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ANNO VICESIMO SEXTO

# Georgii III. Regis.



C A P. XLI.

An Act for the further Support and Encouragement of the Fisheries carried on in the *Greenland Seas* and *Davis's Streights*.



WHEREAS the Fisheries carried on in the Greenland Seas and Davis's Streights have been raised, by the Bounties and Encouragements already given, to a very flourishing Condition: And whereas the said Bounties will cease and expire on the Twenty-fifth Day of December, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, and it will be proper further to encourage and support the said Fisheries, by granting, to Ships employed therein, such other Bounties as the present State of the Publick Revenue may justify, and the Nature and Condition of the said Fisheries appear now to require: 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

Preamble.

For Five Years from Dec. 25, 1786, British Ships going on the Whale Fishery must be visited by an Officer of the Customs, who shall certify the Admeasurement, etc. to the Commissioners.

rity of the same, That, for and during the Space of five Years, to be computed from the said Twentieth Day of December, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, the Bounties herein-after mentioned shall be paid and allowed under the several Rules and Restrictions herein-after expressed and directed; (that is to say), Every British-built Ship or Vessel, owned by a British Subject or British Subjects usually residing in Great Britain, or in the Islands of Guernsey, Jersey, or Man, which shall, within the Time limited by this Act, proceed from any Port of Great Britain, or the Islands aforesaid, on the Whale Fishery, to the Greenland Seas, or Davis's Straights, or to the Seas adjacent, and which shall be manned and navigated with a Master, and Three fourths of the Mariners at least, being British Subjects, usually residing in Great Britain, Ireland, or in the Islands aforesaid, shall, before he proceeds on such Voyage, or be intitled to the Benefits of this Act, be visited by the proper Officer or Officers of the Customs belonging to such Port, who shall examine into such Ship or Vessel and take an Account of the Tonnage thereof by Admeasurement, and shall certify such his or their Visitacion, and Examination and Admeasurement, to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs; and if it appears by the Certificate of such Officer or Officers that he hath on Board such a Number of Men, Provisions, Boats, Fishing Lines, and Instruments to be used in such Fishery, as herein-after are mentioned; that he is strongly built, and otherwise a proper Ship for such Voyage and Fishery, and hath on Board, among her Crew, a sufficient Number of Harpooners, Steerlmen, and Line Managers, who have before been employed in such Voyages, (the Names of such Persons to be contained in such Certificate); and if it further appears, by the Oath of One or more Owner or Owners, and of the Master or Chief Officer of such Ship or Vessel, written at the Foot of such Certificate, and made before the Principal Officers of the Customs of such Port, or any Two of them, whereof the Collector shall be One, (who are hereby impowered and required to administer

If such Certificate proves the Ship is fit for the Voyage,

and if Oath is made of the Intention to proceed forthwith thereon,

the same), that it is really and truly their firm Purpose and determined Resolution that such Ship shall, as soon as Licence shall be granted, forthwith proceed, so manned, furnished, and accoutred, on a Voyage to the Greenland Seas, or Davis's Streights, or the Seas adjacent, and there, in the then approaching Season, to use the utmost Endeavours of themselves, and their Ship's Company, to take Whales, or other Creatures living in the Sea, and on no other Design or View of Profit in such Voyage, and to import the Whale Fins, Oil, and Blubber thereof, into the Kingdom of Great Britain, (naming the Port thereof to which it is their Intention to return); and if the Master, after such Certificate had and Oath made, do also become bound, with Two sufficient Securities, unto his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, in the Penalty of such Sum as shall be equal to Treble the Bounty granted by this Act, (which Bond the said Collector, with the Approbation of the Comptroller, is hereby, as far as relates to the Bounties granted by this Act, authorized to take, and which is to be in Force, for the Term of Three Years, against the Master and Sureties, for the faithful Dealings of the said Master and Ship's Company in regard to the said Ship and Voyage), then, and in all such Cases, it shall and may be lawful for any Three or more of the Commissioners of the Customs in England and Scotland respectively for the Time being, on receiving such Certificates and Oaths made, and it being certified to them by the Collector and Comptroller of such Port, that sufficient Security hath been given as aforesaid, to give and grant, and they are hereby required to give and grant to the Master and Owners of such Ship, full Licence and Authority to proceed on such Voyage as aforesaid.

and to import  
the Whale  
Fins, etc. into  
Great Britain,

the Commit-  
tioners, on Se-  
curity being  
given, may  
grant Licence  
to the Ship.

