

1783

An Act for allowing the Importation of Goods from Europe in Neutral Ships into the Islands of Saint Christopher, Nevis, Montserrat, Dominica, Saint Vincent, Grenada, and the Grenadines...

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W India

ANNO REGNI
GEORGGII III.
REGIS

Magnæ Britanniae, Franciæ, & Hiberniæ,
VICESIMO TERTIO.

At the Parliament begun and holden at *Westminster*, the Thirty-first Day of *October*, *Anno Domini* 1780, in the Twenty-first Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Third, by the Grace of God, of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

And from thence continued, by several Prorogations, to the Fifth Day of *December*, 1782; being the Third Session of the Fifteenth Parliament of *Great Britain*.



L O N D O N :

Printed by CHARLES EYRE and WILLIAM STRAHAN,
Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1783.



ANNO VICESIMO TERTIO

Georgii III. Regis.



C A P. XIV.

An Act for allowing the Importation of Goods from *Europe* in Neutral Ships into the Islands of *Saint Christopher, Nevis, Montserrat, Dominica, Saint Vincent, Grenada*, and the *Grenadines*; and of Goods the Produce or Manufacture of the said Islands, and of *Tobago* and *Saint Lucia*, from thence into this Kingdom, in such Ships, upon Payment of the *British* Plantation Duties, for a limited Time; for permitting certain Goods, the Produce of those Islands, secured in Warehouses in this Kingdom, to be taken out, on Payment of the *British* Plantation Duties, and to cancel certain Bonds entered into for Payment of the Duties due thereon; for further continuing certain temporary Acts for the Encouragement of Trade; and to repeal an

3 X 2

Act,

Act, made in the Twenty-second Year of His Majesty's Reign, *for allowing the Importation of Goods the Growth of Saint Christopher, Nevis, and Montserrat, into any of His Majesty's Dominions in Europe or America.*

Preamble.



Neutral Vessels cleared out from foreign Ports to *St. Christopher's, &c.* before April 1, 1783, may land their Cargoes, &c.

WHEREAS, during the late Hostilities, the Islands of Saint Christopher, Nevis, Montserrat, Dominica, Saint Vincent, Grenada, and the Grenadines, were taken by the Arms of his most Christian Majesty, and, by the Preliminary Articles of Peace, are to be restored to this Kingdom; and it may happen that Neutral Ships, laden at foreign Ports in Europe with Cargoes consigned to the said Islands, may not arrive there before such Islands are so restored as aforesaid, and it is expedient to permit such Ships to land their Cargoes at those Islands, and to bring from thence to Great Britain any Goods of the Growth, Production, or Manufacture of such Islands; may it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it 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 it shall and may be lawful for any Neutral Ship or Vessel that shall have cleared out from any foreign Port in Europe before the First Day of April, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, with any Goods consigned to the said Islands, or either of them, to enter and land such Goods at any of the said Islands, although such Ships may not arrive there till after the said Islands are restored and delivered up to his Majesty; and it shall and may be lawful for such Ships, at any Time before the First Day of August, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, to take on Board, and bring back to any Port in Great Britain, any Goods, being the Growth, Production, or Manufacture of such Islands, and such Goods shall and may be admitted to an Entry in this Kingdom,

Kingdom, upon Payment of the like Duties, as if such Goods had been imported from any British Island in the West Indies in British Ships duly navigated; any Law, Custom, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

II. And whereas the Islands of Tobago and Saint Lucia are, by the said Preliminary Articles, to be delivered up to his most Christian Majesty, it is therefore hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That during such Time as shall be allowed by the Definitive Treaty of Peace to the Planters, Merchants, and Inhabitants, to withdraw themselves and their Effects from the said Islands, it shall and may be lawful for such Persons to import directly from thence into this Kingdom, any Goods, Wares, and Merchandizes, being the Growth, Production, or Manufacture, of the said respective Islands, upon Payment of such Duties as would have been due and payable for such Goods if they had been imported from any of the British West India Islands, in British Ships.

Goods, the Produce of Tobago or St. Lucia, may be imported during a limited Time, on Payment of British Plantation Duties.

III. Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Importer or Importers of such Goods from any of the said Islands herein-before mentioned, shall make Oath, before the Collector and Comptroller of His Majesty's Customs at the Port of Importation in this Kingdom, (which Oath such Collector and Comptroller are hereby impowered to administer), that, to the best of his or their Knowledge and Belief, the Goods so imported are really and bona fide the Growth, Production, or Manufacture, of the said respective Islands; and on Default of such Oath, the Goods so imported shall be subject to the Payment of the like Duties as they would be liable to if imported from any foreign West India Island; and such Goods shall, upon Importation into this Kingdom, be subject and liable to the like Securities, Restrictions, Regulations, Penalties, and Forfeitures, in all other Respects not altered by this Act, as they would be liable to if they were shipped at and imported from any British Island in the West Indies.

The Importer to make Oath that such Goods are the Produce or Manufacture of the said Islands.

Certain Goods imported from the aforesaid Islands while they were possessed by the French, may be taken out of the Warehouses, on Payment of British Plantation Duties.

IV. And whereas several Parcels of Sugar, and other Goods, the Produce of some of the before mentioned Islands, have been imported into Great Britain from thence during the Time such Islands were in the Possession of his most Christian Majesty, and are now secured in several Warehouses in this Kingdom, under the joint Locks of his Majesty and the Proprietors of such Goods, be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs, or any Four or more of them, to permit such Goods to be taken out of such Warehouses by the Importers thereof, upon Payment of the same Duties, and subject to the like Regulations, as such Goods would be subject and liable to if they had been imported directly from any British Island or Plantation in British Ships navigated according to Law; and upon Payment of the said Duty, the said Commissioners of the Customs are hereby authorised and required to order any Bonds, or other Security given by the Importers for the Duty on such Goods, to be cancelled and discharged.

Several Acts for the Encouragement of Trade further continued.

V. And whereas several Restrictions upon Commerce have been suspended, and Indulgences have been granted for the Benefit of Trade by various Acts of Parliament lately made, which were to continue in Force during the Hostilities with France, Spain, or the States General of the United Provinces, or either of them: And whereas it may be impracticable for the Merchants to give Notice to their Correspondents in foreign Parts of the Cessation of Hostilities Time enough to prevent the Shipping of Goods for this Kingdom before Peace may be concluded and finally established; be it therefore further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Acts of Parliament which have been made since the Twenty-sixth Day of October, One thousand seven hundred and sixty-five, whereby any such Restrictions have been suspended, or such Indulgences have been granted, shall be, and the same are hereby further continued, and shall remain in full Force until the Expiration of Six Calendar

Months

Months after the Definitive Treaty of Peace shall be signed.

VI. And it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That, from and after the first Day of August, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, an Act of Parliament made in the Twenty-second Year of His Majesty's Reign, (intituled, An Act for allowing the Importation of Goods of the Growth, Produce, or Manufacture, of the Islands of *Saint Christopher, Nevis, and Montserrat*, into any Ports of His Majesty's Dominions in *Europe* or *America*, on Payment of the *British Plantation Duties*) shall be, and the same is hereby repealed and made void.

Certain Goods imported from the Islands of Saint Christopher, Nevis, and Montserrat, into any Ports of His Majesty's Dominions in Europe or America, on Payment of the British Plantation Duties.

22 Geo. III, Cap. 30, re-pealed.

V. And whereas certain Restrictions upon Commerce have been imposed, and it is hereby enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Benefit of the said Act of Parliament for the Relief of Trade by various Acts of Parliament lately made, which were to continue in force during the Possibilities with France, Spain, or the States General of the United Provinces, or either of them: And whereas it may be impracticable for the Merchants to give Notice to their Correspondents in foreign Parts of the Collection of Possibilities &c. and it is hereby enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Acts of Parliament which have been made since the Twenty-first Day of October, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, whereby any such Restrictions have been imposed, or such Privileges have been granted, shall be, and the same are hereby further continued, and shall remain in full Force until the Expiration of Six Calendar Months.

General Act for the Relief of Trade by various Acts of Parliament lately made.

F I N I S.