil or whale-fins of *Greenland* or those seas, shall enjoy any benefit or privilege by this act, unless such ship or vessel did proceed on her voyage to *Greenland* and those seas, from *England* or *Wales*, or the town of *Berwick upon Tweed*, and was victualled for the said voyage in some of those places, to be attested by the collector of the port where the said ship or vessel was victualled; (2)

And whereas by one act passed in this present parliament in the twelfth year of your Majesty's reign, intituled, An act for encouragement of shipping and navigation, and by several other laws passed since that time, it is permitted to ship, carry, convey and transport sugar, tobacco, cotton-wool, indico, ginger, fustick and all other dying-wood of the growth, production and manufacture of any of your Majesty's plantations in *America*, *Asia* or *Africa*, from the places of their growth, production and manufacture, to any of your Majesty's plantations in those parts, (*Tangier* only excepted) and that without paying of custom for the same, either at the lading or unlading of the said commodities, by means whereof the trade and navigation in those commodities, from one plantation to another is greatly increased; (3) and the inhabitants of divers of those colonies, not contenting themselves with being supplied with those commodities for their own use, free from all customs, (while the subjects of this your kingdom of *England* have paid great customs and impositions for what of them hath been spent here) but contrary to the express letter of the aforesaid laws, have brought into divers parts of *Europe* great quantities thereof, and do also daily vend great quantities thereof, to the shipping of other nations who bring them into divers parts of *Europe*,

to the great hurt and diminution of your Majesty's customs, and of the trade and navigation of this your kingdom; (4) for the prevention thereof, we your Majesty's commons in parliament assembled, do pray 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 authority of the same, That from and after the first day of *September* which shall be in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred seventy and three, if any ship or vessel which by law may trade in any of your Majesty's plantations, shall come to any of them to ship and take on board any of the aforesaid commodities, and that bond shall not be first given with one sufficient surety to bring the same to *England* or *Wales*, or the town of *Berwick* upon *Tweed*, and to no other place, and there to unload and put the same on shore, (the danger of the seas only excepted) that there shall be answered and paid to your Majesty, your heirs and successors, for so much of the said commodities as shall be laded and put on board such ship or vessel, these following rates or duties: that is to say, for sugar white, the hundred weight, containing one hundred and twelve pounds, five shillings; and brown sugar and muscovadoes, the hundred weight containing one hundred and twelve pounds, one shilling and six pence; (5) for tobacco, the pound one penny; for cotton-wool, the pound one half-penny; for indico, the pound two pence; for ginger, the hundred weight containing one hundred and twelve pounds, one shilling; (6) for logwood, the hundred weight containing one hundred and twelve pounds, five pence; for fustick and all other dying-wood, the hundred weight containing one hundred and twelve pounds, six pence: and also for every pound of cocoa-nuts, one penny; (7) to be levied, collected and paid at such places and to such collectors and other officers as shall be appointed in their respective plantations to collect, levy, and receive the same, before the lading thereof, and under such penalties both to the officers and upon the goods, as for nonpayment of or defrauding his Majesty of his customs in *England*.

III. And for the better collection of the several rates and duties aforesaid imposed by this act, be it enacted, and it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That this whole business shall be ordered and managed, and the several duties hereby imposed shall be caused to be levied by the commissioners of the customs in *England* now and for the time being, by and under the authority and directions of the lord treasurer of *England* or commissioners of the treasury for the time being.

IV. And in case any person or persons liable by this law to pay any of the duties aforementioned, shall not have monies wherewith to answer and pay the same, be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the officers appointed to collect the same, shall accept instead of such monies such a proportion

This act extended by 3 & 4 Ann. c. 5. f. 12. & 8 Geo. 1. c. 18. f. 22. as to rice and melasses and copper ore.

Explained by 7 & 8 W. 3. c. 22. f. 8.

Bond to be given to bring all goods of the American plantations to *England*.

And suits on such bonds restrained by 8 Ann. c. 13. f. 23.

The rates for the customs to be paid.

Penalty.

The duty to be levied by the commissioners of the customs in *England*.

By 1 Geo. 1. stat. 2. c. 12. f. 4. money arising by this act to be paid into the exchequer, &c.

If the party shall not have ready money, then the commissioners to

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take a proportion of the commodities to be shipped, as shall amount to the value thereof, according to the current rate of the said commodities in such plantation respectively.

It shall be free for all persons to trade to Sweden, Denmark, and Norway.

V. And for encouragement of the *Eastland* trade, 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 it shall and may be lawful to and for every person and persons, native or foreigner, from and after the first day of *May*, which shall be in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred seventy and three, at all times to have free liberty to trade into and from *Sweden, Denmark and Norway*; any thing in the charter of the governor, assistants and fellowship of merchants of *Eastland*, or any other charter, grant, act, or any thing else heretofore made or done, or hereafter to be done, to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Any person subject of this realm shall be admitted into the *Eastland* company, paying for his admittance 40 s.

VI. And it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That whatsoever person or persons subjects of this realm, shall desire to be admitted into the said fellowship of merchants of *Eastland*, That every such person shall be admitted into the said fellowship, paying for his admission the sum of forty shillings, and no more. *Continued by 2 Will. & Mar. c. 4. s. 3, 4-1 Ann. c. 13. s. 2. 9 Ann. c. 6. s. 2. 3 Geo. I. c. 7.*

## C A P. VIII.

*An act for continuing a former act concerning coinage.*

18 Car. a. c. 5.

**F**Orasmuch as great advantage hath accrued to this kingdom, by one act of this present parliament, passed in the eighteenth year of your Majesty's reign, intituled, An act for the encouragement of coinage, for that very great quantities of gold and silver have been brought into this realm, and converted into the current coins thereof, by reason of the encouragement given thereto by the said act; (2) and whereas the said act was to continue until the twentieth of December in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred seventy and one, and until the end of the first session of parliament then next following and no longer, so as that unless the said act be now renewed, the encouragement given thereby to coinage will cease, and this kingdom be deprived for the future of so great a good as it hath thereby for these years last past enjoyed: we therefore your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, do humbly pray that it may be enacted; (3) 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, now in parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the said act shall continue and be in force for the space of seven years, to commence from and after the determination of this present session of this parliament, and until the end of the first session of parliament then next following, and no longer. *Continued for seven years from the first of March, one thousand seven hundred forty five, and to the end of the first session of parliament, by 19 Geo. 2. c. 14.*

How long to continue.

II. Pre-