

# ACT N<sup>o</sup>. XII. OF 1844.

*Passed by the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India in Council  
on the 25th May, 1844.*

AN Act for better securing the observance of an Exact Discipline in the Indian Navy.

I. Whereas by an Act of the British Parliament passed in the Session held in the 3d and 4th years of His late Majesty King William the 4th, intituled "An Act for effecting an arrangement with the East India Company, and for the better Government of His Majesty's Indian Territories till the 30th day of April 1854"—It is among other things enacted, that the Governor General of India in Council shall have power to make Laws and Regulations for repealing, amending or altering any Laws or Regulations whatever then in force, or thereafter to be in force in the said Territories, or any part thereof, and to make Laws and Regulations for all persons whether British or Native Foreigners, or others, and for all Courts of Justice whether established by His Majesty's Charters or otherwise, and the jurisdiction thereof, and for all places and things whatsoever within and throughout the whole or any part of the said Territories, and for all Servants of the said Company within the dominions of Princes and States in alliance with the said Company, save and except that the said Governor General in Council shall not have the power of making any Laws or Regulations which shall in any way repeal, vary, suspend or affect any of the provisions of the now reciting Act, or any of the provisions of the Acts for punishing mutiny and desertion of Officers and Soldiers, whether in the Service of His Majesty or the said Company, or any provisions of any Act thereafter to be passed in anywise affecting the said Company, or the said Territories or the Inhabitants thereof, or any Laws and Regulations which shall in any way affect any Prerogative of the Crown or the Authority of Parliament, or the constitution or rights of the said Company, or any part of the unwritten Laws or Constitution of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, whereon may depend in any degree the allegiance of any person to the Crown of the United Kingdom, or the Sovereignty or Dominion of the said Crown over any part of the said Territories.

And it is thereby provided and enacted, that in case the Court of Directors of the said Company, under such control as by the now reciting Act is provided, shall signify to the said Governor General in Council their disallowance of any Laws or Regulation by the said Governor General in Council made, then and in every such case upon receipt by the said Governor General in Council of notice of such disallowance, the said Governor General in Council shall forthwith repeal all Laws and Regulations so disallowed. And it is also provided and enacted, that all Laws and Regulations made as aforesaid so long as they shall remain unrepealed shall be of the same force and effect within and throughout the said Territories as any Act of Parliament would or ought to be within the same Territories, and shall be taken notice of by all Courts of Justice whatsoever within the same Territories, in the same manner as any Public Act of Parliament would and ought to be taken notice of, and it shall not be necessary to register or publish in any Court of Justice any Laws or Regulations made by the said Governor General in Council. And  
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it is hereby also provided and enacted, that it shall not be lawful for the said Governor General in Council without the previous sanction of the said Court of Directors, to make any Law or Regulation whereby power shall be given to any Courts of Justice other than the Courts of Justice established by His Majesty's Charters, to sentence to the punishment of death, any of His Majesty's natural born subjects born in Europe, or the children of such subjects, or which shall abolish any of the Courts of Justice established by His Majesty's Charters.

