

county court, shall forfeit any of the articles aforesaid so bought or got into his possession, one half to the state and the other half to the informer, and may be fined not exceeding ten thousand pounds, or imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

V. *Provided* always, and it is hereby declared, That the buying of any goods, wares or merchandise, by any agent of this, or the United States, for the public use, or the purchasing materials for the carrying on manufactories, and so converted in the house of the purchaser, or the buying of provisions by any licensed ordinary keeper for the use of his ordinary, shall not be deemed engrossing within this act; but nothing herein contained shall be construed or taken to permit or suffer the purchase of grain of any kind for manufacturing, except agreeable to the limitations hereafter mentioned. *Provide.*

VI. *And* be it enacted, That no goods, wares, or merchandise, shall be exposed to sale by public vendue, (except household furniture, goods condemned in the court of admiralty, or sold under contract for that purpose heretofore made, or by distress for rent, or by process out of the courts of law or equity, or the goods of any deceased person by the executor or administrator of such deceased person) under the penalty of one thousand pounds on the person selling at such vendue. *Goods, &c. not to be sold by vendue.*

VII. *Provided* always, and be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the owner or owners of any ship or other vessel, to sell such ship or vessel at public sale, and for any person removing out of this state, or from one county to another, having personal property, to expose the same to sale by public vendue, any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding. *Provide.*

VIII. *And*, Whereas the wicked arts of speculators, forestallers, and engrossers, who infest every part of the country, and are industriously purchasing up grain and flour at the most exorbitant prices, render it impracticable to obtain timely and sufficient supplies for the operations of the army and navy, unless the most vigorous measures are without delay adopted :

IX. *Be it therefore enacted*, That it shall and may be lawful for any one justice of the peace in any county of this state, and he is hereby authorized and required, on his own knowledge, or on information being made on oath, of any quantity of grain or flour being purchased by, or in the possession of, any individual, inhabiting, residing, or being, within this state, who may have engrossed the same, (millers, distillers, and maltsters, not excepted) to issue his warrant, empowering the constable, or the informer or informers, to seize the same for the use of the United States; and such justice of the peace shall forthwith call to his assistance two freeholders, or other reputable and disinterested persons, of the same county, who (if the seizure shall be approved of by them or a majority of them) shall retain the flour or grain so seized for the use of the said states, and shall, as soon as may be, transmit a certificate from under their hands, of the quantity of grain or flour so seized, to the governor and council, who shall cause the substance of such certificate to be entered on their proceedings; and the said justice shall have full power and authority to call on the sheriff

*Justice may cause grain, &c. to be seized, &c.*