

ANNO TRICESIMO QUINTO
Georgii III. Rregis

Cap. XXVIII

An Act to enable Petty Officers in the Navy, and Seamen, Non-Commissioned Officers of Marines, and Marines, serving in His Majesty's Navy, to allot Part of their Pay for the Maintenance of their Wives and families. [28th April 1795]

WHEREAS the enabling Petty Officers, and Seamen, or Landmen, Non-commissioned Officers of Marines, and Marines, employed in the Royal Navy, to allot a certain Part of their Wages or Pay for the Support and Maintenance of their Wives and Children, or Mothers, and establishing a regular method for the punctual, frequent, and certain Payment thereof, is of much Consequence to the Public Service; be it therefore 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, from and after the First Day of May One thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, it shall and may be lawful for every Petty Officer, and Seamen, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, and Marine serving, or entering to serve on Board of any Ship or vessel of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, to allot a certain Part of his Monthly Wages or Pay for the Maintenance of his Wife and Child, or Children, or Mother; *videlicet*, That every Petty Officer and Non-commissioned Officer of marines may allot, for the Purpose aforesaid,

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One Half of his Wages or Pay; and every Able-bodied Seaman may allot, for the Purpose aforesaid, the Sum of Five pence per Day; and every Ordinary Seaman or Landman, serving or entering to serve in His Majesty's Navy, may allot, for the Purpose aforesaid, the Sum of Four pence per Day; and that every Marine may allot, for the Purpose aforesaid, the Sum of Three pence per Day, while he shall actually serve on Board any of the Ships or Vessels of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, or be borne for Wages upon the Books of any such Ships; which said several Sums shall be paid every Twenty-eight Days to the Wives or Mothers, or for the Use of the Children of such Petty Officers, Seamen, and Land men, Non-commissioned Officers of Marines, and Marines, respectively, under several Rules and Regulations, and in the Manner by this Act directed and prescribed.

II And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That, from and after the First Day of May One thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, if any Seaman or Landman shall freely and voluntarily enter himself with any Regulating Officer or Officers employed or to be employed in the raising of Men for His Majesty's Naval Service, in or on Board of any of the Ships or Vessels of His Majesty, His heirs of Successors, and shall, at the Time of his so entering, declare to such Officer or Officers his Name and Place of Abode, and that he is married, and shall likewise declare the Name of his Wife, and at what Place she then resides, and if he has a Child, or how many Children, distinguishing how many such Children are

Boys, or shall declare that he has a Mother then alive, and the Place of her Residence, and that he is willing to allot a Part and Proportion of his Wages or Pay for the Support and Maintenance of his said Wife and Child or Children, or of his Mother, then and in that Case, if the Wife or Mother of such Seaman or Landman shall reside in London, or within the Bills of Mortality thereof, the Sum allotted to her out of her Husband's or Son's Wages or Pay shall be paid by the Treasurer of the Navy; and if the Wife or Mother of such Seaman or Landman shall reside at Portsmouth, Plymouth, or Chatham, or within Five miles of any of those Places respectively, then the Sum allotted to her out of her Husband's or Son's Wages or Pay shall be paid by the Clerk of the Cheque at any of those Places where or within Five Miles of which she shall reside; but if the Residence of the Wife or Mother of such Seaman or Landman shall not be in London, or within the Bills of Mortality thereof, or at Portsmouth, Plymouth, or Chatham, or within Five Miles thereof respectively, then in every such Case the Sum allotted to the Wife or Mother of every such Seaman or Landman, out of Husband's or Son's Wages or Pay, shall be Paid by the Receiver General of the Land Tax of any County, Riding, or City, or by the Collector of the Customs for any Port, or by the Collector of Excise for any Collection in Great Britain, nearest to the Place of Residence of the Wife or Mother of such Seaman or Landman; and such Regulating Officer or Officers for entering Seaman or Landman as aforesaid, shall immediately make out or cause to be made out Three Declarations of Allotment, and Three Orders of Payment, which shall be Triplicates of each other, and joined together with oblique Lines, Flourishes, or Devices, and the said Declarations and Orders shall be in the following Form, or in Words to the like Effect:

And which Declarations and Orders of Payment, being numbered and dated, and the Blanks otherwise filled up, the said Seaman or Landman shall sign his Name or make his Mark at the each of the Triplicates thereof, and the said Regulating Officer shall attest such Declarations and Orders of Payment, by signing his name as Witness thereto; and if the Wife or Mother of such Seaman or Landman shall then attend in Person, such Regulating Officer shall immediately cut off One of the said Triplicates of the said Declarations and Orders of Payment, through the said oblique Lines, Flourishes, or Devices, and shall deliver the same to the Wife or Mother of such Seaman or Landman, and shall immediately thereafter, send the other Two Triplicates of such Declaration and Order of Payment to the Commissioners of the Navy at their Board in London; but in case the Wife or Mother of such Seaman or Landman shall not attend at the Time her Husband or Son shall so enter himself in the Service as aforesaid, the said Regulating Officer shall, in the Returns he shall make to the Admiralty or the Navy Boards specify and mention, opposite to the Name of every Man so entered, whether he has allotted Part of his pay for the Maintenance of his Wife and Child or Children, or of his Mother, and the Amount of such allotment, together with the Date of the Order for Payment thereof.

