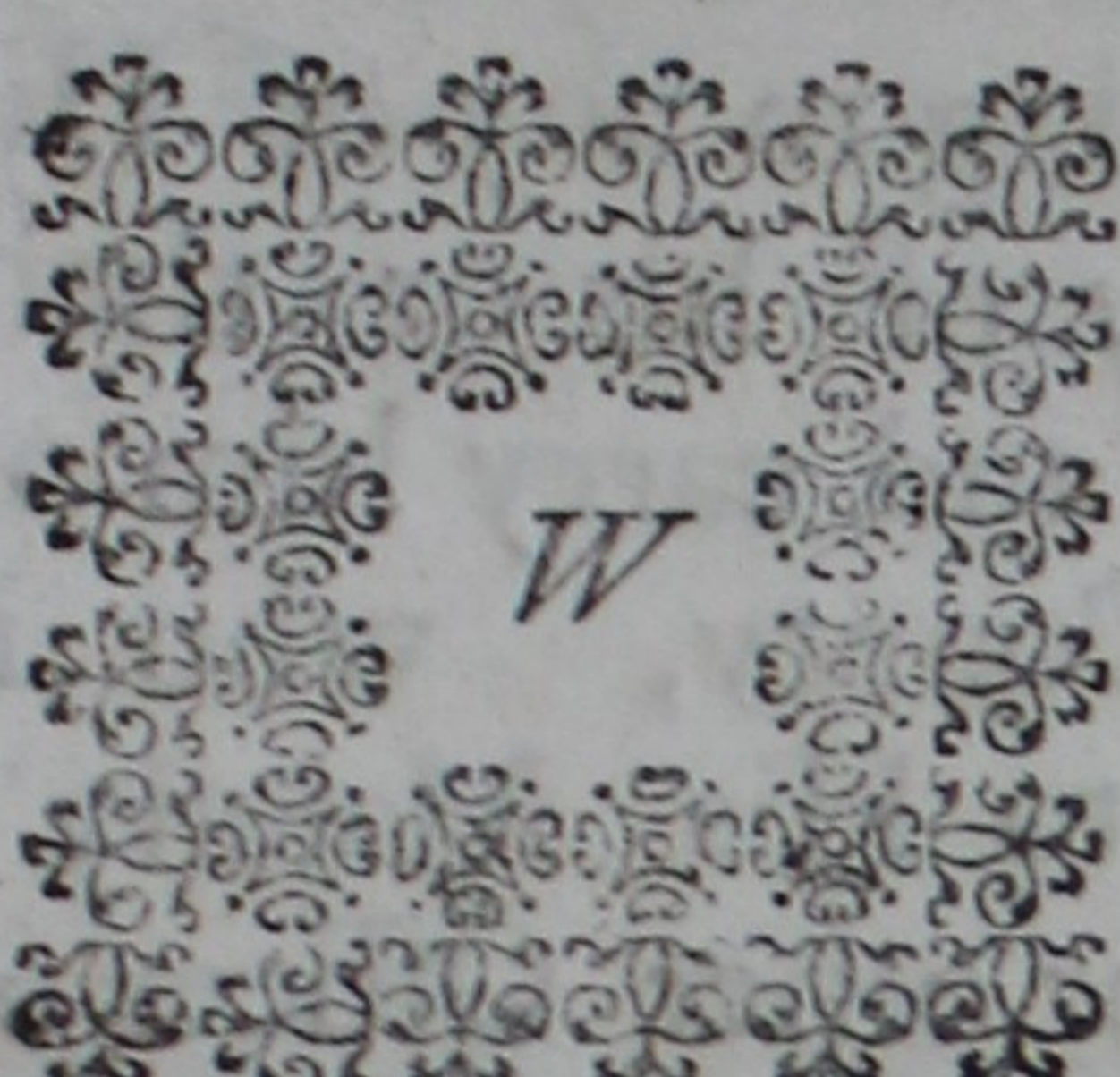




An ACT to prevent the Sale of *Slop-Cloathing*, and for punishing the Concealers or Harbourers of *Seamen* or *Marines* deserting from the *Royal Navy*.


 HEREAS for the better carrying on the present War, it has been His Most Gracious Majesty's Royal Will and Pleasure, from Time to Time, to send large Squadrons of His Ships of War into North-America: And whereas the Harbour of Halifax in this His Majesty's Province of NOVA-SCOTIA from its Situation, great Convenience, and Safety for Capital Ships, hath always hitherto been, and probably during the War, will continue to be the Rendezvous of His Majesty's Fleet in that Part of His American Dominions. And whereas many and great Inconveniences have arisen to the Service of the Royal Navy, by Persons enticing, assisting, harbouring and concealing Seamen deserting from His Majesty's Ships, and by buying the Slop-Cloaths issued to Seamen on board His Majesty's Ships; by means whereof they become subject to Impositions, and are induced to sell their necessary Cloathing to procure Spirituous Liquors, whereby they are rendered unfit for Duty, become Diseased and Die for want of proper Apparell to defend them against the Inclemencies of the Weather, and by Means of such Practices the Commanders of His Majesty's Ships of War have been under a Necessity of detaining such Seamen on board, not only to the great Prejudice of their Health by such Confinement and Want of Exercise, but also to the Disadvantage of the Province, from the Want of the Assistance and Labour of such Seamen. For Remedy whereof, Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governor, Council and Assembly, and by the Authority of the same it is hereby enacted, That if any Person shall entice any Seaman or Marine to desert, or harbour, conceal, or assist any Deserter from any Ship of War, knowing him to be such, the Person so offending shall forfeit the Sum of Twenty Pounds, on Conviction by one or more Credible Witness, before any three Justices of Peace, (*quorum unus*) for the Use of His Majesty's Government, to be levied by Distress, and for Want of such Distress, the Person so offending shall be committed to His Majesty's Goal, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for the Space of six Months, or till such Time as the said Fine shall be paid.

