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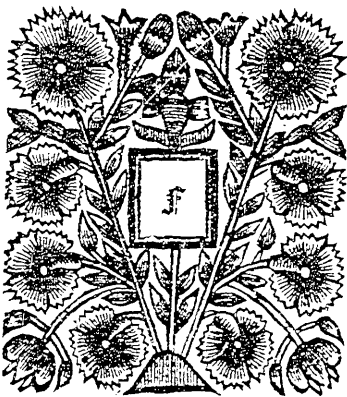
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Anno Sexto  
**Annæ Reginae.**

An Act for the Encouragement of the Trade to  
*America.*



OR Advancement of the Trade of Her Majesty's Kingdom of Great Britain, to and in the several Parts of America, for the further Encouragement of Her Majesty's Ships, and Private Ships of War, the Annoying and Diminishing the Wealth and Power of Her Majesty's Enemies in those Parts, and for the Increase of Shipping and of Seamen for these and other Services; Be it Enacted by the Queen'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 all Prize-Offices in any Port or Place in America be and are hereby Suppressed and Taken away, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, from and after the Four and twentieth Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and eight.

And for the better Encouragement also of such Ships and Vessels of War, which are or shall be in Her Majesty's Pay or Service, Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Flag-Officers, Commanders, and other Officers and Seamen of every such Ship or Vessel of War, shall have the sole Interest and Property of and in all and every Ship, Vessel, Goods and Merchandize they shall Take in any Part of America (being first Adjudged Lawful Prize in any of Her Majesty's Courts of Admiralty, and subject to the Customs and Duties payable to Her Majesty, as if the same had been first Imported to any Part of Great Britain, and from thence Exported, for and in respect of all such Goods and Merchandize) to be divided in such Proportions, and after such manner, as Her Majesty, her Heirs and Successors shall think fit to Order and Direct.

And for the Encouragement and Increase of Private Ships of War, Be it further Enacted, That the Lord High-Admiral of Great Britain, or the Commissioners for Executing the Office of Lord High-Admiral of Great Britain for the time being, or any Person or Persons in any Part of America, by him or them Impowered and Appointed, shall ( at any time during the present War, at the Request of any British Owner or Owners of any Ship or Vessel, giving such Bail and Security as has been usually taken upon granting Commissions, or Letters of Marque, except only for the Payment of the Tenths of the Value of the Prizes which shall be taken, to the Lord High-Admiral ) cause to be issued forth ( in the usual manner ) one or more Commission or Commissions to any Person or Persons whom such Owner or Owners shall Nominate to be Commander ( or in case of Death successively Commanders ) of such Ship or Vessel, for the Attacking, Surprising, Seizing, and Taking, by and with such Ship or Vessel, any Ship or Vessel, Goods, Ammunition, Arms, Stores of War, or Merchandizes belonging to or possessed by any of Her Majesties Enemies, in any Sea, Creek, Haven, or River in America, not being within the space of One hundred Leagues of any Part of Asia or Africa, whereof that Trade is already granted to the East-India Company; And that such Ship or Ships, Vessel and Vessels, Arms, Ammunition, Stores of War, Goods and Merchandizes whatsoever, with all their Furniture, Tackle or Apparel so to be Taken by or with such Private Owner or Owners, Ship or Vessel, according to such Commission and Commissions, being first adjudged Lawful Prize in any of Her Majesties Courts of Admiralty in or for any of Her Colonies or Plantations in America, shall ( subject to the Customs and Duties payable to Her Majesty, as aforesaid, for and in respect of such Goods and Merchandizes ) wholly and intirely belong to, and be divided between and among the Owner or Owners of such Ship or Vessel, and the several Persons which shall be on Board the same, and be Aiding and Assisting to the Taking thereof, in such Shares and Proportions as shall be agreed on with the Owner or Owners of such Ship or Vessel as shall be the Captor thereof, their Agents or Factors, as the proper Goods and Chattels of such Owner or Owners, and the Persons that shall be thus Entitled thereto, by Virtue of such Agreements among themselves; and that neither Her Majesty, her Heirs or Successors, or any Admiral, Vice-Admiral, Governour, or other Person Commissioned by or Claiming under Her Majesty, her Heirs or Successors, or any Person or Persons whatsoever ( other than the Owner or Owners of such Ship or Vessel, being the Captor of such Prize-Ship or Vessel, Arms, Ammunition, Stores of War, Goods and Merchandizes, and the Persons Claiming under him or them ) shall be Entitled to any Part or Share thereof ( her Majesties said Duties and Customs being duly Answered and Paid; ) Any Custom, Statute or other Law to the contrary notwithstanding.

