

or to preclude  
Prosecution at  
the Common  
Law.

Limitation of  
Actions.

General Issue.

Double Costs.

Publick Act.

VIII. Provided also, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to prevent, bar, or preclude any Person from commencing any Prosecution or Action at the Common Law for any Act or Offence herein-before described, which shall be done or committed within the Limits of any Oyster Fishery, in such Manner and Form as if this Act had not been made; but, nevertheless, when any Person shall have been punished in pursuance and by virtue of this Act, for any Offence against the same, such Person shall not be prosecuted by virtue of any other Law or Statute, or be liable to any other Punishment or Penalty for the same Offence, or to have any Action or Suit in Law or Equity brought against him on Account of that Offence for which he shall have been punished in pursuance of this Act.

IX. And be it further enacted, That no Action at Law shall be brought or commenced against any Person or Persons for any Arrest authorised to be made, or any other Matter or Thing done, or to be done, by virtue of this Act, until after twenty-one Days Notice thereof, in Writing, shall have been given to the Person or Persons against whom such Action is intended to be brought, or left at his or their last usual Place or Places of Abode, setting forth the Cause of such Action, and that every such Action shall be brought within the Space of six Calendar Months next after the Cause of Complaint shall arise, and shall be laid and tried in the proper County wherein the same did arise, and not elsewhere; and the Defendant or Defendants in such Action may plead the General Issue, and on the Trial thereof give this Act and the special Matter in Evidence; and if, on the Trial of such Action, it shall appear that the same was commenced without having given such Notice, or before the Expiration of twenty-one Days next after such Notice shall have been so given or left as aforesaid, or after the End of six Calendar Months next after the Cause thereof shall have arisen, or if such Action shall be brought or laid in any other County than as aforesaid, or after sufficient Tender of Amends shall have been made to the Party or Parties aggrieved, that then, and in any of the Cases aforesaid, a Verdict shall be entered as found for the Defendant or Defendants; and in all Cases where a Verdict shall be found or entered for the Defendant or Defendants in any such Action, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall discontinue the same after Appearance, or shall be nonsuited, or if upon Demurrer Judgement shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants in such Action shall have double Costs, and the like Remedies for recovering the same as Defendants have by Law for recovering their Costs in other Cases.

X. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a publick Act; and shall be judicially taken notice of as such, by all Judges, Justices, and other Persons, without specially pleading the same.

#### C A P. LII.

An Act to continue, for a limited Time, an Act passed in the twenty-ninth Year of the Reign of his present Majesty, intituled, *An Act for further regulating the Trade or Business of Pawnbrokers.*

“ 29 Geo. 3. c. 57. recited, and continued for a Year.”

#### C A P. LIII.

An Act for granting to his Majesty a certain Sum of Money, to be raised by a Lottery. [805,250 l.]

#### C A P. LIV.

An Act to continue, for a limited Time, and to amend an Act, made in the last Session of Parliament, intituled, *An Act to amend and continue, for a limited Time, several Acts of Parliament for regulating the shipping and carrying Slaves in British Vessels from the Coast of Africa.*

Preamble.

30 Geo. 3. c. 33.  
recited.

From Aug. 1,  
1791, no Vessel  
clearing out from  
Great Britain,  
to carry Slaves  
from Africa  
in greater Num-  
bers than herein  
specified.

Vessels to be  
deemed of the  
Tonnage set

‘ W H E R E A S an Act made in the thirtieth Year of the Reign of his present Majesty King GEORGE the Third, intituled, *An Act to amend and continue, for a limited Time, several Acts of Parliament for regulating the shipping and carrying Slaves in British Vessels from the Coast of Africa*: And whereas it is expedient to continue, for a limited Time, and to amend the said Act: Be it therefore 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 not be lawful for any Master or other Person taking or having the Charge or Command of any British Ship or Vessel whatever, which shall clear out from any Port of this Kingdom, from and after the first Day of August one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one, to have on Board at any one Time, or to convey, carry, bring, or transport Slaves from the Coast of Africa to any Part beyond Sea, in any such Ship or Vessel, in any greater Number than in the Proportion of five such Slaves for every three Tons of the Burthen of such Ship or Vessel, so far as the said Ship or Vessel shall not exceed two hundred and one Tons, and moreover of one such Slave for every additional Ton of such Ship or Vessel over and above the said Burthen of two hundred and one Tons; or male Slaves who shall exceed four Feet four Inches in Height, in any greater Number than in the Proportion of one such male Slave to every one Ton of the Burthen of such Ship or Vessel, so far as the said Ship or Vessel shall not exceed two hundred and one Tons, and moreover of three such male Slaves, who shall exceed the said Height of four Feet four Inches, for every additional five Tons of such Ship or Vessel, over and above the said Burthen of two hundred and one Tons; and every such Ship or Vessel shall be deemed and taken to be of such Tonnage or Burthen as is described and set forth in the respective Certificate of the Registry of each