III And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That, from and after the First Day of May One thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, when and so often as the Captain or Commander of any Ship or Vessel in the Pay of

His Majesty shall, pursuant to the Powers and Directions by former Acts of Parliament given, read over, or cause to be read over, at any Muster of his Ship's Company, in a distinct and audible manner, the Names of all the Petty Officers, Seamen, and Landmen, and the Names of all the Non-commissioned Officers of Marines, and Marines, belonging to such Ship or Vessel, and if any Petty Officer, Seaman, Landman, Non-Commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, shall thereupon declare by Word of Mouth, or deliver in Writing, the Name and Place of Abode of his Wife, and if he has a Child, or how many Children, distinguishing how many of such Children are Boys or that he has a Mother then alive, and the Place of her Residence, and desire that a part of his Wages or Pay should be allotted and paid to his said Wife for the Support and Maintenance of her and his Child or Children, or to his Mother, then and in that Case, if the Wife or Mother of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-Commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, shall reside in *London*, or within the Bills of Mortality thereof, the Sum allotted to her out of her Husband's Wages or Pay shall be paid to her by the Treasurer of the Navy; and if the Wife or Mother of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-Commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, shall reside at *Portsmouth*, *Plymouth*, or *Chatham*, or within Five Miles of any of those Places respectively, then the Sum allotted to her out of the Wages or Pay of her Husband or Son shall be paid by the Clerk of the Cheque at any of those Places, where or within Five Miles of which she shall reside; but if the Residence of the Wife or Mother of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-Commissioned Officer of Marines, shall not be in *London*, or within the Bills of Mortality thereof, or at *Portsmouth*, *Plymouth*, or *Chatham*, or within Five Miles of any of those Places respectively, then and in every such Case the Sum Allotted to the Wife or Mother of every such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-Commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, shall be paid to her by the Receiver General of the Land Tax for any County, Riding, or City, in *Great Britain*, or by the Collector of the Customs for any Port, or by the Collector of the Excise for any Collection in *Great Britain*, nearest to the Place of Residence of the Wife or Mother of such Wife or Mother of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-Commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine; and the Captain or Commander of such Ship or Vessel is hereby strictly required and enjoined to cause a list to be made out which shall contain the Name of every such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-Commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, who shall be desirous to allot a Part of his Wages or Pay for the Support of his Wife or Mother, Child or Children, as the Case maybe, of every such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-Commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, and whether he has a Child, or hown many Children, distinguishing how many of such Children are Boys, shall be specified and described in distinct Colloumns opposite to the Name of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-Commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, who shall desire that a Part of his Wages or Pay may be allotted and paid to his Wife or Mother, shall write his Name, or make his Mark, in a separate and distinct Column in the said List, which List shall be forth with completed and signed by the Captain or Commander, and any other of the Signing Officers of such Ship or Vessel; and every such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-Commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine , shall at the same Time also sign his Name, or make his Mark, at each of the Three

Declarations and Orders of Payment as before mentioned, to empower His Wife or Mother to receive that Part of her Husband's or Son's Wages or Pay so allowed to her; and which Declarations and Orders shall be in the same Form of Words as are herein before described, or to the same and like Effect; and the said Declarations and Orders shall be forthwith completed; and such Captain or Commander shall transmit the List, and the Three Declarations and Orders aforesaid, by the first safe Opportunity, without any Neglect or Delay whatsoever, to the Commissioners of the Navy at their Board in *London*.