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-

nation shall be desired, and that it be still insisted on, on the Captors part, that the said Capture is Lawful Prize, and that the contrary be still persisted in, on the Claimants behalf, That then the said Judge or Judges shall forthwith cause such Capture to be Appraised by Persons named on the part of the Captor, and sworn truly to Appraise the same according to the best of their Skill and Knowledge, and shall after such Appraisement made, and within the space of Fourteen Days after the making of such Claim, proceed to take good and sufficient Security from the Claimants, to pay to the Captors the full value thereof, according to such Appraisement, in case the same shall be adjudged Lawful Prize, and after such Security duly given, the said Judge or Judges shall make an Interlocutory Order for Releasing, or Delivering the same to such Claimant or Claimants, or his or their Agents; and the same shall be actually Released or Delivered accordingly.

And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Claimant or Claimants shall refuse to give such Security, the Judge or Judges shall cause the Captor or Captors in like manner to give good and sufficient Security, to be approved of by the Claimant or Claimants, to pay to the said Claimant or Claimants the full value according to the Appraisement, in case any such Capture or Captures shall be Adjudged not to be Lawful Prize; and the said Judge or Judges shall thereupon proceed to make an Interlocutory Order for the Releasing and Delivering of the same to the said Captor or Captors, or their Agents.

And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all such Captors, as aforesaid, which shall be brought into any of Her Majesties Colonies or Plantations in America, shall, without breaking Bulk, stay there, and be under the joint Care and Custody of the Naval Officer of the Port or Place whereto the same shall be brought, and of the Captors thereof, and their Agents, until either the same shall by final Sentence have been Cleared and Discharged, or Adjudged and Condemned as Lawful Prize, or that such Interlocutory Orders, as aforesaid, shall have been made for the Releasing or Delivering of the same; and upon the Condemnation or Adjudication thereof as Lawful Prize, shall (in case the same were taken by any such Privateer-Ship or Ships, as aforesaid) be immediately Delivered unto the Captors thereof, and their Agents, to be by them disposed as their Goods and Chattels, and (in Case the same were taken by any of Her Majesties Ships of War) unto such Person or Persons, and to be so Divided and Disposed, as Her Majesty, Her Heirs or Successors shall in that behalf direct; and that if any Judge or Judges, or other Officer or Officers to whom respectively it shall Appertain, shall Delay the Doing, Performing, Making or Pronouncing any of the several Proceedings, Matters or Things for, towards or relating to the Condemning or Discharging, Releasing or Delivering of any such Capture in manner aforesaid, within the respective times herein before Limited, or as soon as the same or any of them ought to be done, (according to the Tenor and True meaning of this Act) all and every such

Judge

Judge and Judges, and other Officer and Officers, shall for every such Offence forfeit the Sum of Five hundred Pounds, the one Society thereof to Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, and the other Society thereof, with full Costs of Suit, to such Person or Persons as shall Inform or Sue for the same, in any of the Courts in or for any of Her Majesties said Colonies or Plantations, or in any of Her Majesties Courts of Record within Her Kingdom of Great Britain.

And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That there shall not be paid unto or among all the Judges and Officers of such Court of Admiralty, as aforesaid, for, towards or relating to the Adjudging or Condemning of such Capture, as aforesaid, as Lawful Prize, above the Sum of Ten Pounds, in case such Prize Ship or Vessel be under the Burthen of One hundred Tons, nor above the Sum of Fifteen Pounds, in case the same be of that or any greater Burthen: And that upon Payment of either of the said respective Sums, as the Case shall require, to the said Judge or Judges, or any of them, to be by him or them disclosed or divided (as he or they shall think fit) among the Officers of such Court, such Judges and Officers, and every of them, shall be liable to all and every the several Penalties hereby Imposed for Neglecting or Delaying to do or perform their several and respective Duties or Offices in and relating to the several Proceedings aforesaid, within the respective Times herein for that purpose limited.

