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Anno Regni decimo Anna Reginae.

By the Act for laying Duties upon Soap,

IT is Enacted, That for Soap Stock in hand, viz. for all Soap for Sale, as well Foreign as of British Manufacture, which any Soap-Boiler, Chandler, or other Seller or Dealer in Soap, shall be possessed of or interested in on the 10th of June next, there must be paid the following Duties, viz. Two Pence per pound for Foreign Soap, and One Penny per pound for British Soap.

And all Soap-Boilers, Chandlers, and all other Sellers or Dealers in Soap, and other Persons who on the said 10th of June shall have any Soap belonging to such Soap-Boilers, Chandlers, or other Sellers or Dealers in Soap, must on or before the said 10th of June, at the respective Offices for the said Duties on Soap next to their respective Habitations, make true and particular Entries of the full Quantities of Soap, as well Foreign as British, for Sale, which they respectively shall have on the said 10th of June, on pain to forfeit 50 l. and the Soap for which such Entry is neglected.

And in six Days after such Entry shall be or should be made, must pay or give Security to pay the said Duties.

Upon prompt Payment, viz. within the said six Days, there is to be a discount of 10 l. per Cent for Stock in hand.

Neglecting to pay or give Security within the said six Days, is a forfeiture of double the said Duties.

Officers are to be permitted to enter all Houses and Places belonging to Soap-Boilers, Chandlers, and other Sellers and Dealers in Soap, and to take true and particular Accounts of all Soap which such Soap-Boilers, Chandlers, or other Sellers or Dealers in Soap, or others in Trust for them, shall have on the said 10th of June; and persons refusing to let the Officers so to enter, or to take such Accounts, forfeit 20 l.

Any person having on the said 10th of June any Soap chargeable by the said Act, who clandestinely removes or hides any such Soap, or any part thereof, or suffers the same to be removed or hid before the said Duties are paid or secured, thereby forfeits 20 l. and the Soap, which may be seized to the Use of Her Majesty.

And any person in whose Custody such Soap is found forfeits 5 s. for every such Pound of Soap so hid, &c.

The like Duties must be paid for all Soap, as well Foreign as British, which shall be Imported or made after the said 10th of June, 1712.

And if any Makers of Soap for Sale or not for Sale, do not on or before the said 10th of June give Notice in Writing at the next Office for the said Duties on Soap, of their Names, and of all Boiling-houses, Work-houses, Store-houses, Ware-houses, Shops, Rooms, and other Places used for making or keeping of Soap, or for boiling or keeping Oil, Tallow, Potash, Lime, or other Materials for making Soap; and of all their Coppers, Kettles, Furnices, Fats, Cisterns, Troughs; or other Vessels used in the Boiling or Making of Soap; or if they afterwards use or alter any Boiling-houses, &c. or any Copper, &c. for any the said purposes, without first giving such Notice, they forfeit 50 l. for every Offence.

If they charge any Copper, Pan, or other Utensil with Materials for making Soap, or fill out Soap between the Hours of Ten at Night and Five in the Morning (without Notice to the proper Officer) they forfeit 20 l. for every Offence.

A Barrel of Soap is to contain 256 pound, an half Barrel 128 pounds, a Firkin 64 pounds, an half Firkin 32 pounds Averdupoize; and if any Soap-maker put Soap into any other Casks he forfeits 5 l. for every Offence.

Soap-makers within the Weekly Bills of Mortality monthly, and in other places in every six Weeks upon Oath (or solemn Affirmation of Quakers) must at the next Office make true Entry in Writing of all Soap from time to time made, mentioning in such Entries the Weight of such Soap,

and how much of it was made at each Boiling, on pain to forfeit for every neglect 50 l.

Soap-makers within the said Bills of Mortality every four Weeks, and Soap-makers in other Places every six Weeks, after such Entry shall be or should have been made, must pay and clear off their respective Duties for such Soap, on the Penalty to pay double Duty.

And if after such Demand they sell, deliver, or carry out any such Soap before such Duty paid, they forfeit double the Value of such Soap so sold, delivered, or carried out.

They must permit the Officers for the said Duties by Day or by Night (and if by Night in the Presence of a Constable or other Officer of the Peace) to enter their Houses and all Places whatsoever belonging to or used by them, and by gauging or weighing their Soap, or otherwise to take Accounts of the just Quantities of their Soap, of which the Officer is to make a Report, which is to be a Charge upon the Maker, who upon demand must have a Copy thereof; and if the Officer refuses such Copy, he forfeits 40 s.

If Soap-makers don't keep sufficient Scales and Weights, or don't permit and assist the Officers in using them for weighing their Soap, they forfeit 10 l.

The Officers are to be permitted by gauging or weighing to take Account of all Materials for making Soap, and after upon missing such Materials may charge the Maker with as much Soap as such Materials, in the Officers Judgment, would have made, not exceeding fourteen Gallons of Ingredients for every Barrel, and so proportionally.

Soap-maker who obstructs or hinders any Officer in entering his House, &c. or in taking such Accounts, or in the Execution of any of the Powers given by the said Act, forfeits for every Offence 20 l.

Removing, carrying or sending away Soap before Account taken by the Officer, unless on twenty four Hours Notice within the Bills of Mortality, and two Days Notice in other Places, is a forfeiture of 20 l. for every Offence.

If during the respective Times before mentioned Soap not Surveyed be not kept separate from Soap which has been Surveyed, it is a forfeiture of 5 l. for every Offence.

Fraudulently hiding or concealing, or causing to be hid or concealed, any Soap chargeable by the said Act, or any Materials for making Soap, is a forfeiture of 20 l. for every Offence.

All Soap, Oil, Tallow, and Materials for making Soap, found in any private Boiling-house, Work-house, Warehouse and other Place, and all private Coppers, Kettles, Furnaces, Troughs and other Vessels, of which no Entry shall be made, or Notice given as aforesaid, are forfeited, and they or the Value thereof may be seized for the Use of Her Majesty.

Her Majesty's Commissioners for the said Duties upon Soap, having duly appointed Offices for the said Duties upon Soap to be kept at the several Hours and Places where Offices of Excise are now kept, all Persons concerned are there to make such Entries as are required by the foregoing Act.

Brussels, June 6. N. S. The March of the Confederate Army, which was intended to have been on the fourth Instant, will be made this Day; several Bridges being laid over the Selle for that purpose, between Saulfoy and Solemes. It has been reported that this motion would incline towards Quesnoy. The French Army continues between Cambray and Catelet. The Regiment of the Great Master of the Teutonick Order, consisting of three Battalions of Eight hundred Men each, will arrive here this Afternoon from Germany, and proceed in two Days to the Camp, from whence the Lord Marquis of Anandale came hither on the second Instant.