II. And, to prevent any Disputes that may arise, whether a Ship be properly qualified and duly fitted out for the Whale Fishery, according to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, and intitled to a Certificate thereof from the Custom-house Officers; it is hereby enacted, That every Ship of the Burthen of Two

What Num-  
ber of Men,  
Fishing Lines,  
etc. must be on  
Board.

hundred Tons, designed for this Fishery, shall and is hereby obliged to have on Board forty Fishing Lines of One hundred and twenty fathom each, forty Harpoon Irons, four Boats, with Seven Men at the least (including an Harpooner, a Steersman, and a Line Manager) to each Boat, making in the Whole Twenty-eight Men, besides the Master and Surgeon, with Six Months Provisions at the least for such Number of Men; and every Ship of larger Burthen, an Increase of Six Men, One Boat, Ten such Lines, and Ten Harpoon Irons more, for every fifty Tons above the said Two hundred Tons, together with Provisions in Proportion; and every Ship which shall be so employed in the said Fishery, shall have on Board Apprentices indentured for the Space of Three Years at the least, who shall not exceed the Age of Eighteen Years, nor be under Fourteen Years of Age at the Time they shall be so indentured, in the Proportion of One Apprentice at the least for every Thirty-five Tons Burthen, and One fresh or green Man for every fifty Tons Burthen, which Apprentices and fresh or green Men shall be accounted in the Number of Men required to be on Board such Ship as aforesaid.

The Officer of the Customs, on Return of the Ship to Great Britain, shall make a Report of her Condition, &c.

III. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That on the Return of such Ship to the Port of Great Britain, to which One or more of the Owners and the Master thereof had declared on Oath their Intention to return, the proper Officers of the Customs, at such Port, shall immediately repair on Board and view the Condition of such Ship and her Lading, and certify the same, together with their Observations thereon, as also the real Tonnage of the said Ship; and the said Officers are also to take an Account or Schedule of the Names of the Master, Mate, and other Persons on Board, distinguishing therein the Harpooners and Persons more immediately employed in the said Fishery, and to certify the same; and the Master and Mate shall make Oath before the principal Officers of the Customs, or any Two of them, whereof the Collector shall be One as aforesaid (who are hereby impowered and required to administer

and Oath shall be made of her not having deviated from the Conditions on which the Certificate was granted;

administer

administer the same), that they did, in pursuance of the Licence granted as aforesaid (mentioning the Day of their Departure), proceed in a Voyage directly to the Places aforesaid, and have not since been on any other Voyage, or pursued any other Design or View of Profit; and that they did there (mentioning the Time of their Stay in those Seas) use the utmost Endeavour of themselves and their Ship's Company to take Whales and other Creatures living in those Seas, and that all the Whale Fins, Oil, and Blubber, imported (if any) in such Ship, were really and bona fide caught and taken in the said Seas, by the Crew of such Ship or Vessel only, or with the Assistance of the Crew of some other British-built Ship or Vessel licensed for that Voyage, pursuant to the Directions of this Act, which Dath shall be endorsed on, or annexed to the Licence aforesaid; and the said Schedule, Certificate, Licence, and Dath, shall be transmitted by the Collector and Comptroller of such Port to the respective Commissioners for that Part of Great Britain where such Ships or Vessels shall arrive; and such Commissioners, being fully satisfied of the faithful Dealings of the Master and other Persons employed in such Ships or Vessels, with respect to such Voyage and Fishery, shall, on Demand, cause Payment to be made to the Master or Owners, or to his or their Assigns, by the Receiver-general of the Customs for that Part of Great Britain where such Ships or Vessels shall arrive, a Bounty or Premium of Thirty Shillings per Ton, according to the Admeasurement of every such Ship or Vessel duly certified as aforesaid.

which Documents shall be transmitted to the Commissioners, who shall order a Bounty of 30s per Ton.

