

# STATE PAPERS OF VERMONT

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## SEQUESTRATION, CONFISCATION AND SALE OF ESTATES

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MARY GREENE NYE

AN ACT TO PREVENT THE RETURN TO THIS STATE OF  
CERTAIN PERSONS THEREIN NAMED, AND OTHERS,  
WHO HAVE LEFT THIS STATE, OR EITHER OF  
THE UNITED STATES, AND JOINED THE  
ENEMIES THEREOF

(*Ms. Laws of Vermont, vol. 1, p. 105*)

Passed February 26, 1779  
Repealed November 8, 1780

Whereas Samuel Anderson, Joseph Anderson, Benjamin Anderson, Amos Dunning, Beloved Carpenter, Beriah Buck, Caleb Reynolds Jun<sup>r</sup>, Coonraad Devoe, Adam Deal, Peter Deal, Hendrick Deal, and Daniel Straight, of *Pownal*; James Brakenridge Jun<sup>r</sup> of *Bennington*; John Mu[n]roe Esq<sup>r</sup>, Ebenezer Wright, and Abraham Marsh, of *Shaftsbury*; Elisha Hard, Jephtha Hawley, Philo Hulbert, James Hard, Phineas Hurd, Benajah Benedict, Samuel Adams, Isaac Brisco, Samuel Buck, David Williams, Benjamin Holt, Caleb Henderson, Charles Bennet, and Gideon Adams, of *Arlington*; Jeremiah French, Andrew French, Samuel Rose, Joseph Lockwood, William Reynolds, Joseph Barker, Date Seelick,<sup>1</sup> and Davis Sturges, of *Manchester*; Col. William Marsh, and Israel Bardsley, of *Dorset*; Joseph Case, Daniel Scott, and James M<sup>c</sup>Donald, of *Reuport*; Barnabas Hough, William Fairfield, Elijah Benedict, David Castle, and Reuben Hawley, of *Pollet*; James Moore, Caleb Lewis, John Ward, Joseph Morse, James Floom, John Beach, and Enoch Mallery, of *Wells*; Silvanus Everts, Gilbert Everts, Oliver Everits, Asa Landon, Charles Griffin, and Daniel Culver, of *Castleton*; Joshua Bostwick, David Shorey, and Robert Perry, of *Rutland*; Daniel Marsh, Elijah Osbourn, Hazelton Spencer, John Lee, William Sutton, Daniel Walker, Barnabas Spencer, Amariah How, James Clark, Philip Nichols, Daniel Hill Jun<sup>r</sup>, Simpson Jenny, Solomon Johns, Joseph Lewis, Comfort Curtis, Timothy Hill, of *Clarendon*; Seth Cook, and Aaron Bull, of *Danby*; Isaac Ives of *Wallingford*; Joseph Pringle, John Smith, Ithiel Towner, and Samuel Richardson, of *Breadport*; Abner Wolcott and Justus Sherwood of *New Haven*; William White of *Cornwall*; John Nicholas, of *Ferrisborough*; Roger Stephens Jun<sup>r</sup> of *Pitsford*; Samuel Files, and John Gray, of *Shelbourne*, William Powers of *Panton*, all in the County of *Bennington*; Caleb Green, Abisha Howe, Shadrach Ball, of *New Fane*; Malachi Church, Oliver Church, John Arms, and Oliver Wells, of *Brattleborough*; John Grant [Grout?] of *Chester*; Col<sup>o</sup> James Rogers, of *Kent*; Timothy Lovell of *Rockingham*; Crean Brush of *Westminster*; Zadock Wright, and Jonathan Wright, of *Hertford* [Hartland]; all in the County of *Cumberland*, and many other persons, have voluntarily left this State, or some of the United States of America, and joined the Enemies thereof; thereby not only depriving these States of their personal Services, at a time

1. See Audit Office Transcripts, vols. 27, p. 444 and 31, p. 255 for claim of Date (Dayle) Seelick before the British Commissioners in re losses sustained through confiscation of property.

when they ought to have afforded their utmost Aid in defending the said States against the Invasions of a cruel Enemy, but manifesting an inimical Disposition to said States, and a design to aid and abet the Enemies thereof in their wicked purposes.

And Whereas many mischiefs may accrue to this, and the United States, if such persons should again be admitted to reside in this State:—

Which to prevent,

I Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the freemen of the State of Vermont, in General Assembly met, and by the Authority of the same, that if the said Samuel Anderson, Joseph Anderson, or any of the before mentioned persons, or either of them, or any other person or persons, though not specially named in this Act, who have voluntarily left this State, or either of the United States, and joined the Enemies thereof, as aforesaid, shall, after the passing this Act, voluntarily return to this State, it shall be the Duty of the Sheriff of the County, his Deputy, the Constable, Selectmen, or Grand Jurors of the town where such person or persons may presume to come, and they are hereby respectively impowered and directed to apprehend and Carry such person or persons before an Assistant or Justice of the Peace; who is hereby required to call to his Assistance one or more Assistant or Justices of the Peace, who are hereby directed to give their Attendance, according to such requisition; And if upon Examination into the matter, the said Justices shall find that the person brought before them is any one of the before described Persons, they shall order him to be whipped on the naked Back, not more than forty, nor less than twenty Stripes; which Punishment shall be inflicted, and the Delinquent shall be ordered to quit this State immediately.

II Be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that if any person shall continue in this State one Month, or shall presume to come again into this State, after such Conviction, (without Liberty first had and obtained therefor—from the Governor, Council, and General Assembly) and be convicted thereof before the Superior Court of this State, he shall be put to Death.

III Be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that if any person shall willingly or wilfully harbour or conceal any of the Persons above named or described, after their return to this State, contrary to the Design of this Act; such person so offending, shall, on Conviction thereof before the Superior Court, forfeit and pay the Sum of five hundred Pounds, two thirds thereof to the Use of this State, the other third to the use of him or them who shall prosecute the same to Effect.