Provided nevertheless, and it is hereby further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Captor or Captors, Claimant or Claimants, shall not rest satisfied with the Sentence given in such Court of Admiralty, it shall and may be Lawful to the Party or Parties thereby aggrieved, to Appeal from the said Court of Admiralty, to Her Majesty in Her Privy-Council, such Appeal to be allowed in the like manner as Appeals to Her Majesty are now allowed from the Court of Admiralty within this Kingdom, so as the same be made within Fourteen Days after Sentence, and good Security be likewise given by the Appellant or Appellants, that he or they will effectually prosecute such Appeal, and answer the Condemnation, as also pay Treble Costs as shall be Awarded by Her Majesty in case the Sentence of such Court of Admiralty be affirmed, and so as Execution be not suspended by reason of any such Appeal: Any thing in this Act before contained to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Mariner or other Person who shall serve on Board, or be retained to serve on Board any Privateer, or Trading Ship or Vessel that shall be Employed in any Parts of America; nor any Mariner, or other Person, being on Shore in any Part thereof, shall be liable to be Impressed or Taken away, or shall be Impressed or Taken away by any Officer or Officers of or belonging to and of Her Majesties Ships of War, Impowered by the Lord High Admiral, or any other Person whatsoever; unless such Mariner shall have before Departed from such Ship of War belonging to Her Majesty at any time after the fourteenth Day of February, One thousand seven hundred and seven,

ver, upon pain that any Officer or Officers so Impressing or Taking away, or causing to be Impressed or Taken away, any Mariner or other Person contrary to the Tenor and true Meaning of this Act, shall forfeit to the Master, or Owner or Owners of any such Ship or Vessel, Twenty Pounds for every Man he or they shall so Impress or Take, to be Recovered with full Costs of Suit, in any Court within any Part of her Majesties Dominions.

And for Preventing the Desertion of any Mariners or Seamen from her Majesties Ships of War, to any such Trading or Privateer-Ship or Vessel, as aforesaid, Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Master or Commander of such Trading or Privateer-Ship or Vessel, as aforesaid, shall before he shall receive or entertain any Mariner, Seaman, or other Person to set on Board such Privateer or Trading Ship or Vessel, endeavour (by all the Ways and Means that he reasonably and conveniently may or can) to discover whether such Mariner, Seaman, or other Person hath Deserted from any of her Majesties Ships of War: And in case any such Master or Commander shall receive or entertain any Mariner, Seaman, or other Person, on Board such Trading Ship or Privateer, as aforesaid, without such reasonable Endeavour for such Discovery first had and made, or which he shall know, or be informed hath Deserted from any of her Majesties Ships of War, such Master or Commander shall forfeit to the Queens Majesty, her Heirs and Successors, Twenty Pounds for every Man he shall so receive or entertain, to be recovered with Costs of Suit in any Court within any Part of her Majesties Dominions.

And for the more effectual Preventing Merchant Ships or Privateers from harbouring or Entertaining any Seamen who shall Desert her Majesties Service, Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Twenty fifth Day of April, One thousand seven hundred and eight, every Master of a Merchant Ship or Vessel, and Commander of a Privateer, shall before he shall set Sail from any Port, deliver to the Chief Officer of the Customs of the Port from whence he shall set Sail, an exact List of all the Men belonging to such Merchant Ship or Vessel, or Privateer, containing their Names, Ages, and Descriptions of their Persons, upon pain that he shall forfeit Ten Pounds to her Majesty, her Heirs and Successors, for every such Man he shall so receive and entertain on Board, whose Name shall not be inserted in such List, to be recovered with Costs of Suit, in any Court within any Part of her Majesties Dominions.

And it is hereby further Enacted, That such Officer of the Customs do Return to such Master or Commander, an attested Copy of such List so delivered unto him, and that upon the Death or Alteration of any Seaman the said List be immediately altered and delivered in to the Naval-Officer or Chief Officer of the Customs in any Port where such Merchant Ship or Vessel, or Privateer, shall arrive, in manner as aforesaid: All which said Lists shall from time to time be produced, and shewn to any of the Captains, or other Officers of any of her Majesties Ships of War, demanding the same: And if any Man



or Men belonging to any of Her Majesties Ships of War, shall be found on Board any Merchant Ship, or Vessel, or Privateer, whose Name shall not be contained in such List, as aforesaid, the Master or Commander of such Vessel or Privateer shall forfeit to Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, the Sum of Twenty Pounds for every such Man which shall be so found on Board, to be Recovered in manner as aforesaid.

And for the better furnishing Seamen to Serve on Board Her Majesties Ships of War, which shall be in or about the several Parts of America, for Annoying the Enemy, and Protecting the Trade there, It is hereby further Enacted, That the Master or Commander of every Trading Ship or Vessel, and every Packet-Boat, which shall from time to time, from and after the said Twenty fifth Day of April, be Outward-bound, and going for any Part of America, shall be, and are hereby obliged (at the desire of any of Her Majesties Officers thereunto Lawfully Authorized, and at the Charges of Her Majesty) to Receive on Board and Carry to the Port or Place, whereto such Trading Ship, Vessel, or Packet-Boat shall be so bound, and deliver to such Officer or Person, to whom they shall be Assigned, any Number of Mariners, Seamen or other Persons actually Entred into Her Majesties Sea-Service and Pay (over and above the Complement of Mariners or Seamen, which such Trading-Ship, Vessel or Packet-Boat usually carries, or which shall be sufficient for Navigating the same for such intended Voyage, not exceeding the Proportion of a Fifth Part of the Number of such usual or sufficient Complement of Mariners, or Seamen) upon pain of forfeiting Twenty Pounds for every such Seaman or Mariner that he or they shall refuse to take on Board and Carry, to be Paid and Recovered, as aforesaid.