IV. Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Person or Persons shall be allowed or entitled to receive the Bounty hereinbefore granted, for any Ship which shall proceed upon the said Whale Fishery, from any Part of Great Britain, or the Islands of Guernsey, Jersey, or Man, after the said Twenty-fifth Day of December, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, unless such Ship shall sail from the Port where she shall be surveyed and cleared, directly on her intended Fishery, on or before the Tenth

No Person shall be intitled to the Bounty, unless the Ship sails from the Port of Survey before April 10, yearly,

and continues fishing till Aug. 10 following, unless laden with the Quantities of Oil, &c. herein specified;

Day of April, in each and every Year, and shall continue with her Crew in the Greenland Seas, or Davis's Streights, or the adjacent Seas, diligently endeavouring to catch Whales, or other Creatures living in those Seas, and shall not depart from thence before the Tenth Day of August then following, unless such Ship, if she be of the Burthen of Three hundred Tons, shall be laden with Thirty Tons of Oil, or Blubber in proportion thereto, the Blubber to be rated with respect to the Oil as Three to Two, and One Ton and a Half of Whale Fins; or if she be of greater or less Burthen, with a Quantity of Oil or Blubber, and Whale Fins, in like Proportion to the Tonnage for which every such Ship shall be intitled to the Bounty, being the Produce of One or more Whale or Whales caught by the Crew thereof, or with the Assistance of the Crew of some other licensed Ship, before that Time, or shall be forced by some unavoidable Accident or Necessity to depart sooner from those Seas; which Accident or Necessity shall be verified on the Oaths of the Master and Mate belonging to such Ship, upon her Return from the said Fishery, before the principal Officers of the Customs, or any Two of them, (whereof the Collector shall be One), at the Port where she shall arrive, who shall transmit the same, together with the Schedule, Licence, and other Documents by this Act required, to the respective Commissioners of the Customs for that Part of Great Britain where such Ship shall arrive.

or forced by unavoidable Accident to depart sooner, which shall be verified on Oath, and transmitted with the other Documents to the Commissioners of the Customs.

If a Ship ready for sailing by April 10, is by unavoidable Necessity prevented from sailing till April 25,

V. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case it shall happen, during the Continuance of this Act, that any Ship or Vessel shall not sail from the Port where she shall be surveyed and cleared, directly on her intended Fishery, on or before the said Tenth Day of April in any Year, provided it shall be made appear to the Satisfaction of the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs in England and Scotland respectively, that such Ship or Vessel was properly qualified and duly fitted out, according to the Directions of this Act, and surveyed, cleared, and ready for sailing, before the said Tenth Day of April, but was prevented from sailing by

some

Some unavoidable Impediment or Necessity, but shall actually have sailed on or before the Twenty-fifth Day of April in every such Year, it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any four or more of them in England, or any three or more of them in Scotland, to pay the Bounty for such Ship or Vessel, in like Manner as if such Ship or Vessel had actually sailed on or before the said Tenth Day of April.

the Bounty may be paid.

VI. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Commissioners of the Customs in England and Scotland respectively, to order the respective Receivers General of the Customs, in case the Monies remaining in their Hands arising from the Old Subsidy, shall not be sufficient, at any Time or Times during the Continuance of this Act, to satisfy the said Bounty of Thirty Shillings per Ton, payable on all Ships employed in the said Fishery, according to the Directions of this present Act, to pay the same out of any Monies that shall be in their Hands, arising from any of the Duties and Revenues under their Management respectively.

Bounties to be paid out of any Monies in the Hands of the Receiver General.

