

And then the Lord Chancellor, by His Majesty's Command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is His Majesty's Royal Will and Pleasure, That this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday the Fifteenth Day of this Instant March; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday the Fifteenth Day of this Instant March.

Part of an Act passed in the Eighth Year of His Majesty's Reign, Intituled, *An Act for Encouragement of the Silk Manufactures of this Kingdom; and for taking off several Duties on Merchandizes exported; and for reducing the Duties upon Beaver Skins, Pepper, Mace, Gloves and Nutmegs imported; and for Importation of all Furs of the Product of the British Plantations into this Kingdom only; and that the Two Corporations of Assurance on any Suits brought on their Policies, shall be liable only to single Damages and Costs of Suit.*

MAY it please your most Excellent Majesty, Whereas the Wealth and Prosperity of this Kingdom doth very much depend upon the Improvement of its Manufactures, and the profitable Trade carried on by the Exportation of the same, which Trade ought by all proper Means to be encouraged for the more comfortable Support and Maintenance of great Numbers of your Majesty's Subjects employed in the making or working of such Goods, and for the Encouragement of the Commerce of Great Britain: And whereas the Manufacture of Silk Stuffs, and of Stuffs mixed with Silk, which is one of the most considerable Branches of the Manufactures of this Kingdom, has of late Years been greatly improved in this Kingdom, and there is Reason to believe that the Exportation of them into foreign Parts would considerably increase, were it not obstructed and hindered by reason of the high Duties payable upon the Importation of Raw and Thrown Silk, without any Allowance being made upon the said Silks when wrought up and exported; and in Regard the said Raw and Thrown Silk when exported unmanufactured do draw back great part of the Duties paid Inwards, and it seems just and reasonable that the said Silks when made up should also enjoy the same Benefit and Allowance upon the Exportation of them, and for that there is a Waste of the Raw and Thrown Silk used in the Manufacture: Therefore we your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled, do humbly pray your Majesty that it may be Enacted, And be it Enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That the several and respective Allowances or Sums of Money hereafter in this Act expressed, shall be paid to any Person or Persons who at any Time or Times within or during the Term of three Years, to be reckoned from the Twenty fifth Day of March, One thousand seven hundred and twenty two, or at any Time or Times before the end of the then next Session of Parliament, shall really and truly export out of this Kingdom, by way of Merchandize, any of the Goods or Commodities of the Manufacture of Great Britain, herein after particularly specified, and so in proportion for any greater Quantity, that is to say, For all Ribbons and Stuffs made in Great Britain, of Silk only, and exported as aforesaid, the Sum of Three Shillings for every Pound Weight Avoirdupoize: For all Silks and Ribbons made in Great Britain, of Silk mixed with Gold or Silver, and exported as aforesaid, the Sum of Four Shillings for every Pound Weight Avoirdupoize: For all Silk Stockings, Silk Gloves, Silk Fringes, Silk Laces, stitching or sewing Silk, made in Great Britain, and exported as aforesaid, the Sum of One Shilling and Three Pence for every Pound Weight Avoirdupoize: For all Stuffs of Silk and Program Yarn, made in Great Britain, and exported as aforesaid, the Sum of Eight Pence for every Pound Weight Avoirdupoize: For all Stuffs, made in Great Britain, of Silk mixed with Inkle, or Cotton, and exported as aforesaid, the Sum of One

Shilling for every Pound Weight Avoirdupoize: For all Stuffs, made in Great Britain, of Silk and Worsted, and exported as aforesaid, the Sum of Six Pence for every Pound Weight Avoirdupoize: Which several and respective Allowances or Sums of Money for each Species before mentioned, shall be paid and answered by the Customer or Collector of the Customs, with the Privy of the Comptroller of the Port from whence the same shall be exported, on a Debenture to be made forth by the Customer or Collector, according to the Entry of the Goods and the Shipping thereof, attested by the Searcher, and Oath made by the Exporter on the Entry or Debenture before the Customer or Collector or Comptroller of such Port, that the said Goods are of British Manufacture, and exported or intended to be exported to Parts beyond the Seas, and not reloaded or intended to be reloaded in any Part of Great Britain; the Exporter, with one or more Person or Persons, first giving sufficient Security to the said Customer or Collector of the Port, in a Penalty of the Value of the Goods, (which Security they are hereby empowered to take in the Name and to the use of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors) that such Silk, Stuffs, or other Manufactures before mentioned, so shipped, or intended to be shipped, or any Part thereof, shall not be reloaded, or brought on Shore again, in any Port or Part of Great Britain, and such Securities shall be discharged in the Manner hereafter mentioned, that is to say, For such of the said Goods as shall be entred for or landed in the Kingdom of Ireland, the Islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, Sark, or Man, the Condition of the Bond shall be to bring a Certificate in Discharge thereof within Six Months from the Date of the Bond, and within Eighteen Months for such of the said Goods as shall be entred for or landed in any of His Majesty's Plantations in America; which respective Certificates for such Silks, Stuffs, or other Manufactures aforesaid, as shall be landed in any Port or Place where any Officer or Officers of His Majesty's Customs shall be resident, shall be signed by the proper Officer or Officers of His Majesty's Customs there, importing that such Goods were there landed, testifying the landing thereof; And for such Silks, Stuffs, and other Manufactures aforesaid, as shall be entred for the Islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, or Sark, shall be signed by the proper Officer or Officers of His Majesty's Customs, if any such Officer or Officers shall be residing in those Islands respectively; and for want of such Officer residing there, then by the Governour of those Islands, or the Deputy Governour thereof respectively; and for such Silk, Stuffs, or other Manufactures aforesaid, as shall be so entred for any other Foreign Port or Place, to bring a Certificate under the Common Seal of the Chief Magistrate in such Port or Place, or under the Hands and Seals of two known British Merchants then being at such Port or Place, that such Silks or other Manufactures were there landed; and such Bond or Bonds shall be discharged upon Proof in either of the said Cases; that such Goods were taken by Enemies, or perished in the Seas, the Examination and Proof thereof being left to the Judgment of the Commissioners of the Customs in England or Scotland respectively, for the Time being. And for the better preventing Frauds in the entring any of the said Goods under a wrong Denomination, to the Prejudice of the Revenue, Be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful to and for any Searcher or other proper Officer of the Customs, after the Entry of any of the said Goods, and before or after the Shipping thereof, to open and strictly examine any Bale, Truss, Chest, or other Package, as now by Law they may do, to see if the Goods are right entred; and if on such Examination the same shall be found to be right entred, the Officer shall at his own Charge cause the same to be repacked, to the Satisfaction of the Exporter, which Charge shall be allowed to the said Officer by the Commissioners of the Customs, if they think it reasonable; but in case such Officer shall find the said Goods, or any part thereof, to have been entred under