

Plantations in *America*; for continuing, amending, and making perpetual, an Act, passed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled, “ An Act for the better securing and encouraging the Trade of His Majesty’s Sugar Colonies in *America*; for applying the Produce of such Duties, and of the Duties to arise by virtue of the said Act, towards defraying the Expences of defending, protecting, and securing, the said Colonies and Plantations; for explaining an Act, made in the Twenty-fifth Year of the Reign of King *Charles* the Second, intituled, *An Act for the Encouragement of the Greenland and Eastland Trades; and for the better securing the Plantation Trade, and for altering and disallowing several Drawbacks on Exports from this Kingdom; and more effectually preventing the clandestine Conveyance of Goods to and from the said Colonies and Plantations, and improving and securing the Trade between the same and Great Britain;*” and the other passed in the Eighth Year of His present Majesty’s Reign, intituled, *An Act for the more easy and effectual Recovery of the Penalties and Forfeitures inflicted by the Acts of Parliament, relating to the Trade or Revenues of the British Colonies and Plantations in America.*

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Action or Suit shall be commenced against any Person or Persons for any Thing done in pursuance of this Act of Parliament, the Defendant or Defendants in such Action or Suit may plead the General Issue, and give the said Act and the Special Matter in Evidence, at any Trial to be had thereupon; and that the same was done in pursuance of and by the Authority of this Act: And if it shall appear so to have been done, the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants; and if the Plaintiff shall be nonsuited, or discontinue his Action after the Defendant