VII. And whereas it hath been found by Experience, that Ships of One hundred and fifty Tons Burthen are fit for the said Fishery; be it therefore enacted and declared by the Authority aforesaid, That every Owner or Owners of any Ship or Ships of One hundred and fifty Tons Burthen, which shall be employed in the said Fishery, who have conformed themselves, in proportion to their Tonnage, to the Rules and Directions herein-before prescribed to the Owners of Ships of greater Burthen, shall be intitled to the said Bounty, according to the Admeasurement of such Ship or Ships respectively, provided such Admeasurement be not less than One hundred and fifty Tons.

Ships of 150 Tons Burthen entitled to the Bounty.

VIII. Provided always, and be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Ship or Vessel at this Time employed in the said Fishery, although he be above the Burthen of four hundred Tons, shall be entitled to a larger Bounty than a Ship of four hundred Tons would be entitled to, and that he shall continue to enjoy

No Ship shall be entitled to a larger Bounty than for 400 Tons,



and only for  
Five Years  
from Dec. 25,  
1786;

and if not  
employed in  
the Fishery  
before that  
Day, not  
larger than for  
300 Tons.

the same for the Space of five Years, and no longer, from the said Twenty-fifth Day of December, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, in case such Ship or Vessel shall not be worn out, or have ceased before that Time to carry on the said Fishery; and that no Ship or Vessel which shall not, before the Twenty-fifth Day of December, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, have been employed in the said Fishery, although such Ship or Vessel shall be above the Burthen of Three hundred Tons, shall be entitled to a larger Bounty than a Ship or Vessel of Three hundred Tons would be entitled to.

Ships of more  
than 400  
Tons, or 300  
Tons, need  
not be fitted  
out but as of  
those Bur-  
thens, to en-  
title them to  
the Bounty.

IX. Provided also, That nothing in this present Act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to oblige the Owner or Owners of any Ship or Vessel above the Burthen of Four hundred Tons, or Three hundred Tons respectively before-mentioned, to fit out, equip, and man any such Ship, otherwise than as a Ship or Vessel of the Burthen of Four hundred Tons, or Three hundred Tons respectively, according to the Directions of this Act, in order to entitle him or them to the Bounty herein-before granted.

No Bounty  
shall be allow-  
ed to any  
Ship where a  
Log Book has  
not been pro-  
perly kept;

X. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Bounty granted by this Act shall be paid or allowed to any Person or Persons whatever, on account of any Ship or Vessel employed in the said Fishery, unless a Log Book shall have been constantly kept on Board such Ship or Vessel, in which Log Book the various Situations and Occurrences, respecting such Ship or Vessel, during the whole Course of the Voyage, shall be inserted every Day, and particularly the Times when such Ship or Vessel shall have been in Sight of Land, distinguishing what Land, and the Bearings thereof, and the supposed Distances therefrom, and the Soundings; and also the Time when, and the Latitude in which, any Whale, or other Creature living in the Sea, shall have been killed, taken, or caught by the Crew of such Ship or Vessel; which Log Book, so to be kept as aforesaid, shall be delivered by the Master, or other Person having or taking the Charge or Command

which shall be  
delivered to  
the Collector  
of the Cus-  
toms, before

of such Ship or Vessel, at the Time of his making a Report of such Ship or Vessel, to the Collector of the Customs at the Port in Great Britain where such Ship or Vessel shall arrive on her Return from the said Fishery, for his Inspection and Examination; and the said Master, or other Person having or taking the Charge or Command of such Ship or Vessel, together with the Mate thereof, shall jointly and severally verify on Oath the Contents of such Log Book before such Collector, who is hereby authorized and required to administer the same.

whom the Contents shall be verified on Oath.