And whereas by another Act passed in the Session held in the 3d and 4th years of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws for punishing Mutiny and Desertion of Officers and soldiers in the Service of the East India Company, and for providing for the observance of Discipline in the Indian Navy, and to amend the Laws for regulating the payment of Regimental Debts and the distribution of the Effects of Officers and Soldiers dying in Service," reciting that the said Company for the safety and protection of the Territories under their Government in addition to their Land Forces maintain a Marine Establishment theretofore called "The Bombay Marine," but then called "The Indian Navy;" and that by an Act passed in the 9th year of the Reign of King George the 4th, intituled "An Act to extend the provisions of the East India Mutiny Act to the Bombay Marine," reciting an Act of the 4th year of King George the 4th, and that it was expedient that discipline should be enforced in the said Marine Establishment in the manner provided by the said Act of the 4th year of King George the Fourth in respect to the other Forces of the said Company, it is enacted, that the provisions of the said Act of the 4th year of King George the 4th, and the Rules and Articles of War made and to be made by virtue thereof should extend and be applied to the Service of "The Bombay Marine," and that all persons in the service of the said Company belonging to the said Bombay Marine who should be Commissioned or in pay as Officers, or enlisted or in pay as Non-Commissioned Officers or Soldiers respectively in the said Company's Army should be to all intents and purposes liable to the provisions of the said Act of the said 4th year of His Majesty King George the Fourth, and to the same Rules and Articles of War, and the same penalties as the Officers and Soldiers of the said Company's other Forces, and reciting that it is expedient to provide other means for enforcing discipline in the said Marine Establishment called "The Indian Navy," it was amongst other things enacted that for the retaining the Forces of the said Establishment in their duty the Governor General of India in Council should have power to make Laws and Regulations for securing the observance of an exact discipline in the said Service called "The Indian Navy," and for bringing to a more exemplary and speedy punishment than the usual forms of the Law will allow all Officers, Engineers, Soldiers, Marines, Seamen and all others belonging to the said Marine Establishment who should mutiny, or stir up sedition, or should desert the said Service, or should commit any other offence which in its nature would be cognizable by Court Martial under the now reciting Act, or which might be against good discipline in Naval Service in the same, and as full and ample manner to all intents and purposes as by virtue of the said Act passed in the Session held in the 3d and 4th year of the reign of his late Majesty King William the Fourth, the said Governor General in Council then had power to make any Laws and Regulations whatsoever, any thing in the said last mentioned Act, or any other Act or Acts to the contrary notwithstanding. And it was thereby provided and enacted, that in case the Court of Directors of the East India Company, under the control of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, should signify to the said Governor General in Council their disallowance of any Laws or Regulations by the said Governor General in Council made by virtue of the now reciting Act, then and in every such case upon receipt by the said Governor General in Council of notice of such disallowance, the said Governor General in Council should forthwith repeal all Laws and Regulations so disallowed. And it was also provided and enacted that all Laws and Regulations made as aforesaid so long as they should remain unrepealed should be of the same



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same force and effect within and throughout the said Territories as any Act of Parliament would or ought to be within the same Territories, and should be taken notice of by all Courts of Justice whatsoever within the same Territories in the same manner as any public Act of Parliament would and ought to be taken notice of, and it should not be necessary to register or publish in any Court of Justice any Laws or Regulations made by the said Governor General in Council.

And it was also provided and enacted, that it should not be lawful for the said Governor General in Council without the previous sanction of the said Court of Directors, to make any Law or Regulation whereby power should be given to any Court other than the Courts of Justice established by the Charters of the Crown, to sentence to the punishment of death any of Her Majesty's natural born subjects born in Europe or the Children of such subjects.

And it was also provided and enacted, that until the said Governor General in Council should have made Laws and Regulations for the good Government of the said "Indian Navy" by virtue of the powers by the now reciting Act for that purpose given, all the provisions of the now reciting Act, and the Rules and Articles of War to be made by virtue thereof should extend and be applied to the said Marine Establishment called the "Indian Navy," and that all persons in the Service of the said Company belonging to the said Indian Navy who should be Commissioned or in pay as Officers, or enlisted or in pay as Non-Commissioned Officers or Soldiers respectively in the said Company's Army should be to all intents and purposes liable to the provisions of the now reciting Act, and to the same Rules and Articles of War, and the same penalties as the Officers and Soldiers of the said Company's other Forces.

And whereas it is deemed expedient to place the Indian Navy under Articles and Orders as nearly similar as may be to those in force in Her Majesty's Navy, and the Court of Directors of the East India Company have given their previous sanction to the several Enactments hereinafter contained, and to all and singular the Laws and Regulations hereby made. Now it is therefore hereby enacted, that from and after the First day of October 1844, the Articles and Orders hereinafter following as well in time of Peace as in time of War shall be duly observed and put in execution in manner hereinafter mentioned.

