

And for the more speedy proceeding to Condemnation or other Determination of any Prize-Ship or Vessel, Goods and Merchandizes taken by any such Privateer-Ship, or by any of Her Majesties Ships of War in such Court of Admiralty, as aforesaid, and for lessening the Expences that have been usual in those Cases; Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Judge or Judges of such Court of Admiralty, or other Person or Persons thereto Authorized, shall within the space of five Days after request to him or them for that purpose made, finish the usual Preparatory Examination of the Persons commonly Examined in such Cases, in Order to prove the Capture to be Lawful Prize, or to Enquire whether the same be Lawful Prize or not; and that the proper Bondition usual in such Cases shall be issued by the Person or Persons proper to issue the same, and shall be Executed in the usual Manner by the Person or Persons proper to Execute the same, within the space of three Days after request in that behalf made; and in Case no Claim of such Capture, Ship, Vessel or Goods shall be duly entered or made in the usual Form, and Attested upon Oath, giving Twenty Days Notice after the Execution of such Bondition, or if there be such Claim, and the Claimant or Claimants shall not within five Days give sufficient Security (to be approved by such Court of Admiralty) to pay double Costs to the Captor or Captors of such Ship, Vessel or Goods, in case the same so Claimed shall be Adjudged Lawful Prize, That then the Judge or Judges of such Court of Admiralty shall, upon producing to him or them the said Examinations or Copies thereof, and upon producing to him or them, upon Oath, all Papers and Writings which shall have been found taken in or with such Capture (or upon Oath made that no such Papers were found) immediately, and without further Delay proceed to Sentence, - either to Discharge and Acquit such Capture, or to Adjudge or Condemn the same as Lawful Prize, according as the Case shall appear to him or them, upon Perusal of such Preparatory Examinations, and also of the Writings found taken in or with such Capture (if any such Writing shall be found,) and in Case such Claim shall be duly entered or made, and Security given thereupon, according to the Tend and true Meaning of this Act, and there shall appear no Occasion to Examine any Witnesses, other than what shall be then near to such Court of Admiralty, That then such Judge or Judges shall forthwith cause such Witnesses to be Examined, and (within the space of Ten Days after such Claim made, and Security given) proceed to such Sentence, as aforesaid, touching such Capture; But in Case upon making or entering such Claim, and the Allegation and Oath thereupon, or the producing such Writings as shall have been found taken in, or with such Capture, or upon the said Preparatory Examinations it shall appear doubtful to the Judge or Judges of such Court of Admiralty, whether such Capture be Lawful Prize or not: and it shall appear necessary according to the Circumstances of the Case, for the Clearing and Determining such Doubt, to have an Examination of Witnesses that are Remote from such Court of Admiralty, and such Exami-