XI. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case any such Ship or Vessel shall, in the Course of her Voyage, meet or fall in with any of His Majesty's Ships or Vessels of War, the Master, or other Person having or taking the Charge or Command of her, shall, and is hereby required to produce to the Captain, or other Officer commanding such Ship or Vessel of War, the said Log Book so to be kept as aforesaid, and such Captain or Commanding Officer shall, and is hereby required to make a Memorandum in such Log Book, of the Day on which it was so produced to him, and shall subscribe his Name to such Memorandum, and shall also make an Entry in the Log Book of the said Ship or Vessel of War, of the Name and Description of the Ship or Vessel on Board of which the Log Book of such Ship or Vessel so produced to and signed by him was kept; and in case such Ship or Vessel, on Board of which a Log Book is so required to be kept as aforesaid, shall put into any Foreign Port, where there is or shall be a British Consul, or other Chief British Officer, the Master, or other Person having or taking the Charge or Command of such Ship or Vessel, shall, and is hereby required to produce such Log Book to such British Consul, or other Chief British Officer, who shall and is hereby required also to make a Memorandum therein, of the Day on which it was so produced to him, and shall in like Manner subscribe the same.

If a Ship of War is met at Sea, the Log Book must be produced to the Captain, who must make therein a Memorandum of the Production, &c.

and must likewise be produced to the British Consul at any Foreign Port.

XII. And

*Ships fitted out from Ireland, agreeable to the Regulations of this Act, shall be intitled to the Bounty.*

XII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Ship or Vessel, owned by His Majesty's Subjects residing in Ireland, and fitted out from any Port in that Kingdom, which shall have complied with the Conditions of this Act, to be verified by Certificates, in such Manner, and under the like Rules, Regulations, and Restrictions as are required, by any Law in Force before the passing of this Act, to entitle Ships or Vessels, fitted out from Ireland, to the Bounties then existing for the Encouragement of the Greenland and Whale Fishery, shall, from and after the Twenty-fifth Day of December, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, be entitled to such and the same Bounties as the like Ships or Vessels fitted out from Great Britain, or the Islands aforesaid, shall be intitled to by virtue of this Act.

*The Owners may insure the Bounty in case of the Loss of the Ship.*

XIII. And whereas Applications have heretofore been made to Parliament for the Bounty on Ships or Vessels employed in the said Fishery that have happened to be lost at Sea before their Return to Great Britain, and a Doubt hath arisen, whether the said Bounty may be lawfully insured by the Owner or Owners of such Ships; for obviating such Doubt, and for preventing any future Applications to Parliament for the Bounty on any such Ships, be it declared and enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the Owner or Owners of any Ship employed, or designed to be employed in the said Fishery, to insure the Bounty which such Owner or Owners would be entitled to upon the Return of such Ship to the Port to which the Master, and One or more of the Owners of such Ship or Vessel, shall have declared, on Oath, their Intention to return; and on the Performance of all other Matters directed and appointed by this present Act to be performed for obtaining the said Bounty.

*Whale Fins, &c. may be imported in British Ships Duty-free;*

XIV. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for any Person or Persons, for and during the Time limited by this Act, to import into Great Britain Whale Fins, Oil, or Blubber

her of Whales, Seal Oil, or Seal Skins, or any other Produce of Seals, or other Fish or Creatures taken or caught in the said Greenland Seas, or Davis's Streights, or in the Seas adjacent, by British Subjects, usually residing in Great Britain or Ireland, or the Islands aforesaid, in British-built Ships or Vessels, owned and navigated as before required, in regard to the Bounties granted by this Act, without paying any Custom, Subsidy, or other Duty, for the same; any Law, Custom, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

XV. Provided always, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to give Liberty of importing any of the before-mentioned Articles Duty-free, unless the Master and Mate of the Ship or Vessel importing the same shall first make Oath before the principal Officers of the Customs, or any Two of them, (of which the Collector shall be One), in the Port or Ports of Importation, (who are hereby respectively authorized and required to administer such Oath), that all the Whale Fins, Oil, or Blubber of Whales, Seal Oil, Seal Skins, or other Produce of Seals, or other Fish or Creatures imported in such Ship or Vessel, are really and bona fide the Fins, Oil, or Blubber of Whales, or the Skins, Oil, or other Produce of Seals, or other Fish or Creatures caught and taken in the said Greenland Seas or Davis's Streights, or in the Seas adjacent, by the Crews of such Ships or Vessels only, owned, fitted out, and navigated as aforesaid.

but not unless Oath is made that the Cargo was caught by the Crews of such Ships.

