

ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO OCTAVO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. XX.

An Act for more effectually discovering the Longitude at Sea, and encouraging Attempts to find a Northern Passage between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, and to approach the Northern Pole.

[8th May 1818.]

HEREAS by an Act passed in the Twelsth Year of Her late Majesty Queen Anne, intituled An Ast for providing a Public 12 Anne.c.15.

Reward for such Person or Persons as shall discover the Longitude at Sea, it was enacted, that Persons holding certain Public Offices therein stated, for the time being, and certain other Persons therein mentioned by Name, should be Commissioners for the Discovery of the Longitude at Sea, and for examining, trying, and judging of all Proposals, Experiments, and Improvements relating to the same: And whereas another Act was passed in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty 26 G.2. c. 25. King George the Second, for rendering more effectual the last-recited Act: And whereas by another Act passed in the Thirtieth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled An Act for continuing the Encouragement 30 G.3.c. 14. and Reward of Persons making certain Discoveries for finding the Longitude at Sea, or making other useful Discoveries and Improvements in Navigation, and for making Experiments relating thereto, and for adding a Commissioner to execute the several Acts for the Discovery of the Longitude at Sea, Persons holding certain other Offices, therein enumerated, for the time being, were added to and joined with the Commissioners appointed by the said first-mentioned Act: And whereas all the Persons mentioned by Name in the faid first-recited Act are long fince deceased: And whereas by reason of the Residence at the Universities of certain Professors who are constituted Members of the Board of Commissioners aforesaid, and by there not being a Power of electing into the faid Board any Persons but the faid Official Commissioners and the said Professors, it often happens that there are no Perfons, particularly verfed in the Sciences of the Mathematics and Astronomy, resident in London, and belonging to the said Board; and that divers Persons of great Skill and Ability, whose Services would be most