And for the more effectual Annoying Her Majesties said Enemies, and Abating their Power and Wealth in the Parts of America, by Numbers of Private Ships of War to be Equipped and Set out in Warlike manner, by and at the Charge of Her Majesties Subjects, and Encouraging Her Majesties Subjects to Engage in Joint and United as well as Separate Expences, Expeditions and Adventures for those Purposes; Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That Her Majesty be, and She, Her Heirs and Successors are hereby Impowered from time to time, during the Continuance of the present War, to Grant or Make any Charter, Commission, or Grant, Charters, Commissions or Grants, for the better or more effectual Enabling any Society or Societies, or particular Persons to join in any Expeditions or Adventures by Sea or Land, for the Attacking, Surprizing, Taking or Destroying any Ships, Goods, Moveables and Immoveables, Settlements, Factories, Creeks, Harbours, Places of Strength, Lands, Forts, Castles, and Fortifications, now or hereafter of or belonging to or possessed by any of Her Majesties Enemies, in any Part or Parts of America, and for the better Making and Carrying on any Preparations for such Purpose and Purposes, and for the Making and Assuring to the Societies and Persons which may be concerned,



their Heirs, Successors, Executors, Administrators and Assigns, full and undoubted Properties, Rights and Titles of, in and to, and the full Enjoyment of all and every the Ships, Ammunition, Stores of War, Goods, Chattels, Moveables and Immoveables, Settlements, Factories, Places of Strength or Security, Lands, Forts, Castles, and Fortifications, now or hereafter of or belonging to or possessed by any of Her Majesties Enemies in any of the Parts of America, which such Society or Persons shall take or cause to be taken from any of Her Majesties Enemies during this present War, together with all the Proceed, Profits and Advantages which may Accrue of or by the same, or any of them, with and under such Regulations, and in such Manner and Form, as Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors shall think fit, and at any time or times afterwards (although the present War should be then ended) by any further Grants or Charters to Confirm, Corroborate, and further Secure the Premises, and every or any of them, to the said Societies, and Persons concerned, their and every of their Successors, Heirs, Executors, Administrators and Assigns, so as to Enable them, and every of them, to Have, Hold and Enjoy the full Benefit thereof, according to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act.

Provided always, That nothing shall be contained in any Charter, Commission or Grant, made in pursuance of this Act; to exclude or restrain any of Her Majesties Subjects from having a full and free Trade to and in any Part of America.

Provided nevertheless, and it is hereby Declared to be the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, and be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall not be Lawful to any Commander of any of Her Majesties Ships of War, Privateer or Merchant Ship, having Letters of Marque, to Attack, Surprize, Seize, Take, Destroy, or offer any Violence, Spoil or Hostility whatsoever between Rio la Hacha, and the River Chagre on the Spanish Coast in America, or within five Leagues at Sea of any part of that Shore, to any Sloop, Barco longo, Canoa, or other Boat, Goods or Merchandizes belonging to any of the Subjects of Spain, who shall be concerned in any Intercourse of Trade with any of Her Majesties Subjects, or to any Sloop, Barco longo, Canoa, or other Boat, Goods or Merchandizes belonging to any of Her Majesties Subjects which shall be found going to or coming from any Port or Place within the Limits aforesaid.

And whereas by an Act of Parliament, made in the Third and Fourth Years of Her Majesties Reign, Intituled, An Act for Prohibiting all Trade and Commerce with *France*, it is, amongst other things, Enacted, That the several Contraband Goods, or Merchandizes therein particularly Enumerated, shall not be carried by any of Her Majesties Subjects to any Port or Place belonging to the Crown of Spain, nor any Trade whatsoever be permitted or allowed with the Subjects of Spain, for the said Contraband Goods or Merchandizes; And forasmuch as some Doubts may arise concerning the Extent of that Clause, Be it therefore hereby further Declared and Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the same shall not extend

tend or be construed to restrain any of Her Majesties Subjects from Carrying any of the said Contraband Goods or Merchandizes to any Port or Place within the Limits aforesaid, but that it shall and may be Lawful to or for any of Her Majesties Subjects to Trade with the Subjects of Spain, for the said Contraband Goods and Merchandizes, or any of them, within the Limits aforesaid; Any thing in this, or in the said last recited Act, or in any former Act, to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding.

