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From Saturday March 7. to Tuesday March 10. 1723.

At the Court at St. James's, the 9th Day of March, 1723.

P R E S E N T,

The King's most Excellent Majesty in His Privy Council.

WHEREAS by an Act made in the last Session of Parliament, Entituled, An Act for the more effectual punishing wicked and evil disposed Persons going armed in Disguise, and doing Injuries and Violencies to the Persons and Properties of His Majesty's Subjects, and for the more speedy bringing the Offenders to Justice; it is (among other Things) Enacted, That if any Person or Persons, from and after the 1st Day of June, in the Year of our Lord 1723, being armed with Swords, Fire Arms or other offensive Weapons; and having his or their Faces blacked, or being otherwise disguised, should appear in any Forrest, Chase, Park, Paddock, or Grounds inclosed with any Wall, Pale, or other Fences, wherein any Deer had been or should be usually kept, or in any Warren or Place, where Hares or Conies had been or should be usually kept, or in any High Road, open Heath, Common or Down, or should unlawfully and willfully hunt, wound, kill, destroy, or steal any Red or Fallow Deer, or unlawfully rob any Warren or Place where Conies or Hares were usually kept, or should unlawfully steal or take away any Fish out of any River or Pond; or if any Person or Persons from and after the said 1st Day of June, should unlawfully and wilfully hunt, wound, kill, destroy, or steal any Red or Fallow Deer, fed or kept in any Places in any of His Majesty's Forrests, or Chases, which were or should be inclosed with Pales, Rails, or other Fences, or in any Park, Paddock, or Grounds inclosed, where Deer had been or should be usually kept, or should unlawfully and maliciously break down the Head or Mound of any Fish Pond, whereby the Fish should be lost or destroyed; or should unlawfully and maliciously kill, maim, or wound any Cattle, or cut down or otherwise destroy any Trees planted in any Avenue, or growing in any Garden, Orchard, or Plantation for Ornament, Shelter, or Profit, or should set Fire to any House, Barn, or Outhouses, or to any Hovell, Cock, Mow, or Stack of Corn, Straw, Hay, or Wood, or should wilfully and maliciously shoot at any Person in any Dwelling-House or other Place, or should knowingly send any Letter without any Name subscribed thereto, or signed with a fictitious Name, demanding Money, Venison, or other valuable Thing, or should forcibly rescue any Person, being lawfully in Custody of any Officer or other Person for any of the Offences beforementioned; or if any Person or Persons should, by Gift or Promise of Money or other Reward, procure any of His Majesty's Subjects to joyn him or them in any such unlawful Act, every Person so offending, being thereof lawfully convicted, should be adjudged Guilty of Felony, and should suffer Death as in Cases of Felony, without Benefit of Clergy. And whereas it is by the said Act further Enacted, That for the more easy and speedy bringing the Offenders against the said Act to Justice, if any Person or Persons should be charged with being Guilty of any of the Offences aforesaid, before any two or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace of the County where such Offence or Offences were or should be committed, by Information of one or more Credible Person or Persons upon Oath by him or them to be subscribed, such Justices before whom such Informations should be made, as aforesaid, should forthwith certify under their Hands and Seals, and return such Information to one of the princi-

pal Secretaries of State of His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, who is by the said Act required to lay the same as soon as conveniently might be before His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, in his or their Privy-Council; whereupon it should and might be lawful for His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, to make His or their Order in His or their said Privy Council, thereby requiring and commanding such Offender or Offenders to surrender him or themselves, within the Space of Forty Days, to any of His Majesty's Justices of the Court of King's-Bench, or to any one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, to the End that he or they might be forthcoming to answer the Offence or Offences wherewith he or they should so stand charged, according to due Course of Law; which Order should be printed and published in the next London Gazette, and should forthwith be transmitted to the Sheriff of the County where the Offence should be committed, and should, within six Days after the Receipt thereof, be proclaimed by him or his Officers between the Hours of Ten in the Morning and Two in the Afternoon in the Market Places, upon the respective Market Days of two Market Towns in the same County near the Places where such Offences should have been committed, and a true Copy of such Order should be affixed upon some publick Place in such Market Towns; and in case such Offender or Offenders should not surrender him or themselves, pursuant to such Order of His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, to be made in Council as aforesaid, he or they so neglecting or refusing to surrender him or themselves as aforesaid, should, from the Day appointed for his or their Surrender, as aforesaid, be adjudged, deemed, and taken to be convicted and attainted of Felony, and should suffer Pains of Death as in case of a Person convicted and attainted by Verdict and Judgment of Felony without Benefit of Clergy; and that it should be lawful to and for the Court of Kings-Bench, or the Justices of Oyer and Terminer, or General Goal-Delivery for the County where the Offence should be sworn in such Information to have been committed, upon producing to them such Order in Council under the Seal of the said Council, to award Execution against such Offender and Offenders in such manner as if he or they had been convicted and attainted in the said Court of King's-Bench, or before such Justices of Oyer and Terminer or General Goal-Delivery respectively, as by the said Act may more fully appear. And whereas in Pursuance of the Statute in that Case made and provided, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State did this Day lay before His Majesty in His Privy-Council, the Information of William Wilson, Thomas Smith, and Edward Fitzpatrick, being credible Persons taken on their respective Oaths, the 19th Day of October, in the Year of our Lord 1723, at Endfield in the County of Middlesex, before Henry Cartwright and Richard Arnold, Esqrs; two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County of Middlesex, according to the Form of the Statute in that Case made and provided. Which said Information was, by Certificate in Writing under the Hands and Seals of the said Henry Cartwright and Richard Arnold, bearing Date the said 19th Day of October, 1723, certified and by them returned to the Right Honourable Robert Walpole, Esq; being at the Time of making such Certificate and Return one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and is in the Words and Figures following.