

QUADRAGESIMO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. LXXII.

An Act for the Increase and Preservation of Timber in Dean and New Forests. [18th June 1808.]

THEREAS an Act was passed in the Twentieth Year of the Reign of King Charles the Second, intituled An Act for the 20 Car. 2. Increase and Preservation of Timber within the Forest of Dean: And whereas a certain other Act was passed in the Parliament holden in the Ninth and Tenth Years of King William the Third, intituled, An Act 9 & 10 W. 3. for the Increase and Preservation of Timber in the New Forest, in the County c. 36. of Southampton; by which faid Acts Part of the Waste Lands in the said Forests of Dean and New Forest respectively were directed to be inclosed and kept in Severalty for the Growth and Preservation of Timber, and which faid Acts have not been duly put in Execution: And whereas from the great and increasing Difficulty of procuring a Supply of Timber from Foreign Countries, and from the Estates of private Individuals in the United Kingdom, for the Use of the Navy, it has become necessary to adopt Measures for insuring a more adequate Supply of Timber in this Kingdom, and for this Purpose to make more effectual Provision for carrying the faid recited Acts into full and complete Execution: And whereas certain Inclosures have been made under the faid recited Acts in the faid Forests respectively; but Doubts may arise whether in making some of the faid Inclosures all the Forms of Procedure required by the faid recited Acts have been strictly complied with; Be it therefore enacted and declared by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Confent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That Inclosure of certain Inclosures in the Forest of Dean, containing Plantations of Tim- 676 Acres in ber, that is to fay, the Inclosures called and known by the Names of declared legal, Stapledge Inclosure, Speech House Inclosure, Birch Wood Inclosure, and Buck Holt Inclosure, containing about Six hundred and seventy-six Acres, shall be deemed and taken, and are hereby declared to be and shall

be held to have been duly and legally made and fet out under the faid recited Act of the Twentieth Year of King Charles the Second, and to be effectually inclosed and vested in His Majesty, and to remain in Severalty in the actual Possession of the Crown, according to the Purport and Intent of the said last-mentioned Act, during the Period of the same remaining so inclosed under the said last-mentioned Act and this Act.

Certain Inclofures in New Forest declared legal.

II. And whereas certain Inclosures were made in the New Forest, under and by the Authority of the faid recited Act of the Ninth and Tenth Years of King William the Third, foon after the passing of the said last-mentioned Act, containing by Estimation One thousand and twenty-two Acres, and commonly called and known by the Names of Prior's Acre Inclosure, Salisbury Trench Inclosure, North Bentley Inclosure, South Bentley Inclosure, Puck Pits Inclosure, Rhinefield Inclosure, Burley Inclosure, and Wood Fidley Inclosure: And whereas the Lords of the Treasury have been satisfied, and have determined that the Woods and Trees growing on the faid One thousand and twenty-two Acres are become past Danger of browsing of Deer, Cattle, or other Prejudice, and have thought fit to lay the same open and in common, and caused the same so to be done, and thereupon a Commission has issued under the Seal of His Majesty's Exchequer for inclosing, out of the Residue of the said Forest, the like Quantity of One thousand and twenty-two Acres, in lieu of the said Inclosures so laid open as aforefaid, which faid Quantity of One thousand and twenty-two Acres has been fet out by virtue of the faid Commission, to the Intent that the fame may be holden, inclosed, freed, and discharged of and from all Manner of common Herbage and Pamage or other Rights, for follong Time as the fame shall remain and continue inclosed, according to the Direction, Purport, and Intent of the faid recited Act, to be a Nursery for Timber: And whereas certain other Inclosures were made under a Commission to John Phillipson, Surveyor General of His Majetty's Woods, Forests, and others commonly called and known by the Names of Furzy Etherife Inclosure, Black Bush Inclosure, and Pignell Inclosure, containing together about Two hundred and thirty Acres; and also certain other Inclosures were afterwards made under Commissions to John Pitt, Surveyor General of His Majesty's Woods, Forests, and others, commonly called and known by the Names of Furzy Lawn Inclosure, Wilverley Inclosure, Rhinefield Sandy Inclosure, Aldridge Hill Inclosure, Ocknell Inclosure, Pitts Inclosure, Slodon Inclosure, Raven's Nest Inclosure, Coppice of Linwood Inclosure, and Long Beech Inclosure, containing together about Two thousand and fortyfour Acres: And whereas Doubts may arise whether in making some of the faid last-mentioned Inclosures under the said Commissions to the said John Phillipson and others, and the said John Pitt and others, containing in the whole Two thousand two hundred and seventy-four Acres or thereabouts, the Forms of Procedure required by the faid recited Act of the Ninth and Tenth Years of King William the Third have been strictly complied with; be it therefore further enacted and declared, That the faid feveral Inclosures shall respectively be deemed and taken, and are hereby declared to be and shall be held to have been duly and legally made under the faid last recited Act, and all such Parts thereof as shall have any Timber growing thereon fit to be preserved, or which shall be deemed fit for the Growth of Timber, and which shall not now be inclosed, may and shall, as soon after the passing of this Act as the same can be properly surveyed and marked out, be inclosed for the Growth and Preservation of fuch Timber, under the Provisions of the said last-mentioned Act of the Ninth and Tenth Years of King William the Third, and this Act; and all fuch Inclosures now remaining, and which shall be so made after the passing