each and every such Ship or Vessel, granted in pursuance of an Act made in the twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of his present Majesty, intituled, *An Act for the further Increase and Encouragement of Shipping and Navigation*; and if any such Master, or other Person taking or having the Charge or Command of any such Ship or Vessel, shall act contrary hereto, such Master or other Person as aforesaid shall forfeit and pay the Sum of thirty Pounds of lawful Money of *Great Britain* for each and every such Slave, exceeding in Number the Proportions herein-before limited; one Moiety whereof shall go to his Majesty, his Heirs or Successors, and the other Moiety thereof shall go to any Person or Persons, who shall first sue for the same: Provided always, That if there shall be in any such Ship or Vessel any more than two fifth Parts of the Slaves who shall be Children, and who shall not exceed four Feet four Inches in height, then every five such Children, over and above the aforesaid Proportion of two Fifths, shall be deemed and taken to be equal to four of the said Slaves, within the true Intent and Meaning of this Act: Provided always, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to the Case of a Ship taking on Board any Number of Slaves that shall be found shipwrecked, or from on Board any other Ship or Vessel where, by reason of Mutiny or Insurrection among the Slaves, or the Crew, or by Failure of Hands, or by any actual Distress of the Vessel, the Master or Commander shall be disabled from governing the Ship, or continuing the Voyage, the Proof of which shall lie upon the Master or other Person having Charge of such Ship or Vessel so taking on board such Slaves.

II. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That on the Arrival of any such Ship or Vessel in any Island in the *West Indies*, belonging to or under the Dominion of his Majesty, his Heirs or Successors, from the Coast of *Africa*, carrying or conveying any such Slaves as aforesaid, the Master or other Person having or taking the Charge or Command of such Ship or Vessel shall, before any of the said Slaves shall be unshipped or landed from such Ship or Vessel, repair to the nearest Custom-house, and there declare, on Oath, before the Collector, or other Chief Officer of the Customs, who is hereby authorized to administer the same, the Burthen of such Ship or Vessel, and shall, at the same Time, shew to such Officer the Certificate of the Registry thereof; and shall also deliver to the said Officer, upon Oath (who is hereby authorized and required to administer the same) an exact and true Account of the greatest Number of such Slaves (distinguishing the Number of Males and Females, and specifying the Number of such Slaves as shall exceed the aforesaid Height of four Feet four Inches) who are or shall have been at any one Time in or on Board such Ship or Vessel, before, when, or after such Ship or Vessel quitted or departed from the Coast of *Africa* for that Voyage; and if such Master, or other Person taking or having the Charge or Command of any such Ship or Vessel, shall unship or land, or shall cause to be unshipped or landed, or shall wilfully permit or suffer to be unshipped or landed, any such Slaves, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, such Master or other Person as aforesaid shall forfeit and pay the Sum of five hundred Pounds, of lawful Money of *Great Britain*, for every such Offence, and one Moiety of the said Forfeiture shall go to his Majesty, his Heirs or Successors, and the other Moiety shall go to the Person or Persons who shall first sue for the same; and it shall and may be lawful for such Collector or other Chief Officer of the Customs, and he is hereby required to search, or to cause Search to be made, in every Part of such Ship or Vessel, to see and to take an Account of the Number of such Slaves on Board such Ship or Vessel, and to specify in such Account the Number of Males and Females, and also the Number of Slaves not exceeding four Feet four Inches in Height, and without Delay to transmit such Account, attested under his Hand and Seal, to the Commissions of his Majesty's Customs in *London*, under the Penalty of five hundred Pounds: Provided always, That in case the said Collector or other Chief Officer of the Customs shall be absent, or that there shall be no such Officer in any such Island where the said Ship shall arrive as aforesaid, or in case there shall be no other Officer of the Revenue, then any Civil Officer in the said Island shall be, and he is hereby authorized and required, upon Application as aforesaid, to administer the said Oath to such Master or other Person taking or having the Charge of such Vessel, and to receive the said Declaration of the Burthen of such Ship as aforesaid, and to perform all the other Duties aforesaid, which the said Collector or other Chief Officer of the Customs is hereby required to perform.

III. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall not be lawful for the Master or other Person taking or having the Charge or Command of any such Ship or Vessel as aforesaid, which shall be cleared out from any Port in *Great Britain*, after the first Day of *August* one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one, to take or have on Board such Ship or Vessel, or convey, carry, bring, or transport any Slaves from the Coast of *Africa* to any Parts beyond the Seas, in any such Ship or Vessel as aforesaid, unless such Ship or Vessel shall, at the Time of her so clearing out, have been entered for such Purpose at the Custom-house of the Port from whence such Ship or Vessel cleared out, and unless the Surgeon of or belonging to such Ship or Vessel shall have given Bond to his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, and shall have left the same in the Hands of the Collector or Comptroller of the Customs in the Port from whence such Ship or Vessel shall depart for such Voyage to the Coast of *Africa*, in the penal Sum of one hundred Pounds, with Condition that such Surgeon shall keep a regular and true Journal, containing an Account of the greatest Number of Slaves, which shall have been, at any Time during such Voyage, on Board such Ship or Vessel, from the Time of the Arrival of such Ship or Vessel on the Coast of *Africa* as aforesaid, until her Arrival of the Port of her Delivery, distinguishing the Number of Males and Females, and of the Deaths of any such Slaves or Crew of the said Ship or Vessel, and of the Cause thereof, during the Voyage, from the first Departure of the said Ship or Vessel, to her Arrival on the Coast of *Africa*, during her Stay on the said Coast, and after her Departure from thence to the said Port of Delivery, or during such Time as such Surgeon shall have been on Board such Ship or Vessel; and that the said Surgeon shall deliver such Journal to the Collector or other Officer as aforesaid, at the first *British* Port where such Ship or Vessel shall arrive after leaving the Coast of *Africa*, and shall make Oath to the Truth of such Journal, to the best of his Knowledge and Belief, before such Collector or other Officer as aforesaid, who is hereby authorized and required to administer the said Oath; and such Collector

forth in their Certificates of Registry. Masters of Vessels to forfeit 50 l. for every Slave exceeding the limited Number. If more than two Fifths of the Slaves be Children, five of the Surplus to be deemed equal to four Slaves, &c.

Masters of Vessels, before they land any Slaves in the *West Indies*, to declare upon Oath before the Officer of the Customs, the Burthen of the Vessel, &c. j

and if they land Slaves contrary hereto, to forfeit 500 l.

Officer of the Customs to take an Account of the Slaves on Board such Vessels, &c. on Penalty of 50 l. Where there is no Officer of the Customs, any Civil Officer to receive the Oath of the Master, &c.

No Vessel to carry any Slaves, unless entered for that Purpose at clearing out, and unless the Surgeon give Bond to keep a Journal of the Slaves during the Voyage;

which Journal is to be delivered to the Officer of the Customs, at the first *British* Port of Arrival, &c.

Officer to deliver to the Master a Copy of his Oath, and to the Surgeon a Copy of his Journal, and transmit Duplicates to the Commissioners of the Customs.

Masters or Surgeons acting contrary hereto, to forfeit 100 l.

If Penalty on Masters be not paid within 14 Days, their Vessels may be seized and sold.

Where Penalties may be sued for.

The upper and lower Cabin, and the Space between Decks, be allotted to the Slaves, &c.

If any Person take the Command of a Vessel, who is not qualified as herein directed, he and also the Owner shall forfeit 500 l.

No Insurance to be made against any Loss, except the Perils of the Sea, &c.

No Vessel to be cleared out that has not a Surgeon who has passed his Examination, &c.

lector or other Officer as aforesaid shall deliver to such Master or other Person as aforesaid, and to such Surgeon respectively, Copies of the Oath of such Master or other Person as aforesaid, and also of the said Journal, which Copies shall severally be attested (as true Copies) by such Collector or other Officer as aforesaid under his Hand and Seal; and Duplicates of the said Copies, attested in like Manner, shall be transmitted by the said Collector, or other Chief Officer, to the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs in *London*; and if such Master, or Person taking or having the Charge or Command of any such Ship or Vessel, shall carry his Cargo of Slaves to, and land the Whole, or any Part, in any Port or Ports not subject to the Crown of *Great Britain*, and shall afterwards arrive at any *British* Island or Port, having delivered the Whole or any Part of his said Cargo, such Master or other Person, and also the Surgeon of such Ship or Vessel, shall make the same Declaration, deliver in the same Journal to, and take the same Oaths before, the Collectors, or other Chief Officers of the Customs, or Civil Officer of the Island or Port, and receive the same attested Certificate, in like Manner as if he had first arrived at such Island or Port; and if the said Ship or Vessel shall not arrive at any *British* Island or Port before her Return to *Great Britain*, then the said Master or other Person, and Surgeon, shall make the said Declaration, deliver in the said Journal to, and take the said Oaths before, the Collector or other Chief Officer of the Customs of the Port where they shall first land, which the Collector or other Chief Officer is hereby impowered and required to receive and administer, and the said Collector or other Chief Officer shall forthwith transmit the same to the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs in *London*; and if such Master or Surgeon shall act contrary hereto, such Master or Surgeon shall, for every such Offence, forfeit the Sum of one hundred Pounds, one Moiety whereof shall go to his Majesty, his Heirs or Successors, and the other Moiety thereof shall go to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same.

