

of France or other the Countries, Territories or Places then under the Government of the Persons exercising the Powers of Government in France, while the Firms of such respective Houses have remained in North America, and transacted their ordinary Commercial Business with other Countries, and therefore the Commercial Intercourse between His Majesty's Subjects in Great Britain and the Subjects of the said United States, may be embarrassed by the Restrictions contained in the said Act, unless His Majesty shall, in pursuance of the Powers vested in him by the said Act of Parliament, give His Royal Licence and Authority to enable Persons in Great Britain to do such Acts as shall be necessary for carrying on such Commercial Intercourse with North America, notwithstanding the Restrictions contained in the said Act, so far as may be consistent with the general Intent and Purposes of the said Act. And whereas it has also been represented to His Majesty, that, from the extensive Effect of the foregoing Circumstances, considerable Delay and Inconvenience may arise, in case it shall be requisite to obtain a special Licence on every Occasion for such Purpose: And whereas by another Act passed in the present Session of Parliament, intituled, " An Act for more effectually preserving Money or Effects in the Hands of His Majesty's Subjects belonging to or disposable by Persons resident in France, for the Benefit of the individual Owners thereof," it is, amongst other Things, enacted, that in all Cases in which His Majesty shall think proper to grant any Licence or Licences, general or special, by His Sign Manual, Order in Council or Proclamation, to do any Act or Acts under particular Circumstances, or upon special Terms or Conditions expressed in such Licences respectively, the Proof of the Existence of such Circumstances, and of the Performance of or Compliance with such Terms and Conditions, shall, in all Proceedings whatsoever, Criminal or Civil, lie on the Person or Persons acting under such Licences respectively, or claiming the Benefit thereof: His Majesty, taking the Premises into His Royal Consideration, is pleased, by and with the Advice of His Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that it shall be lawful for any Person residing or being in Great Britain to pay any Bill drawn in any Part of North America by any House of Trade established in any Part of North America, upon any Persons or Person in Great Britain, and to pay any Sum or Sums of Money on Account of any House of Trade established in any Part of North America, notwithstanding any One or more of the House of Trade by whom such Bill shall have been drawn, or for whose Use such Bill, or Sum or Sums of Money, shall be paid, shall have been, or shall be, within any of the Dominions of France, or any Country, Territory or Place which was on the said First Day of January, 1794, or which since has been, or which shall be, during the

said War, and at the Time of such Act done, under the Government of the Persons exercising the Powers of Government in France: Provided such Bill shall have been so drawn for the Purpose only of some Commercial Transaction *bonâ fide* between such House of Trade so established in North America and some House of Trade in Great Britain, or in some other Part of His Majesty's Dominions, or in some Country in Amity with His Majesty, or for the Purpose of some Commercial Transaction with France, relative to Articles not prohibited to be exported from this Kingdom to France, and shall not have been drawn for the Purpose, directly or indirectly, of carrying on any Commerce, other than as aforesaid, with, or making or providing any Remittance to France, or any Country, Territory or Place which now is, or, at the Time of such Act done, shall be, under the Government of the Persons exercising, or who shall exercise, the Powers of Government in France:—And His Majesty is pleased further to order, and it is hereby ordered, that it shall be lawful for any Person or Persons, residing or being in Great Britain, to send, supply, or deliver, and cause or procure to be sent, supplied or delivered, any Goods, Wares or Merchandize, to, for, or on Account of any House of Trade in North America, notwithstanding any One or more Person or Persons, engaged in such House of Trade, shall have been, or shall be within any of the Dominions of France, or any Country, Territory or Place, which was, on the 1st Day of January, 1794, or which since has been, or which shall be, during the said War, and at the Time of such Act done, under the Government of the Persons exercising, or who shall exercise, the Powers of Government in France.

Provided such Goods, Wares or Merchandize shall be so sent, supplied or delivered, *bonâ fide* for the sole Use and Benefit of such House of Trade in North America, and not for the Purpose, directly or indirectly, of carrying any Commerce with, or making or providing any Remittance to France, or any Country, Territory or Place which now is, or at the Time of such Act done, shall be, under the Government of the Persons exercising, or who shall exercise, the Powers of Government in France.

Provided also, that all and every Person and Persons who shall take the Benefit of such Licence hereby granted, shall so take the same, upon Condition that in case of any Proceeding, Criminal or Civil, under the Provisions of the said Act of Parliament, for any Thing alledged to have been done contrary thereto, any Question shall arise whether the Thing so done was authorized by the Licence hereby given, the Proof that such Thing was done under the particular Circumstances, according to the special Terms and Conditions required by this Order, shall lie on the Persons claiming the Benefit of such Licence.

*W. Fox*