IV And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That as soon as the said Declarations and Orders shall be received by the Commissioners of the Navy, they shall examine, or cause the same to be examined, with the List or Lists transmitted by such Regulating Officer or Officers employed for entering Men for His Majesty's Navy, if the same shall have been transmitted by any Regulating Officer or Officers, or by the Captain or Commander on Board any of His Majesty's Ships or Vessels, if the same shall have been transmitted by any such Captain or Commander, and if it be found right, the same shall be filled up as agreeable to the Particulars specified in the several Columns of such Lists, and shall be then allowed and signed by any Three of the Commissioners of the Navy, specifying the Date on which they shall sign the same; and in all Cases, where the Triplicates of the said Declarations and Orders shall have been transmitted to the Commissioners of the Navy, they shall, without Delay, cause them to be cut asunder through the said oblique Lines, Flourishes, or Devices, and shall cause One of the said Declarations and Orders to be transmitted forthwith to the Person named in such Order as the Wife or Mother of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-Commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine; and another of the said Declarations and Orders they shall cause to be transmitted forthwith to the said Receiver General of the Land Tax, Collector of the Customs, Collector of the Excise, or Clerk of the Cheque, to whom such an Order shall be so directed; and the Third of the said Declarations and Orders they shall cause to be transmitted or delivered to the Treasurer of His Majesty's Navy for the Time being; and where only two of such Declarations and Orders shall have been transmitted to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Navy, they shall in like Manner, without Delay, cause the same to be cut asunder through the said oblique Lines, Flourishes, or Devices, and shall cause One of the said Declarations and Orders to be transmitted forthwith to the Receiver General of the Land Tax, Collector of Customs, Collector of the Excise, or Clerk of the Cheque, to whom such an order shall be so directed, and the other of the said Declarations and Orders to be transmitted or delivered to the Treasurer of His Majesty's Navy for the Time being; but in Cases where the Allotment of such Wages as aforesaid shall be directed to be paid by the Treasurer of the Navy in *London*, or within the Bills of Mortality thereof, then Two of the Triplicates of such Declarations and Orders shall be transmitted or delivered to the Treasurer of the Navy.

V. And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That when, at the End of Twenty-eight Days or more after the Date of such Declaration and Order, the same, together with such Certificate as is mentioned therein by the Minister and Churchwardens or Churchwarden, Elders or Elder, as the Case may be, of the Parish where the Wife or Mother of such Petty Officer,

Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, resides, shall be presented to the Treasurer of the Navy, or to any such Receiver General of the Land Tax, Collector of the Customs, Collector of the Excise, or Clerk of the Cheque respectively, as the Case may be, to whom the same is addressed, he shall examine and compare such Declaration and Order so presented to him by the Wife or Mother of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, with the Triplicate of such Declaration and Order which shall have been transmitted to him by the Commissioners of the Navy, and enquire into the Truth thereof, and of such Certificate as aforesaid; and, if it shall appear to him necessary, by the Oath of the Wife or Mother producing the same, which Oath he is hereby authorized and empowered to administer, and upon being duly satisfied of the Authenticity of such Declaration and Order, and such Certificate, and the Truth of the Facts therein set forth, he shall immediately pay to the Wife or Mother of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, without Fee or Reward, and without Deduction or Abatement, under Pretence of any Expense having been incurred, or on any Pretence whatever, the Sum allotted to her out of the Wages or Pay of her Husband or Son, taking her Receipt for the same, to which she shall sign her Name, or make her Mark, in the Presence of the Person paying her the money, and which Person shall also sign his Name as Witness thereto, and he shall also mark her Receipt and Certificate with the same Number as that of her Husband's Declaration and Order, which shall be produced to him by the Wife or Mother of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, the Date of such Payment, the Amount of the Sum paid, and the Time from whence, and up to what Time, the same so became due, after which he shall deliver back to the Wife or Mother of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, the Declaration and Order, so produced by her; and the Person making such Payment shall in like Manner mark upon the Triplicate of such Declaration and Order, which shall have been transmitted to him by the Commissioners of the Navy as aforesaid, or otherwise be in his Possession, the Date of such Payment, the Amount of the Sum paid, and the Time from whence, and up to what Time, the same so became due, and at the End of every Four Weeks, or Twenty-eight Days thereafter, upon similar Application made, and upon producing such Order and Certificate in Manner before directed, the same Payment shall be made in the same Manner and Form to the Wife or Mother of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, as aforesaid, during her Life, or so long as her Husband or Son shall live, and continue as a Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, I the Service of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, except as herein-after excepted, where no Demand shall be made upon such Order within Six Months from the Date of marking thereof by the Commissioners of the Navy, or from the Date of the last Payment made thereon.