IV. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case the Master or other Person having or taking the Charge or Command of any such Ship or Vessel, shall be convicted of any one of the said Offences before mentioned, and shall not, within the Space of fourteen Days, pay, or cause to be paid, into the Hands of the proper Officer of the Court wherein the Offence shall be prosecuted, in order that the same may be applied in Manner herein directed, the Amount of the Penalty on such Conviction, it shall and may be lawful for any Admiral, or other Commander at Sea, of any of the Ships of War, or other Ship having Commission from his Majesty, or from his Heirs or Successors, or for any Governor of any Island or Plantation to his Majesty belonging in *America* or the *West Indies*, or for any Officer or Officers of his Majesty's Customs, to seize and detain the said Ship or Vessel wherever found, and to convey the same to the Custom-house nearest to the Place where she shall be found; and the Collector, or other principal Officer of the Customs at such Custom-house, shall, and he is hereby required to cause every such Ship or Vessel to be sold publicly by Auction, and the Produce arising by such Sale thereof to apply towards satisfying the said Penalty; and if there shall remain any Overplus, to pay the same over to such Person or Persons as shall prove his, her, or their Property therein, or to his, her, or their lawful Assigns.

V. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the several Penalties and Forfeitures inflicted by this Act shall and may be sued for, prosecuted, and recovered in any Court of Vice Admiralty in any Part of *America*, or in any Island in the *West Indies*, wherein any such Offence shall have been committed, or wherein any such Ship or Vessel shall have disposed of the Whole, or any Part of her Cargo, or in any of his Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, or in the Court of Exchequer at *Edinburgh*.

VI. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in every such Ship or Vessel, the upper as well as the lower Cabin, and the Space between Decks, shall be allotted and properly prepared for the Reception of such Slaves; and that after any such Ship or Vessel shall have taken two third Parts of her Complement of Slaves on Board, in the Proportions herein-before limited, no Goods, Wares, or Merchandise shall ever be stowed or put in any such Cabin or Place, in which any such Slaves shall be.

VII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That, from and after the first Day of *August* one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one, it shall not be lawful for any Person to become a Master, or take or have the Command or Charge of any such Ship or Vessel, at the Time he shall clear out from any Port of *Great Britain*, for purchasing and carrying Slaves from the Coast of *Africa*, unless such Master or Person taking or having the Charge or Command of any such Ship or Vessel, shall have made Oath, and delivered in to the Collector or other Chief Officer of the Customs, at the Port where such Ship or Vessel shall clear out, a Certificate, attested by the respective Owner or Owners, that he has already served in such Capacity during one Voyage, or shall have served as Chief Mate or Surgeon during the Whole of two Voyages, or either as Chief or other Mate during three Voyages, in purchasing and carrying Slaves from the Coast of *Africa*, under Pain that such Master or other Person taking or having the Charge or Command of any such Ship or Vessel, and also the Owner or Owners who shall hire or employ such Person, shall for every such Offence respectively forfeit and pay the Sum of five hundred Pounds.

VIII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That, from and after the first Day of *August* one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one, it shall not be lawful for any Owner or Owners of any such Ship or Vessel to insure any Cargo of Slaves, or any Part thereof, on Board the same, against any Loss or Damage, save and except the Perils of the Sea, Piracy, Insurrection, or Capture by the King's Enemies, Barratry of the Master and Crew, and Destruction of Fire; and that all and every Policy of Insurance hereafter made, contrary to this Act, shall be, and the same is hereby declared to be null and void to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

IX. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no such Ship or Vessel shall be allowed to clear out, unless it shall appear to the Collector or other principal Officer of the Customs at the Port, that there is one Surgeon at least engaged to proceed on Board such Ship or Vessel, and unless such Surgeon shall have produced and delivered to such Collector or other principal Officer of the Customs, a Certificate or

Warrant

Warrant of his having passed his Examination<sup>a</sup> at Surgeons' Hall, or at some Publick or County Hospital, or at the Royal College of Physicians or Royal College of Surgeons in *Edinburgh*, or shall have served as Surgeon or Surgeon's Mate in his Majesty's Fleet or Armies, of which Certificate or Warrant the said Collector or other principal Officer shall give to the said Surgeon an attested Copy, *gratis*.

X. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if it shall be made appear, to the Satisfaction of the Collector or other principal Officer of the Port where such Ship or Vessel shall be discharged, that there shall not have died more than in the Proportion of two Slaves in the Hundred, from the Time of the Arrival of such Ship or Vessel on the Coast of *Africa*, to the Time of her Arrival at her Port of Discharge in any of the Islands of the *West Indies*, belonging to or under the Dominion of his Majesty, his Heirs or Successors, in such Case the Collector or other principal Officer shall, and he is hereby authorised and required to make out Certificates, specifying the Number of Slaves that appear to have been taken on Board the said Ship or Vessel, and the Number that have died within the Period above-mentioned, one of which Certificates shall be delivered to the Master, and the other to the Surgeon of such Ship or Vessel, and on Production of such Certificates, the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs in *England* and *Scotland* respectively, shall, and they are hereby authorised and required to direct the Sum of one hundred Pounds to be paid to the Master, and the Sum of fifty Pounds to be paid to the Surgeon, of such Ship or Vessel, out of any Money that shall be in the Hands of the Receiver General of the Customs of *England* and *Scotland* respectively; or if it shall be made appear to the Collector or other principal Officer as aforesaid, that there shall not have died more than in the Proportion of three Slaves in the Hundred, from the Time of the Arrival of such Ship or Vessel on the Coast of *Africa* to the Time of her Arrival at her Port of Discharge in any of the said *West India* Islands, in such Case the Collector or principal Officer as aforesaid shall, and he is hereby required and authorised to make out like Certificates, and to deliver one to the Master and the other to the Surgeon of such Ship or Vessel, and the Commissioners of the Customs in *England* and *Scotland* respectively shall, and they are hereby authorised and required, on Production of such Certificates, to direct the Sum of fifty Pounds to be paid to the Master, and the Sum of twenty-five Pounds to be paid to the Surgeon of such Ship or Vessel.

If the Officer at the Port of Discharge shall be satisfied that there have not died on the Voyage more than two Slaves in the 100, he is to give Certificates to the Master and Surgeon, and on Production thereof to the Commissioners of the Customs, they are to order the Master 100l. and the Surgeon 50l. Like Certificates to be given where the Mortality has not been more than 3 in the 100, Surgeon to 50l.

which is to entitle the Master to 50l. and the

XI. And, for the better Regulation, Encouragement, and Preservation of the Health of the Officers and Seamen, employed in Ships or Vessels trading to the Coast of *Africa* for Slaves, and from thence to the *West Indies* and *America*; be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That, from and after the first Day of *August* one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one, before any Ship or Vessel proceeds to Sea, the Master, Officers, and Mariners shall sign and execute Articles of Agreement, and a Muster-roll, in the Presence of, and witnessed by the Clearing Officer and one of the Tidesmen of the Port from whence the Ship departs; and a Duplicate of the Articles of Agreement and Muster-roll, duly signed and executed, shall be delivered to the aforesaid Clearing Officer, in order to its being lodged with the proper Officer in the Custom-house, according to the Forms hereunto annexed; which Agreement shall be conclusive to all Parties for the Time contracted for; and no other Form whatsoever of Articles of Agreement, or Muster-roll, shall be used, under the Penalty of fifty Pounds, one Half to be paid to the Use of *Greenwich* Hospital, and the other Half to the Informer, or other Person who shall sue for the same in any of his Majesty's Courts of Record.

Before any Vessel is cleared outwards, the Master, Officers, and Mariners, to execute Articles of Agreement in the Forms hereunto annexed, and no other Form to be used on Penalty of 50l.

XII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That a Continuation of the Muster-roll shall be regularly and duly kept during the Voyage; also a Log Book, wherein all Penalties, Forfeitures, and Charges against any Officer or Seaman shall be regularly entered and signed by the Master, Chief Mate, and Surgeon, and delivered in upon Oath, together with the Muster-roll, on the Arrival of the Ship or Vessel at her discharging Port in *Great Britain*, to the Collector or other Chief Officer thereof; and if any Master, Chief Mate, or Surgeon, shall be convicted of signing false Muster-rolls, Articles of Agreement, or Log Book, he or they shall forfeit and pay the Sum of one hundred Pounds, and shall also suffer six Months Imprisonment.

Muster-roll to be regularly kept, &c.

