

1777.

L A W S of the S T A T E of

C H A P. XX. son, and shall forfeit all the Estate which he had, at the Time of the Commission of the Crime, to the Use of this State.

Fine for maintaining the Authority of the King and Parliament of Great-Britain, &c.

IV. And be it enacted, That if any Subject or Inhabitant of this State shall, by any Word, open Deed, Writing, Printing, or other Act, advisedly and willingly declare, affirm, maintain, or defend, that the King or Parliament of *Great-Britain* hath any Authority, Power, or Jurisdiction, in or over the United States, or any of them, or that any Allegiance is due from any of the Subjects or Inhabitants of the United States, or any of them, to the King of *Great-Britain*, his Heirs or Successors, or shall wickedly, corruptly, or seditiously, persuade or entice any of the Subjects or Inhabitants of this State, to return to or acknowledge any Dependence on the Crown and Parliament of *Great-Britain*, or to own any Allegiance or Obedience to the King of *Great-Britain*, his Heirs or Successors, and shall be thereof convicted in the General Court, such Person shall be fined not exceeding ten thousand Pounds current Money, and be imprisoned not more than five Years, in the Discretion of the Court, or be banished this State for ever.

For persuading Persons to resist the present Government, &c.

V. And be it enacted, That if any Subject or Inhabitant of this State, shall, by any Word, open Deed, Writing, Printing, or other Act, persuade or excite any of the Inhabitants of this State to resist the present Government thereof by Force, or to oppose, or in any Manner obstruct, with Force, the Execution of any of the Laws of this State, such Person, being convicted thereof in the General Court, shall be fined not exceeding two thousand Pounds current Money, and be imprisoned not more than two Years, in the Discretion of the Court.

For concealing of Treason.

VI. And be it enacted, That if any Subject or Inhabitant of this State shall know of any Intention, Design or Attempt, to commit any of the Crimes declared by this Act to be Treason against this State, and shall not reveal the same, as soon as conveniently may be, to the Governor, or some one of the Judges or Justices of this State for the Time being, such Person, on Conviction thereof in the General Court, shall be fined not exceeding one thousand Pounds current Money, and imprisoned not more than one Year, in the Discretion of the Court.

For dissuading Persons from enlisting, &c.

VII. And be it enacted, That if any Subject or Inhabitant of this State, shall advisedly and maliciously, with an Intention to obstruct the Service, dissuade, discourage or obstruct, any Person from enlisting or engaging in the Army or Navy of the United States, or any of them, such Person, on Conviction thereof in the General Court, shall be fined not exceeding one thousand Pounds current Money, in the Discretion of the Court.

For discouraging Persons from supporting Independance, &c.

VIII. And be it enacted, That if any Subject or Inhabitant of this State, shall, by any Word, open Deed, Writing, Printing, or other Act, wickedly, corruptly, or seditiously dissuade, discourage, or terrify any of the People of this State from supporting the Independency of the United States, or any of them, or shall directly or indirectly endeavour to support or justify the Measures taken by the King and Parliament of *Great-Britain* against the United States, or any of them, and shall be thereof convicted in the General Court, such Person shall be fined