And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall buy or receive as a Pledge, or exchange any Slop Cloaths from any Seaman or Marine belonging to any of His Majesty's Ships of War, upon Conviction thereof or Confession, or by the Oath of one Credible Witness, or if such Cloaths shall be

found in the Possession of any Person, upon Complaint that they were bought from, or pledged or exchanged by such *Seamen* or *Marines*; in such Case the Party offending shall pay a Fine of *five Pounds*; *Forty Shillings* of which to the Informer, and *three Pounds* to the Use of His Majesty's Government; and the *Cloaths* shall be taken from such Person and returned to such *Seaman* or *Marine*, and he to be utterly debarred from Recovering in any Action, the Purchase or Loan Money for the same. Any Person offending may be convicted of such Offence before any *One* or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, who are hereby impowered to levy the Penalty by Distress, and in Default of Distress to commit the Offender to His Majesty's Goal, there to remain without Bail or Main-prize for the Space of *two Months*, or till such Time as the Penalty shall be paid.

Be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for any Person, upon seeing or knowing of any *Seaman* or *Marine* belonging to any of His Majesty's *Ships of War*, selling or exposing to Sale any of his or their *Cloathing* or *Slops*, to apprehend such *Seaman* or *Marine*, and carry him or them immediately to some Justice of the Peace of the County, who is hereby impowered to commit such *Seaman* or *Marine* to His Majesty's Goal, and to deliver him or them over to the Captain, or other Officer of the Ship to whom he or they may belong.

Be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That on Information made on Oath, before any of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, by any of the Officers of His Majesty's *Ships of War*, That one or more of the *Seamen* in His Majesty's Service have deserted or absconded, who there is Reason to believe lie concealed in some Dwelling or Outhouse, where the said Officer has been refused Admittance; that then it shall and may be lawful for such Justice of the Peace, before whom such Complaint is made, to issue his Warrant to some one or more Constables impowring him or them, in the Day Time, to search for said Deserters or Absconders, in any Dwelling or Outhouse that shall be suspected for Concealing said Deserters or Absconders, accompanied by *One* Officer only, either *Lieutenant* or *Midshipman*, and no other *Seaman* or *Marine* with him, and in Case any Master or Mistress of any Dwelling-house or Outhouse in this Province, shall refuse Entrance to said Constable or Constables, so impowered by Warrant as aforesaid to search for said Deserters or Absconders, they shall forfeit the Sum of *Twenty Pounds*; upon Conviction, to be levied by Warrant of Distress under the Hand and Seal of *two* of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, from off the Offenders Goods; and for Want of such Distress, shall be committed to His Majesty's Goal for *six Months*; and that it shall and may be lawful for any of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, who are hereby required upon information on Oath as aforesaid, in the Night Time in his own Person, attended with the Constables, accompanied by *One* Officer either *Lieutenant* or *Midshipman*, and no other *Seaman* or *Marine* with him, to demand Entrance into any Dwelling or Outhouse in this Province, on Suspicion of Deserters or Absconders being concealed there, and the Master or Mistress refusing Entrance to such Justice of the Peace so demanding Entrance in the Night Time, shall forfeit the Sum of *Twenty Pounds* to be levied as aforesaid upon Conviction; and for Want of such Distress, to be committed to His

Majesty's Goal for *six Months*; the aforesaid Sums to be for the Uses of this Government: And that the Person or Persons so apprehended supposed to be Deserters or Absconders from His Majesty's Service, shall be committed to His Majesty's Goal, until Proof is made before *One* or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, of his or their Desertion or Absconding, and then to be delivered up to such Officer or Officers of His Majesty's Navy who shall make Demand of said Deserter or Deserters. And in Case said Person or Persons so committed are not Deserters, Absconders, or shall not be in His Majesty's Service, then such Person or Persons to be discharged without Cost.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That this Act shall be and continue in Force during the present War, and no longer.

This Act to Commence and be in full Force from seven Days after the Publication hereof.



An Act relating to *Treasons* and *Felonies*.

Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governor, Council, and Assembly, and by the Authority of the same it is hereby enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall compass or imagine the Death of the King, or shall levy War against him, or adhere to his Enemies, or give them Aid or Comfort, or shall forge or counterfeit the Kings Money, being Gold or Silver Coin of England or of Great Britain, or shall counterfeit the Kings Great Seal or Privy Seal, or the Seal of this Province, and shall thereof be duly convicted, the Person or Persons so offending are hereby declared, and shall be adjudged to be Traitors, and shall suffer as in Cases of High Treason, and that all Treasons declared by the Acts of Parliament of England or of Great Britain, shall be deemed and adjudged to be Treason within this His Majesty's Province, and none other, and that such Acts of Parliament as direct the Proceedings and Evidence against, and Trials of such Traitors, shall have their full Force and Effect, and be observed as the Rule in all Trials for Treason in this Province.

And be it further enacted, That if any Person with Malice Prepense shall kill, or procure any other Persons to kill, or shall on Purpose and of Malice forethought, and by Lying in wait, unlawfully cut out or disable the Tongue, put out an Eye, slit the Nose, cut off a Nose or Lip, or cut off or disable any Limb or Member of any Person, with Intention to kill