Penalty for signing false Muster-rolls, &c.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That no Officer, Mariner, or Seaman, shall be turned over or discharged, upon any Pretence whatsoever, unless into his Majesty's Ships of War, or to assist a Ship in actual Distress, which is to be certified by the principal Officers of both Ships concerned, and an Agreement made in Writing with the said Officers or Men so lent, or, upon Preferment, or under ill State of Health, with the Consent of the Party, for which a Certificate shall be given from the Captain of any of his Majesty's Ships or Vessels (if any are present), or, in their Absence, two Justices of the Peace, or the Collector and Comptroller of the Customs at the Place or Port where such Ship or Vessel shall be, or shall first arrive, which Certificate shall be returned with the Muster-roll and Log-book, on the Arrival of the Ship at her delivering Port in *Great Britain*.

No Officer, &c. to be turned over or discharged, but under the Circumstances herein mentioned.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That no Master, Commander, or other Person, shall supply the Officers, or Mariners, Seamen, or seafaring Men, with more Slops, Tobacco, Spirits, or any other Article whatsoever, than to the Amount of one fourth Part of the monthly Wages of such Officer, Mariner, Seaman, or seafaring Man.

No Slops, &c. to be supplied beyond one Fourth of the monthly Wages. Regulations with regard to Officers, &c. behaving in a riotous, seditious, or mutinous Manner.

XV. And be it further enacted, That if any Officer, Mariner, or Seaman, shall behave in a riotous, seditious, or mutinous Manner, it shall be lawful for the Commander or Commanding Officer to put such Officer, Mariner, or Seaman, into Confinement, for a Time not exceeding twenty-four Hours, before the same is reported to the Captain or Commander of any of his Majesty's Ships or Vessels (being present, or within a convenient Distance), who is hereby authorised to inquire into the Cause of such Complaint, and to examine upon

upon Oath, if found necessary, and to grant such Relief and Remedy therein as the Circumstances of the Case may require; and in case none of his Majesty's Ships are present, the Cause of Complaint shall be fully examined into by the Master and two Officers, in the Presence of the Ship's Company; and if it shall be judged necessary, for the Safety of the Ship and Cargo, to continue the Offender or Offenders in Confinement, such Determination shall be drawn up in Writing, with the Reasons for coming to such Resolution stated at large, and signed by the Master and two Officers, which they are hereby enjoined, under the Penalty of fifty Pounds, to report, without Delay, to the Captain or Commander of the first Ship or Vessel belonging to his Majesty they may fall in with, and in Default thereof to report the same to the Governor or Chief Officer of any *British* Fort on the Coast of *Africa*, or to the Governor of any of the *West India* Islands, on their Arrival at any Port or Road therein, that such Measures may be taken to bring the Offender or Offenders to Justice as the Nature of the Case will admit.

Master to cause a printed Abstract of this Act, &c. to be hung up in the most publick Place in his Vessel, on Penalty of 20 l.

If mutinous Officers, &c. be taken into Custody in *Africa*, or the *West Indies*, a Statement, upon Oath, to be lodged with the Governor, &c. and if the Witnesses do not appear at the Trial, they shall incur a Penalty.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That the Master or other Person having or taking the Charge or Command of every such Ship or Vessel, shall cause a printed Abstract of this Act, and also a Copy of the Schedule (A), and of the Muster-roll, respectively annexed to this Act, to be hung up and affixed to the most publick Place of such Ship or Vessel, and shall cause the same to be constantly kept and renewed, so that at all Times they may be accessible to the Officers and Seamen on Board of such Ship or Vessel, upon Pain that every such Master or other Person having or taking the Charge or Command of every such Ship or Vessel, who shall neglect to affix and renew the same, shall for every such Offence forfeit the Sum of twenty Pounds.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That if any Officer, Mariner, or Seaman, charged with Mutiny or Sedition, shall be delivered over or taken into Custody by the Order of the Governor or Chief Officer of any Fort on the Coast of *Africa*, or the Governor of any of the Islands in the *British West Indies*, a full Statement, upon Oath, which they are hereby impowered to administer, shall be made out and lodged with the said Governor, together with the Names of the Witnesses who are to support the Charge alleged against the Prisoner or Prisoners, in order to their being sent Home for Trial at the next Admiralty Sessions for the Offence or Offences alleged against him or them; and in case the said Witness or Witnesses shall neglect to appear at the Trial, upon being duly summoned, he or they shall incur such Penalty as the Court shall adjudge.

Officers, &c. to continue in Pay till the Vessel is cleared Inwards. Wages of Run Men to go to Greenwich Hospital, &c.

Where Offences may be tried, and Penalties sued for.

Limitation of Actions.

Persons taking false Oaths, to incur the Pains of Perjury, &c.

Continuance of this Act.

