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By the KING,

A PROCLAMATION,

For putting in Execution the late Act against retailing of Spirituous Liquors, and for protecting the Officers of Justice, and all others in their just and laudable Endeavours, to assist the Magistrates therein, and for suppressing all Combinations and Confederacies, to encourage Disobedience to the said Law; and for punishing all Attempts by Riots, or otherwise to insult and abuse those who give Informations, and make Discoveries of the Offenders against the said Act; and for putting in Execution the Act of Parliament made against Riots, in the First Year of the Reign of his late Majesty King George the First.

GEORGE R.

WHEREAS in order to put a Stop to the pernicious Practice of common and excessive drinking of Brandy, Geneva, and other Spirituous Liquors, so destructive of the Health, Morals, and Industry of our Subjects, and so manifestly injurious to the publick Peace and Tranquility, an Act of Parliament was made in the Ninth Year of our Reign, intituled, An Act for laying a Duty upon Retailing of Spirituous Liquors, and for licensing Retailers thereof; whereby all Persons are prohibited to sell or retail the same in less Quantity than Two Gallons, without Licence, in such Manner as is therein directed, and upon the Penalties thereby inflicted: And whereas by the Diligence of the proper Officers, and others of our good Subjects, on whose Informations alone the said Act can be carried into Execution, and by the Punishment of divers Offenders against the said Law, the same has, in a great Measure, had its desired Effect: And whereas it has been represented to us, That divers wicked and ill-designing Persons, out of Regard to their own private Gain, though to the Destruction of their Fellow Subjects, in order to defeat the wise and good Ends of the said Act, and to restore and encourage the said Practice of common and excessive

drinking Spirituous Liquors, have, of late, excited and encouraged divers Riots and Tumults on Occasion of the arresting and prosecuting Offenders against the said Act, and have formed Conspiracies and Combinations among themselves for the Encouragement of such Offenders, by large Contributions to such of them, who have been prosecuted and convicted; and that great Endeavours have been used by such and the like Practices, to encourage those and others in their Disobedience to the said Act: And whereas it has been represented to us, That divers disorderly, wicked, and malicious Persons have lately, within our City of Westminster, and the Liberties thereof, and in other Parts of our Realm, in a tumultuous and riotous Manner assembled themselves, at various Times, to rescue Offenders against the said Law, and to insult and abuse those who have been concerned in bringing them to Justice; and have in a most wicked, cruel, and outrageous Manner, in open Defiance of the Law, assaulted, beat, wounded, and almost murdered several Officers, and others of our good Subjects, who have, in Pursuance of the said Act, given Informations before our Justices of the Peace against such Offenders: And whereas by the known Law of this our Realm, all Persons who are contriving, aiding, assisting, abetting, promoting, or encouraging such Riots, are guilty not only of such Riots, and thereby liable to the severe Punishments inflicted on such Crimes, but also are guilty of all the immediate Consequences thereof, in the beating, wounding, or killing any Person, though they may not be personally acting therein, and whether the Persons so beat, wounded, or murdered, be any of the Rioters themselves, occasioned by their own Resistance, or any others against whom such Riots are raised, and are liable equally with the immediate Actors, to the Punishment of Death, or otherwise, according to the Nature of the Crime: And whereas by another Act of Parliament made in the First Year of our late Royal Father's Reign, intituled, An Act for preventing Tumults and riotous Assemblies, and for the more speedy and effectual punishing the Rioters; it is enacted, That if any

(Price Two Pence.)