

AN ACT for the more effectual Suppressing of Piracy.

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1. If any commander or master of any ship or vessel, or any other person or persons, shall, from and after the twenty-fifth day of March which shall be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and twenty-two, anywise trade with any pirate, by truck, barter, exchange, or in any other manner, or shall furnish any pirate, felon, or robber upon the seas with any ammunition, provision, or stores of any kind, or shall fit out any ship or vessel knowingly and with a design to trade with or supply or correspond with any pirate, felon, or robber upon the seas, or if any person or persons shall anyways consult, combine, confederate, or correspond with any pirate, felon, or robber on the seas, knowing him to be guilty of any such piracy, felony, or robbery, such offender and offenders, and every of them, shall in each and every of the said cases be deemed, adjudged, and taken to be guilty of piracy, felony, and robbery, and he and they shall and may be inquired of, tried, heard, and adjudged of and for all or any the matters aforesaid, according to the Statute made in the twenty-eighth year of King Henry the Eighth for pirates, and the Statute made in the eleventh and twelfth years of the reign of His late Majesty King William the Third, intituled "An Act for the more effectual Suppressing of Piracy," which, by an Act made in the sixth year of His present Majesty, is made perpetual, and he and they, being convicted of all or any the matters aforesaid, shall suffer such pains of death, loss of lands, goods, and chattels, as pirates, felons, and robbers upon the seas ought to suffer.

Commanders of ships or others trading with pirates, furnishing them with stores, corresponding with them, &c.,

shall be adjudged guilty of piracy, &c., according to the 28 Hen. VIII., c. 15, and 11 & 12 Will. III., c. 7.

And in case any person or persons belonging to any ship or vessel whatsoever, upon meeting any merchant ship or vessel on the high seas, or in any port, haven, or creek whatsoever, shall forcibly board or enter into such ship or vessel, and, though they do not seize and carry off such ship or vessel, shall throw overboard or destroy any part of the goods and merchandises

Persons belonging to any vessel forcibly boarding any merchantship, and throwing any goods overboard, shall be

punished as pirates.

belonging to such ship or vessel, the person or persons who shall be guilty thereof shall in all respects be deemed and punished as pirates as aforesaid.

Ships fitted out to trade with pirates, and the goods, forfeited, half to the Crown, half to the discoverers.

2. Every ship or vessel which shall be fitted out with a design to trade with, or supply or correspond with, any pirate, and all and every goods and merchandises put on board the same for any intent or purpose to trade with any pirate, felon, or robber on the seas, shall be *ipso facto* forfeited, one moiety thereof to the use of the King's Majesty, his heirs and successors, the other moiety to the person or persons who shall first make discovery and give information of such intent or design; and such person or persons who shall first make such discovery shall and may sue for and recover the said ship or vessel, and all and every the goods and merchandises on board the same, in the High Court of Admiralty.

To be sued for in the Admiralty.

Accessories to piracy by 11 & 12 Will. III., c. 7, shall be deemed principals.

3. . . . All and every person and persons whatsoever who, by the said Statute made in the eleventh and twelfth years of the reign of King William the Third, are declared to be accessory or accessories to any piracy or robbery therein mentioned, are hereby declared, and shall be deemed and taken to be, principal pirates, felons, and robbers, and shall and may . . . be inquired of, heard, determined, and adjudged in the same manner as persons guilty of piracy and robbery may and ought to be inquired of, tried, heard, determined, and adjudged by the said Statute made in the eleventh and twelfth years of the His late Majesty King William, and, being thereupon attainted and convicted, shall suffer such pains of death, loss of lands, goods, and chattels, and in like manner as pirates and robbers ought by the said Act to suffer.

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Masters or seamen not defending themselves against pirates, or who shall utter any discouraging words, shall, if the ship be taken, forfeit their wages to the owners, and suffer six months' imprisonment.

6. In case any commander, master, or other officer, or any seaman or mariner of any merchant ship or vessel which carries guns and arms, shall not, when they are attacked by any pirate, or by any ship or vessel on which any such pirate is on board, fight and endeavour to defend themselves, and their said ship or vessel, from being taken by the said pirate, or shall utter any words to discourage the other mariners from defending the ship, and by reason thereof the said ship or vessel shall fall into the hands of such pirate, then and in every such case every such commander or master, or other officer, and every seaman or mariner who shall not fight and endeavour to defend and save the said ship or vessel, or who shall utter any such words as aforesaid, shall lose and forfeit all and every part of the wages due to him and them respectively to the owner and owners of the said ship or vessel, and shall not be permitted to sue for or

recover the same, or any part thereof, in any Court, either of 8 *Geo. I., c. 24.*
law or equity, and, as a farther punishment, shall suffer six
months' imprisonment.

7. And for prevention of seamen or mariners deserting
merchant ships or vessels abroad in the plantations, or in any
other parts beyond the seas, which is the chief occasion of their
turning pirates, and of great detriment to trade and navigation,
and is chiefly occasioned by the owner or owners of ships or
vessels paying wages to the seamen or mariners when abroad :

Master shall
not advance to
any seaman
above half his
wages while
beyond sea, on
forfeiture of
double the
sum advanced,
to be recovered
in the Admi-
ralty by the
informer.

No master or owner of any merchant ship or vessel shall pay
or advance, or cause to be paid or advanced, to any seaman or
mariner, during the time he shall be in parts beyond the seas,
any money or effects upon account of wages, exceeding one
moiety of the wages which shall be due at the time of such pay-
ment, until such ship or vessel shall return to Great Britain or
Ireland, or the plantations, or to some other of His Majesty's
dominions whereto they belong, and from whence they were first
fitted out ; and if any such master or owner of such merchant ship
or vessel shall pay or advance, or cause to be paid or advanced,
any wages to any seaman or mariner above the said moiety, such
master or owner shall forfeit and pay double the money he shall
so pay or advance, to be recovered in the High Court of Ad-
miralty by any person who shall first discover and inform of the
same.

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