XVIII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That upon the Arrival of every Ship or Vessel at her discharging Port in *Great Britain*, the Officers and Seamen therein shall be continued in full Pay and Provisions until the Ship is cleared inwards, or their Accounts are settled and paid; and that all Wages due to Run Men shall be forfeited and paid, one Half to the Use of *Greenwich Hospital*, and the other Half to the Merchants Hospital of the Port to which such Ship belongs; and all other Forfeitures shall be applied as is specified in the Articles of Agreement; any Custom, Law, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

XIX. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That any Offence committed in Breach or Violation of this Act, may be tried in any Court of Oyer and Terminer, in any County in *England* wherein any such Offence shall have been committed, or, in case any such Offence shall have been committed on the Seas, or in Parts beyond the Seas, then in such County within which the Ship on Board which such Offence shall have been committed shall have cleared out, or in the County of *Middlesex*; and any Penalty or Forfeiture inflicted by this Act, may be prosecuted, sued for, and recovered in any Court of Record in *Great Britain*, and in every such Action or Suit the Party against whom Judgement shall be given (whether Plaintiff or Defendant) shall pay double Costs of Suit; and every such Action shall and may be brought at any Time within three Years after the Offence committed, and not afterwards, and every such Action shall be carried on without wilful Delay.

XX. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person, taking any Oath by this Act authorised or required to be taken, shall thereby commit wilful Perjury, or if any Person shall unlawfully procure or suborn any Person to take any Oath, by this Act authorised or required to be taken, whereby such Person shall commit wilful Perjury, every such Person shall incur and suffer the like Pains and Penalties as are by Law inflicted upon Persons committing wilful and corrupt Perjury, or Subornation of Perjury.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall continue in force till the first Day of *August* one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two, and no longer, except for the Purpose of trying or suing any Person in consequence of any Offence or Offences committed in Breach or Violation of this Act.

SCHEDULE.

## S C H E D U L E (A).

ARTICLES of Agreement between the Master, Officers, Mariners, Seamen, and Seafaring Men of the Ship bound from the Port of upon an intended Voyage to the Coast of *Africa*, for from thence to the *West Indies*, or *America*, and afterwards to in *Great Britain*, or to her delivering Port in *Europe*.

**FIRST**, The Master does hereby covenant, agree and engage with the said Officers, Seamen, Seafaring Men, Landsmen, and Boys, That he will pay, or cause to be paid, to each and every of them, at the Rate of the Wages *per Month*, Sterling Value, as against each Person's Name is expressed in the Muster-roll. Secondly, The said Master does further agree and engage with the said Officers, Mariners, Seamen, Seafaring Men, Landsmen, and Boys, that they shall be daily and regularly supplied with good, wholesome Victuals, and a Portion of Wine or Spirits, as hereafter specified; the said Provisions to be issued and dressed in the usual Manner in which it is done on Board his Majesty's Ships of War, and served out to the Ship's Company in the Manner following; *viz.*

- Sunday*, - One Pound and a Half of Beef, containing sixteen Ounces to the Pound, and a Pint of Flour.
- Monday*, - One Pound of Pork, containing sixteen Ounces to the Pound, and Half a Pint of Pease.
- Tuesday*, - One Pint of Oat-meal, and two Ounces of Butter, and four Ounces of Cheese; or, one Pound of Stock Fish, with one Eighth of a Pint of Oil, and a Quarter of a Pint of Vinegar, in lieu of Butter and Cheese.
- Wednesday*, The same as *Monday*.
- Thursday*, The same as *Sunday*.
- Friday*, The same as *Tuesday*.
- Saturday*, The same as *Monday*.

Each Person, besides, to have six Pounds of Bread *per Week*; and a Quarter of a Pint of Spirits, or Half a Pint of Wine, together with of Water, *per Day*, during the Voyage.

In lieu of Pease and Oat-meal may be served Rice, Indian Corn, Yams, or Calavances.

In case of being put to short Allowance, the Master, Officers, and Seamen are to be at the same Allowance of Provisions and Water, and to be allowed short Allowance Money, at the Rate of three Pence *per Day* if at two-thirds Allowance, and four Pence Halfpenny *per Day*, *per Man*, if at half Allowance, and to be paid their short Allowance Money ten Days before the Vessel sails from the *West Indies* or *America*.

And it is hereby further covenanted and agreed by and between the said Masters, That the Master of the said Ship, at his or the Owners proper Cost and Charge, will hire and employ the Natives in their Craft, to wood and water the said Ship, during her Continuance on the Coast of *Africa*, if such Natives can be procured, under the Direction of a Patroon belonging to the said Ship.

