1º & 2º GEORGII IV. Cap. 66.

Empowering His Majesty to make Grants for the exclusive Trade to certain Parts of North America.

Limiting the Periods for which such Grants may be made.

Act passed in the Forty-third Year of the Reign of His late Majesty 43G.3. c. 138. King George the Third, intituled An Act for extending the Jurisdiction of the Courts of Justice in the Provinces of Lower and Upper Canada, to the Trial and Punishment of Persons guilty of Crimes and Offences within certain Parts of North America adjoining to the said Provinces, extended to the Territories granted by Charter to the said Governor and Company; and it is expedient that such Doubts should be removed. and that the said Act should be further extended: 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 from and after the passing of this Act, it shall be lawful for His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, to make Grants or give His Royal Licence, under the Hand and Seal of One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, to any Body Corporate, or Company, or Person or Persons, of or for the exclusive Privilege of Trading with the Indians in all such Parts of North America as shall be specified in any such Grants or Licences respectively, not being Part of the Lands or Territories heretofore granted to the said Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading to Hudson's Bay, and not being Part of any of His Majesty's Provinces in North America, or of any Lands or Territories belonging to the United States of America; and all such Grants and Licences shall be good, valid, and effectual for the Purpose of securing to all such Bodies Corporate, or Companies. or Persons, the sole and exclusive Privilege of trading with the Indians in all such Parts of North America (except as herein-after excepted), as shall be specified in such Grants or Licences; any thing contained in any Act or Acts of Parliament, or any Law to the contrary notwithstanding.

> II. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no such Grant or Licence, made or given by His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, of any such exclusive Privileges of trading with the Indians in such Parts of North America as aforesaid, shall be made or given for any longer Period than Twenty-one Years; and no Rent shall be required or demanded for or in respect of any such Grant or Licence, or any Privileges given thereby under the Provisions of this Act, for the first Period of Twenty-one Years; and from and after the Expiration of such first Period of Twenty-one Years, it shall be lawful for His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, to reserve such Rents in any future Grants or Licences to be made to the same or any other Parties, as shall be deemed just and reasonable, with Security for the Payment thereof; and such Rents shall be deemed Part of the Land Revenues of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and be applied and accounted for as the other Land Revenues of His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, shall, at the Time of Payment of any such Rent being made, be applied and accounted for.

Persons to whom such Grants shall be made, to enter into Security.

III. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, the Governor and Company of Adventurers trading to Hudson's Bay, and every Body Corporate and Company and Person to whom every such Grant or Licence shall be made or given as aforesaid, shall respectively keep accurate Registers of all

9