of this Act, shall be held to be effectually inclosed and severed from the Waste, and to be vested in His Majesty for the Purposes in the said lastmentioned Act specified, freed, and discharged from all Rights of Common and other Rights directed to be extinguished in Inclosures, during the Period of the same remaining so inclosed for the Preservation of the Timber thereof, according to the true Intent and Meaning of the faid last recited Act and this Act.

III. And, in order to complete the Quantity of Eleven thousand Acres in Inclosures to Dean Forest, and Six thousand Acres in New Forest, to be inclosed and be made in kept in Severalty for the Growth and Preservation of Timber, according to Forests under the true Intent and Meaning of the faid recited Acts; be it enacted, That Commissions. it shall be lawful for His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, from Time to Time to inclose, sever, and improve within and out of the Waste Lands of the faid Forest of Dean and New Forest respectively, in Whole or in Part, fuch Quantity of Lands in the Whole as shall, together with the Quantity already in Inclosure, or which shall be inclosed as aforesaid in the faid Forests respectively, make up the said Quantities of Eleven thoufand Acres in the Forest of Dean, and Six thousand Acres in the New Forest, and so that there shall not be more than Eleven thousand Acres in the Forest of Dean, and Six thousand Acres in the New Forest, inclosed and held in Severalty as aforefaid at one and the fame Time; and fuch Inclosures shall be made under and by virtue of Commissions to be granted and iffued by His Majesty for that Purpose, and each of such Commissions shall be directed to Six or more such Persons as His Majesty shall think fit, whereof Two in each Commission shall be Justices of the Peace for the County within which the Forest in which the Inclosure shall be made shall be fituate, and shall not be Officers of such Forest; and such Inclosure shall be set out and made from and out of such Parts or Places in the said Forests respectively as shall be found or ascertained by the said Commisfioners, or any Three or more of them, to be most convenient to be inclosed, and to be best adapted for the Growth and Produce of Timber, and may be best spared from the Commons and Highways of the respective Counties; which faid Inclosures shall be admeasured by a sworn Surveyor, and fet out and inclosed, butted, and bounded, and the Quantities, Butts, and Boundaries thereof returned into His Majesty's Court of Exchequer, there to remain of Record for ever; and the faid Inclosures so made and fet out as aforefaid, shall remain in Severalty in the actual Poffession of the Crown, freed and discharged of and from all Rights of Common, and of and from all Manner of Rights, Titles, or Pretences, or Privileges or Claims whatfoever, during the Period of the fame remaining fo inclosed for the Growth and Preservation of Timber, and until the same or any Part thereof shall be laid open under the Provisions of the said recited Acts and this Act, according to the Purport and true Intent of the faid recited Acts and of this Act, and shall be made and reputed a Nursery or Nurferies for Wood and Timber only.