And it is further agreed on the Part of the said Master, That whenever the Officers and Seamen are employed trading in Craft up the Rivers, that the said Master will, on the Part of the Owners, furnish the Parties so employed with a sufficient Quantity of painted Canvas, or Tarpawling, for an Awning, and Provisions for the Time, in the Proportion, *per Diem*, as is set forth in the foregoing Article, with proper Utensils and Fire to dress the same, and upon Failure thereof, for every such Neglect he shall forfeit double the Value of Provisions.

The said Master does further agree and engage, That there shall be a Space reserved for Half the Ship's Company to shelter themselves, while the Slaves are on Board; if a frigate-built Ship, it shall be under the Half Deck; or in the Steerage, or under a standing Awning of Wood, well caulked, in any other Ship or Vessel.

It is hereby further agreed by the said Master, That he will not, upon any Pretence whatsoever, turn over or discharge any of the Officers or Ship's Company belonging to the said Ship, unless on Promotion, or to assist a Ship actually in Distress, and not then, unless properly certified as before expressed in this Act: And the said Master does hereby further agree to advance one Month's Pay to the Officers and Ship's Company before the said Ship departs from *Great Britain*, at the Time of settling the River or Harbour Pay; and that the monthly Wages shall commence from that Period: And it is further agreed by the said Master, That he will pay, or cause to be paid, one Month's Pay after the Landing of the Slaves in the *West Indies* or *America*, ten Days before the Sailing of the said Ship in her homeward-bound Passage: And also the said Master engages to make the general Signal for sailing twenty-four Hours before the Departure of the said Ship; *videlicet*, by loosing the Fore Top Sail and firing a Gun.

And we the Officers, Mariners, Seamen, Seafaring Men, Landsmen, and Boys, in consideration of the monthly or other Wages, foregoing Stipulations, and Engagements, do severally promise and agree, and bind ourselves by these Presents to behave with due Subordination and Respect, and to obey the lawful Commands of our Commander or superior Officers on Board the said Ship, or Boats thereunto belonging, as becomes good and faithful Seamen and Mariners, and at all Places where the said Ship shall touch at, put into,

or anchor, during the said Voyage, to do our utmost Endeavours for the Preservation of the said Ship and Cargo; and not to neglect or refuse doing our Duty, by Night or by Day; nor go out of the said Ship on Board any other Vessel, or be on Shore, under any Pretence whatsoever, without Leave first obtained of our Commander or Commanding Officer on Board: And further, That we will, on no Account whatsoever, leave or desert the said Ship without the Master's Consent (unless to serve on Board any of his Majesty's Ships) till the abovesaid Voyage be ended, and the said Ship discharged, under the Forfeiture of our Wages: And we do further agree, That, when absent upon Leave, we will immediately repair on Board, when required so to do by our Commander or any of our superior Officers, on Failure thereof to forfeit for such Disobedience seven Days Pay, to be charged against our Wages, for every such Offence: And we do further agree and acknowledge, That forty-eight Hours Absence, without Leave, shall be deemed a total Desertion from the said Ship, and our Wages forfeited as above agreed on, unless good and sufficient Cause can be assigned for such Absence.

And it is further agreed by us, the said Officers and Mariners belonging to the said Ship, That we will not demand our Wages, or any Part thereof, except the Value of a fourth Part of our Wages to be supplied in Slops or other Necessaries, and one Month's Pay, with our short Allowance Money then due, in the *West Indies* or *America*, until the Arrival of the said Ship at her delivering Port, except we should be impressed, or enter on Board any of his Majesty's Ships, or be discharged by mutual Consent, agreeable to the foregoing Certificate, as specified in the Act.

And it is hereby further agreed by us the said Officers, Mariners, Seamen, Seafaring Men, Landmen, and Boys, That whatever Stores, Furniture, or Apparel each or any of us receive into our Charge belonging to the said Ship, shall be accounted for; and in case any Thing should be lost or damaged by our Negligence or Carelessness, it shall be made good to the Masters or Owners out of the Wages of such Officers or Seamen by whose Negligence it has happened.

SCHEDULE



A. D. 1791.

Anno tricesimo primo GEORGII III.

C. 54.

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## SCHEDULE (B).

## MUSTER ROLL.

Officers and Men's Names.	Quality.	Where born.	Age.	Years at Sea.	Time of Entry, and Place where.	Time when, and Place where, discharged, died, run, or drowned.	Cause of Discharge, Death, or drowned.	Number of Months and Days on Board.	Wages per Month.	Advance Money.	Hospital Duty.	Amount of Slops supplied.	Amount of Dead Men's Cloaths.	Amount of Short Allowance Money.	Total Amount of Wages due when discharged, &c. &c.	Amount of Run Men's Pay.
									£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.

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