And whereas good and necessary Laws have been made, and are still in Force within several of Her said Majesties Colonies or Plantations in America, for the Preventing the Carrying off from the said Colonies or Plantations, any Servant or Slave, without the Consent of the Owner, or the Carrying off from thence any other Person whatsoever, until such Person shall have taken out his Ticket from the Secretaries Office within such respective Colony or Plantation, in such manner, and under such Penalties and Forfeitures, as in and by the said several Laws is Declared and Provided; Be it therefore further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Commanders of Private Ships of War, or Merchant Ships, having Letters of Marque, shall, upon their going into any of these Ports or Harbours, be subject, and they are hereby determined to be subject to the several Directions, Provisions, Penalties and Forfeitures, in and by such Laws made and provided; Any thing in this Act contained to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding.

And for the better Supply of Mariners and Seamen to serve in Her Majesties Ships of War and on Board Privateers, Merchant Ships, and Trading Vessels, and for the better Carrying on the present War, and the Trade of Great Britain, during the Continuance thereof; Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That during the Continuance of this present War, and no longer, it shall and may be Lawful for any Privateer or Merchant, or Trading Ship or Vessel, to be Navigated by Foreign Seamen or Mariners, not being Natives of Great Britain, or of any of the Colonies or Plantations thereto belonging, or Her Majesties Natural, or Naturalized Subjects, so as the Number of such Foreign Seamen or Mariners do not exceed Three fourths of the Mariners at any one time Employed to Navigate such Privateer or Merchant, or Trading Ship or Vessel, and that One fourth at least of the Mariners or Seamen so Employed, be at all times Natives, or Her Majesties Naturalized Subjects of Great Britain (Sudden Death, and the hazard and Casualties of War and the Seas saved and excepted) One Act of Parliament made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King Charles the Second, Intituled, An Act for the Encouraging and Encreasing of Shipping and Navigation, or any other Statute or Law to the contrary notwithstanding.

And for the better Encouraging of Foreign Mariners and Seamen to come and serve on Board Ships belonging to this Kingdom of Great Britain, Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every such Foreign Mariner or Seaman who shall from and after the said Twenty fifth Day of April, have faithfully ser-

ved on Board any of Her Majesties Ships of War, or any Privateer or Merchant, or Trading Ship or Ships, Vessel or Vessels, which at the time of such Service shall belong to any of Her Majesties Subjects of Great Britain for the space of Two Years, shall, to all intents and purposes, be deemed and taken to be a Natural-Born Subject of Her Majesties Kingdom of Great Britain, and have and enjoy all the Privileges, Powers, Rights and Capacities which such Foreign Mariner or Seaman could, should or ought to have had and enjoyed, in case he had been a Natural-Born Subject of Her Majesties, and Actually a Native within the Kingdom of Great Britain.

And for the more expeditious Providing of Ships and Vessels to be Equipped and Used as and for Privateers for the speedy Annoying Her Majesties Enemies, and putting in Execution the Purposes by this Act intended, Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful for Her Majesty, her Heirs and Successors, to Grant to any Person or Persons who shall be actually engaged in any Adventure, in pursuance of this Act, a Licence to buy or procure in any Foreign Parts, any Ship or Ships (first giving Security to Her Majesty, that such Ship and Ships shall be employed in such Adventures) so as the whole Number of Foreign Ships so to be Bought and Licensed, shall not exceed the Number of Twenty; And that such Ships which shall be so Bought by Licence of Her Majesty, as aforesaid (having been Equipped, Set out, and Employed as Privateers, during the continuance of the present War) shall (after the same War ended) be to all intents and purposes deemed and taken as Ships of British Built, and have all the Privileges of Ships Built in any Part of Great Britain, and be capable of being used and employed accordingly; The said Act made in the said Twelfth Year of the Reign of his late Majesty King Charles the Second, Intituled, An Act for the Encrease and Encouragement of Shipping and Navigation, or any other Statute or Law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Provided always, and be it further Enacted and Declared, That it shall and may be lawful to and for all Her Majesties Subjects of this Kingdom, to Trade into any Part of America, to which they might lawfully have Traded before the making of this Act, and not otherwise.

Provided always, That nothing in this Act shall any ways extend, or be construed to take away or prejudice any of the Estate, Rights or Privileges of or belonging to the Governour and Company of Adventurers of England Trading into Hudson's-Bay.

F I N I S.