IV. And be it further enacted, That at all Times hereafter, whenever the Wheneverthe Lord High Treasurer or Commissioners of the Treasury, or Chancellor of Woods growthe Exchequer for the Time being, shall be satisfied, and shall determine ing in the said Inclosures are that the Woods and Trees which shall be growing within any of the said past Danger Inclosures, whether made before the passing of this Act, and hereby con-frombrowsing firmed, or to be made under and by virtue of this Act, are become past of Deer, or danger of browfing of Deer, Cattle, or other Prejudice, and shall think fit dice, they may to lay the same or any Part thereof Open and in Common, and shall cause be laid open, the same so to be done, that then and so often it shall be lawful for His and other

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Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, from Time to Time to inclose, in lieu of so much of the Inclosures in either Forest as shall be so laid open, the like Quantity out of any other Part of the Residue of the Wastes of the same Forest, to be set out by like Commission and Admeasurement as aforesaid, and to be holden, inclosed, freed and discharged of and from all Manner of Common and other Rights as aforesaid, for so long Time as the same shall continue inclosed, according to the Direction, Purport, and Intent of the said recited Acts or this Act, to be a Nursery or Nurseries for Timber as aforesaid, instead of so much as shall be laid open according to the Direction aforesaid.

Decayed
Trees to be
fet out for
making and
maintaining
the Inclofures,
and to be fold
to defray the
Expences
thereof.

V. And, for the making and maintaining the faid Inclosures so set out and made as aforesaid, and for defraying the Charges thereof; be it surther enacted, That the said Commissioners so to be appointed, under whose Authority any Inclosure in either of the said Forests shall be made, or any Three of them, with the Assistance of One of the Purveyors of His Majesty's Navy, shall from Time to Time set out so many decayed Trees in such Forest, not being Ship Timber, as shall be necessary to make and maintain the said Inclosure.

Grants of Inclosure. Trees, &c. void.

VI. And, to the End the faid Inclosures may be preserved in the Crown for publick Use as aforesaid, be it enacted, That in case any Person whatever shall presume to take or obtain any Gift, Grant, Estate or Interest of or in the said Inclosures, or any Wood or Trees growing thereon, every such Gift, Grant, Estate or Interest shall ipso facto be null and void, and the Person so taking the same shall be utterly disabled and incapable to have, hold, or enjoy any such Gift, Grant, Estate or Interest, and also shall forfeit Treble the Value of any such Gift or Grant to him who shall first sue for the same in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at Westminster by Action of Debt, wherein no Essoign or Wager of Law shall be allowed to the Defendant.

Penalty for breaking Inclofures how to be recovered.

VII. And be it further enacted, That every Person who shall wilfully deftroy or take away, or shall break down any Fence or Inclosure, or any Part thereof, made for the Protection of any Nurseries of Wood and Timber as aforefaid, shall for the first Offence forfeit the Sum of Ten Pounds, and for the Second Offence the Sum of Twenty Pounds, and for the Third Offence shall be deemed guilty of Felony, and may be transported to any Part beyond the Seas for the Term of Seven Years, or be subject to such other Punishment by Fine, Imprisonment or otherwise, as the Court before which fuch Person shall be convicted may direct; and such Penalties shall and may be recovered, and on Non-payment thereof, the Person who shall forfeit the same may be committed to Prison, in the Manner and for the same Periods as is specified in an Act passed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled, An Act for the better Preservation of Timber Trees, and of Woods and Underwoods, and for the further Preservation of Roots, Shrubs, and Plants, in relation to the Penalties of Twenty Pounds and Thirty Pounds respectively, for wilfully cutting or breaking down any Timber under the faid Act.

6G.3. c. 48.