VI. And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That when the Wife of any Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, in the Service of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, who may have allotted Part of his Wages for the Maintenance

of his said Wife and Children, shall happen to die, and such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, shall have a Child or Children under the Age of Fourteen Years, it shall and may be lawful for the Minister and Churchwardens or Churchwarden, Elders or Elder, as the Case may be, of the Parish where such Wife so dying did reside at the Time of her Death, to certify to the Commissioners of the Navy, at their Board in *London*, the Death of such Wife, and the Day thereof, and that the Husband of such Wife has a Child, or how many Children, then alive, under the Age of Fourteen Years, and the Age of such Child, or the respective Ages of each such Children, as nearly as they can, and shall distinguishing how many of such Children are Boys; and such Minister and Churchwardens, or Elders, shall also certify their Intention of appointing a fit and proper Person, resident within the said Parish, to receive that part of the Father's Wages or Pay for his Services in the Navy, which had been allotted by him for the Maintenance of his Child or Children in the Event of the Death of his Wife, and along with such Certificate the Minister and Churchwardens, or Elders, shall also transmit to the Commissioners of the Navy the Triplicate of such Declaration and Order before mentioned, made by the Husband of such Wife who shall have so died as aforesaid, and which was in her Possession at the Time of her Death; whereupon the Commissioners of the Navy shall examine into the Truth of such Certificate in such Manner as they shall think proper, and if they are satisfied of the Truth thereof, and that the Father of such Child or Children is still alive, and in the Service of His Majesty, they shall then make out, or cause to be made out, Three certificates and Orders, which shall be Triplicates of each other, and joined together with oblique Lines, Flourishes, or Devices, and which shall be in the following Form, or in Words to like Effect:

The Triplicates of which Certificate, being so made out as aforesaid, the Commissioners of the Navy shall forthwith send, or cause the same to be sent, to the Minister, or to the Churchwardens or Churchwarden, Elders or Elder, of the Parish where the Wife of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, so died as aforesaid; and such Minister, Churchwardens or Churchwarden, Elders or Elder, shall cause the Blanks thereof to be filled up, and the Minister, along with the Churchwardens or Churchwarden, or the Elders or Elder, of the said Parish, shall sign the same, and having procured Two of the Justices of the Peace of the County wherein such Parish lies to attest the same, the said Minister, or Churchwardens or Churchwarden, or Elders or Elder, shall forthwith return the said Three Triplicates to the Commissioners of the Navy in *London*; and the Commissioners of the Navy shall immediately on Receipt thereof examine the same, and if found right, they shall mark each of the Triplicates of the said Certificate with the same Number with which the original Declaration and Order of Payment, executed by the said Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, whose Wife may have died as aforesaid, was numbered; and the said Commissioners, or any Three or more of them, shall date and sign their Allowance thereof, and shall address each of the Triplicates to the same publick Officer to whom the original Order granted by the aforesaid Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, whose Wife may have so died as aforesaid, was addressed for Payment, and the same, being so completed, they shall cause them to be cut asunder indent-wife through the said oblique Lines, Flourishes, or Devices, and shall forth-with cause One of them to be transmitted to the Person who shall be named and appointed by the said Minister and Churchwardens, or Elders, and approve of by the Justices, in the aforesaid Certificate and Attestation, to receive the Allotment of Wages or Pay therein mentioned, and shall therewith also transmit to him the original Declaration and Order granted by such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, whose Wife may have so died as aforesaid, which original Declaration and Order was in her Possession at the Time of or previous to her Death, and which had been sent to the Commissioners of the Navy by the Minister or Churchwardens of Churchwarden, Elders or Elder, along with their Certificate of the Death of such Wife, as before mentioned; and another of the aforesaid Triplicates, so approved of and allowed by the Commissioners of the Navy, or any Three of them, as aforesaid, shall be forthwith transmitted to the Treasurer of the Navy, Collector of the Land Tax, Collector of the Customs, Collector of the Excise, or Clerk of the Cheque, appointed to pay the same, as the Case may be; and the Third of the said Triplicates to be delivered to the Treasurer of the Navy.

VII. And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That at the End or Expiration of Twenty-eight Days, or more, from the Date of the last Payment made to the Wife of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, who may have so died as aforesaid, or from and after the Date of the original Declaration and Order granted by her Husband, in case she shall have received no Payment

thereon, the Person named and appointed in such Certificate, Attestation, and Allowance as aforesaid, for receiving the Allotment of such Wages for the Maintenance and Support of the Child or Children of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, may apply to the Treasurer of the Navy, Receiver General of the Land Tax, Collector of the Customs, Collector of the Excise, or Clerk of the Cheque, to whom the same may be respectively addressed, for Payment of what may be due thereon, and shall then produce the original Declaration and Order of such Petty Officer, Seaman, or Landman, Non-commissioned Officer of Marines, or Marine, in Favour of his Wife, the Certificate of the Minister and Churchwardens or Churchwarden, or Elders or Elder, of his Appointment, the Attestation thereof by Two Justices of the Peace, and Allowance thereof by any Three Commissioners of the Navy, as is before-mentioned, and shall also produce and deliver to such Treasurer of the Navy, Receiver General of the Land Tax, Collector of the Customs, Collector of the Excise, or Clerk of the Cheque, respectively, as the Case may be