XVI. And it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person or Persons shall give or grant any false Certificate for any of the Purposes required or directed by this Act, such Person or Persons shall forfeit the Sum of five hundred Pounds; and if any Person or Persons shall counterfeit, erase, alter, or falsify any Certificate required or directed by this Act, or shall knowingly or willingly make use of any false Certificate, or of any Certificate so counterfeited, erased, altered, or falsified, such Person or Persons shall, for every such Offence, forfeit the Sum of five hundred

Persons granting or using false Certificates forfeit 500l.

Pounds, and every such Certificate shall be invalid and of no Effect.

No Harpooner, &c. shall be impressed;

XVII. And whereas the Greenland Fishery Trade cannot be carried on without a certain Number of Men particularly qualified to carry on the said Fishery; be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Harpooner, Line Manager, or Boat Steerer, who shall be in, or belong to, any Ship or Vessel in the Greenland Fishery Trade, and whose Name (distinguishing the Capacity in which the Person so named is to act) shall be inserted in a List, which is hereby required to be delivered, on Oath, by the Owner of such Ship or Vessel to the Collector of the Customs at the Port from which such Ship or Vessel is intended to proceed upon the said Fishery, (which Oath such Collector is hereby impowered and required to administer), shall be impressed from the said Service; and that any such Harpooner, Line Manager, or Boat Steerer, may, during the Time of the Year that he or they are not employed in the said Fishery, sail in the Colliery Trade, upon giving Security, to the Satisfaction of the Commissioners of the Customs, that he or they will proceed in the said Ship or Vessel to the Greenland Seas, or Davis's Straights, on the Whale Fishery, the next Season; and that every Seaman or common Mariner who, after the first Day of February, in any Year during the Continuance of this Act, shall be entered to serve on Board any Ship which shall be intended to proceed on the said Fishery in the following Season, whose Name shall be inserted in a List to be delivered as aforesaid, and who shall have given Security to the Satisfaction of the Commissioners of the Customs to proceed, and shall proceed accordingly, shall be privileged and exempt from being impressed from or out of the said Service from the said first Day of February, till after the Expiration of the then next Season for the said Fishery, and until the Voyage home from thence shall be fully complete and ended, and no longer; any Law, Custom, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

but may, when unemployed therein, sail in the Colliery Trade, on giving Security to return the next Season.

Common Seamen protected till the End of the Season after Entry.

XVIII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Greenland Seas, and Davis's Streights, and Seas adjacent, within the Intent and Meaning of this Act, shall be deemed and taken to extend to the Latitude of Fifty-nine Degrees Thirty Minutes North; and no farther.

Extent of the Fishery.

XIX. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs for England and Scotland respectively shall, at the Beginning of every Session of Parliament, lay before both Houses of Parliament an Account in Writing under their Hands, of what Number of Ships or Vessels have been employed in the Whale Fishery to Davis's Streights, and the Greenland Seas, with their respective Names and Burthens, from whence they were fitted out, and at what Port in Great Britain they were discharged; and also what Quantity of Oil or Blubber, or Whale Fins, each Ship or Vessel shall have imported.

Commissioners of the Customs to lay before Parliament, annually, the Amount of the Number of Ships, &c. employed.

XX. And it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That One Moiety of the Penalties and Forfeitures inflicted by this Act shall be to the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and the other Moiety to such Officer or Officers of the Customs as shall sue or prosecute for the same in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at Westminster, or in the Court of Exchequer in Scotland, respectively, where the Offence shall be committed.

How Penalties are to be appropriated.

XXI. 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, the Defendant or Defendants in such Action or Suit, may plead the General Issue, and give this 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 Authority of this Act: And if it shall appear so to have been done, then the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants; and if the Plaintiff shall be nonsuited, or discontinue his Action after the Defendant or Defendants shall have appeared, or if

General Issue.

Treble Costs.

Judgement shall be given upon any Verdict or Demurrer against the Plaintiff, the Defendant or Defendants shall and may recover Treble Costs, and have the like Remedy for the same as Defendants have in other Cases by Law.

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F I N I S.