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ANNÆ REGINÆ.

An Act for Preserving the Privileges of Ambassadors, and other Publick Ministers of Foreign Princes and States.

Whereas several turbulent and disorderly Persons having in a most outrageous manner insulted the Person of his Excellency *Andrew Artemonowitz Matueof*, Ambassador Extraordinary of his Czarrish Majesty, Emperor of Great Russia, Her Majesty's good Friend and Ally, by Arresting him, and taking him by Violence out of his Coach in the publick Street, and detaining him in Custody for several Hours, in Contempt of the Protection granted by Her Majesty, contrary to the Law of Nations, and in prejudice of the Rights and Privileges which Ambassadors and other publick Ministers, authorized and received as such, have at all times been thereby possessed of, and ought to be kept sacred and inviolable; Be it therefore declared by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That all Actions and Suits, Writs and Processes commenced, sued or prosecuted against the said Ambassador by any Person or Persons whatsoever, and all Bail Bonds given by the said Ambassador, or any other Person or Persons on his behalf, and all Recognizances of Bail given or acknowledged in any such Action or Suit, and all Proceedings upon, or by pretext or colour of any such Action or Suit, Writ or Process, and all Judgments had thereupon, are utterly Null and Void, and shall be deemed and adjudged to be utterly Null and Void, to all Intents, Constructions and Purposes whatsoever.

And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Entries, Proceedings and Records against the said Ambassador, or his Bail, shall be vacated and cancelled.

And to prevent the like Insolencies for the future, Be it further Declared by the Authority aforesaid, That all Writs and Processes that shall at any time hereafter be Sued forth or Prosecuted, whereby the Person of any Ambassador, or other Publick Minister of any Foreign Prince or State, authorized and received as such by Her Majesty, Her Heirs or Successors, or the Domestick, or Domestick Servant of any such Ambassador, or other Publick Minister, may be arrested or imprisoned, or his or their Goods or Chattels may be distrained, seized or attached, shall be deemed and adjudged to be utterly null and void to all Intents, Constructions and Purposes whatsoever.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case any Person or Persons shall presume to Sue forth or Prosecute any such Writ or Process, such Person and Persons, and all Attorneys and Solicitors prosecuting and soliciting in such case, and all Officers executing any such Writ or Process, being thereof convicted, by the Confession of the Party, or by the Oath of one or more credible Witnesses or Witnesses, before the Lord Chancellor, or Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of Great Britain, the Chief Justice of the Court of Queens-Bench, the Chief Justice of the Court of Common-Pleas for the time being, or any two of them, shall be deemed Violators of the Laws of Nations, and Disturbers of the Publick Repose, and shall suffer such Pains, Penalties and Corporal Punishment, as the said Lord Chancellor, Lord Keeper, and the said Chief Justices, or any two of them shall judge fit to be imposed and inflicted.

Provided, and be it Declared, That no Merchant or other Trader whatsoever, within the Description of any

of the Statutes against Bankrupts, who hath or shall put himself into the Service of any such Ambassador or Publick Minister, shall have or take any manner of Benefit by this Act, and that no Person shall be proceeded against as having arrested the Servant of an Ambassador or Publick Minister, by virtue of this Act, unless the Name of such Servant be first Registered in the Office of one of the Principal Secretaries of State, and by such Secretary transmitted to the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex for the time being, or their Under-Sheriffs or Deputies, who shall, upon the Receipt thereof, hang up the same in some Publick Place in their Offices, whereto all Persons may resort, and take Copies thereof without Fee or Reward.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That this Act shall be taken and allowed in all Courts within this Kingdom as a publick Act; And that all Judges and Justices shall take notice of it without special Pleading; And all Sheriffs, Bailiffs and other Officers and Ministers of Justice concerned in the Execution of Processes, are hereby required to have regard to this Act, as they will answer the contrary at their Peril.

Lisbon, May 4. N. S. Letters from the Camp on the Caya, of the 26th of April last, tell us, that the Army under the Command of the Earl of Galway marched on the 23d, and encamp'd at Cancon, about a League from Elvas. The 26th the Army moved again, and encamped on the Caya, about 3 Leagues from Elvas, and two from the Enemy, who lay on the Left of Badajos. Our Army consists of about 17000 Foot, and 5000 Horse, and appears in very good Order. According to the Accounts we have receiv'd from Deserters we are in number much superior to the Enemy.

Berne, May 4. N. S. The Letters from Milan of the 27th past say, his Royal Highness the Duke of Savoy being resolv'd to begin the Campaign betimes, had given Orders for the speedy Preparation of every thing that was necessary, and that the Troops would soon march to the general Rendezvous; that those who had been detached for Barcelona were still at Final, their departure from thence being uncertain, by reason that Admiral Byng, who was to have taken them under his Convoy, was gone with his Squadron to the Relief of the Castle of Alicant. A general Dyet of the Thirteen Cantons is summon'd to meet at Baden for the 15th Instant, upon the occasion of the Affair of Tockembourg, which seems to grow every day more perplexed.

Brussels, May 13. N. S. Prince Eugene went from hence on the 11th for the Hague, in order to meet his Grace the Duke of Marlborough at that Place. On the 8th another great Convoy, consisting of 100 Vessels laden with all sorts of Provision and Forage, set forward from Ghent towards Courtray, Menin and Lisse. Letters from Paris of the 10th say, the Duke of Neailles was gone for Roussillon, to take upon him the Command of the Troops in that Country. The Duke of Orleans has deferred setting out for Spain; and some Advices say, he returns no more into that Kingdom. The first Battalion of the French and Swiss Guards began their March on the 9th towards the Frontiers. The want of Corn is so great throughout the Kingdom of France, that frequent Tumults happen in all the great Towns, notwithstanding the Care of the Magistracy to prevent such Disorders. The Troops of the Allies are marching from all Quarters, in order to the assembling the Army, and taking the Field with all expedition. Letters from Madrid dated April the 23d say, that on the 20th Instant the Duke and Dutchess of Anjou, and the Prince of Asturias, returned from Buen-Retiro, and made their Publick Entry into that City with great Pomp and Magnificence. The Chevalier d'Albani hath had divers Conferences since his arrival with the

Duke