

of Action; and such Seaman, Mariner, or other Person, who shall desert at any time during the Voyage on which he is engaged by written Contract, or Articles, shall, over and above all Penalties and Forfeitures to which he is now by Law subject, forfeit all the Wages he may have agreed for or be entitled to during the Voyage, from the Master or Owner of the Ship or Vessel on board of which he shall have entered after such Desertion, to the use of the Owner or Owners of such Ship or Vessel as he shall have deserted from.

Any Seaman deserting during the Voyage, to forfeit, over and above the Penalties, all the Wages he may be entitled to during that Voyage, to the use of the Owners.

III. *And be it further enacted*, That if any Mariner or Seaman having shipped himself on board any Ship or Vessel which hath been Launched or is actually preparing for Sea, to proceed on any Voyage and under pay, shall neglect his attendance and duty on board, or absent himself from his said service, upon complaint thereof made on Oath by the Owner, Master, or other Officer of the said Ship or Vessel, to any Justice of the Peace within the same County, such Justice is hereby empowered to cause such Mariner or Seaman to be forthwith brought before him by Warrant, and upon Conviction of his absenting himself as aforesaid, to commit to Prison, that he may be secured and forthcoming to proceed on the Voyage he has so agreed to, and to be delivered by order of the Justice that committed him, or some other Justice in the same County; and all necessary charges attending his being so secured, and which have been actually paid by the said Owner or Master, may be deducted from such Mariner or Seaman's Wages, as the same becomes due.

Seamen neglecting their attendance and duty when engaged,

Penalty.

IV. *Provided always*, That no Seaman shall be bound, by entering or shipping himself on board of any Ship or Vessel, unless the Agreement shall be in writing, and declare what Wages such Seaman is to have for so long a time as he shall Ship himself for, and also express the Voyage or Time for which such Seaman was shipped, any thing herein before to the contrary notwithstanding.

Proviso.

Seaman not bound unless Agreement be in writing.