

rected by this Act, or shall knowingly or willingly make Use of any Affidavit, Certificate, Sufferance, Cocket, or Clearance, so counterfeited, rased, altered, or falsified, such Person or Persons shall, for every such Offence, forfeit the Sum of 500l. and such Affidavit, Certificate, Sufferance, Cocket, or Clearance, shall be invalid and of no Effect.

And whereas by an Act of Parliament made in the 9th Year of the Reign of his late Majesty King George the Second, intituled, *An Act for indemnifying Persons who have been guilty of Offences against the Laws made for securing the Revenue of Customs and Excise, and for enforcing those Laws for the future*, and by other Acts of Parliament since made, which are now in Force, in order to prevent the clandestine Landing of Goods in this Kingdom, from Vessels which hover upon the Coasts thereof, several Goods and Vessels, in those Laws particularly mentioned and described, are declared to be forfeited, if such Vessels are found at Anchor, or hovering within two Leagues of the Shore of this Kingdom, without being compelled thereto by Necessity or Distress of Weather; which Laws have been found very beneficial to the public Revenue: And whereas, if some Provision of that Sort was extended to his Majesty's American Dominions, it may be a Means of preventing an illicit Trade therein, and tend to enforce an Act made in the 12th Year of the Reign of King Charles the Second, intituled, *An Act for the encouraging and increasing of Shipping and Navigation*, and another Act made in the 7th and 8th Years of the Reign of King William the Third, intituled, *An Act for preventing Frauds and regulating Abuses in the Plantation Trade*, so far as those Laws do prohibit any Goods or Commodities to be imported into, or exported out of, any British Colony or Plantation in America, in any foreign Ship or Vessel; to which End therefore, Be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the 29th Day of September, 1764, if any foreign Ship or Vessel whatsoever, shall be found at Anchor, or hovering within two Leagues of the Shore of any Land, Island, Plantation, Colony, Territory, or Place, which shall or may be in the Possession or under the Dominion of his Majesty, his Heirs or Successors, in America, and shall not depart from the Coast, and proceed upon her Voyage to some foreign Port or Place, within 48 Hours after the Master or other Per-

son taking Charge of such Ship or Vessel, shall be required so to do by any Officer of his Majesty's Customs, unless in Case of unavoidable Necessity and Distress of Weather, such Ship or Vessel, with all the Goods therein laden, shall be forfeited and lost, whether Bulk shall be broken or not; and shall and may be seized and prosecuted by any Officer of his Majesty's Customs, in such Manner and Form as herein after is expressed.

Provided always, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to any Ship or Vessel belonging to the Subjects of the French King, which shall be found fishing, and not carrying on any illicit Trade, on that Part of the Island of Newfoundland which stretches from the Place called Cape Bonavista to the Northern Point of the said Island, and from thence running down to the Western Side, reaches as far as the Place called Point Riche.

And, in order to prevent any illicit Trade or Commerce between his Majesty's Subjects in America, and the Subjects of the Crown of France in the Islands Saint Pierre and Miquelon, it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the 29th Day of September, 1764, if any British Ship or Vessel shall be found standing into, or coming out from, either of those Islands, or hovering or at an Anchor within two Leagues of the Coasts thereof, or shall be discovered to have taken any Goods or Merchandize on board at either of them, or to have been there for that Purpose, such Ship or Vessel, and all the Goods so taken on board there, shall be forfeited and lost, and shall and may be seized and prosecuted by any Officer of his Majesty's Customs, and the Master or other Person having the Charge of such Ship or Vessel, and every Person concerned in taking any such Goods on board, shall forfeit treble the Value thereof.

And, to prevent the concealing any Goods in false Packages, or private Places, on board any Ship or Vessel arriving at any of the British Colonies or Plantations in America, with Intent to their being clandestinely landed there, Be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the 29th Day of September, 1764, all Goods which shall be found concealed in any Place whatsoever on board any such Ship or Vessel, at any Time after the Master thereof shall have made his Report