1. All Captains, Commanders, and Officers, in or belonging to any of the East India Company's Ships or Vessels of War shall cause the public Worship of Almighty God according to the Liturgy of the Church of England established by Law to be solemnly, orderly and reverently performed in their respective Ships, and shall take care that Prayers and Preaching be performed diligently, and that the Lord's Day be observed according to Law.

2. All Officers, Engineers, Soldiers, Marines, Seamen and others belonging to the Indian Navy, being guilty of profane Oaths, Cursing, Execrations, Drunkenness, Uncleaness or other Scandalous Actions, in derogation of God's honor and corruption of good manners shall incur such punishment as a Court Martial shall think fit to impose, and as the nature and degree of their offence shall deserve.

3. If any Officer, Engineer, Soldier, Marine, Seaman or other person belonging to the Indian Navy shall give, hold or entertain intelligence to, or with any Enemy or Rebel without leave from the Queen's Majesty, or the Governor General in Council, or the Governor in Council of the Presidency under which they serve, or persons duly authorized, Commander in Chief or his Commanding Officer, every such person so offending and being thereof convicted by the sentence of a Court Martial shall be punished  
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with death, or such other punishment as the nature and degree of the offence may deserve or the Court Martial shall impose.

4. If any Letter or Message from any Enemy or Rebel be conveyed to any Officer, Engineer, Soldier, Marine, Seaman or other person belonging to the Indian Navy, and the said officer, Engineer, Soldier, Marine, Seaman or other person as aforesaid shall not within twelve hours having opportunity so to do acquaint his Superior Officer, or the Officer Commanding in Chief with it, or if any Superior Officer belonging to the Indian Navy being acquainted therewith shall not in convenient time reveal the same to the Officer Commanding in Chief the Squadron, every such person so offending and being convicted thereof by the sentence of a Court Martial shall be punished with death, or such other punishment as the nature and degree of the offence shall deserve and the Court Martial shall impose.

5. All Spies and all persons whatsoever who shall come or be found in the nature of Spies within the Territories under the Government of the East India the Company to bring or deliver any Seducing Letters or Messages from any Enemy or Rebel, or endeavour to corrupt any Officer, Engineer, Soldier, Marine, Seaman or other person belonging to the Indian Navy to betray his trust, being convicted of any such offence by the sentence of a Court Martial, shall be punished with death, or shall suffer such other punishment as the nature and degree of the offence shall deserve and the Court Martial shall impose.

6. No person belonging to the Indian Navy shall relieve an Enemy or Rebel, with Money, Victuals, Powder, Shot, Arms, Ammunition, or any other supplies whatsoever, directly or indirectly, upon pain of death, or such other punishment as a Court Martial shall think fit to impose, and as the nature and degree of the crime shall deserve.

7. All the Papers, Charter Parties, Bills of Lading, Passports and other writings whatsoever that shall be taken, seized or found aboard any Ship or Vessel which shall be surprized or taken as prize shall be duly preserved, and the very originals shall by the Commanding Officer of the Ship or Vessel which shall taken such prize, be sent entirely and without fraud to the Court of Admiralty, or such other Court or Commissioners as shall be authorized to determine whether such prize be lawful capture, there to be viewed, made use of and proceeded upon according to Law upon pain that every person offending therein shall forfeit and lose all share of the capture, and shall suffer such further punishment as the nature and degree of his offence shall be found to deserve and the Court Martial shall impose.

8. No person in or belonging to the Indian Navy shall take out of any Prize, or Ship or Vessel seized for prize, any Money, Plate or Goods, unless it shall be necessary for the better securing thereof, or for the necessary use and service of any of Her Majesty's Ships or Vessels of War, or of any of the Ships or Vessel of the Indian Navy, before the same be adjudged lawful prize in some Admiralty or other competent Court, but the full and entire account of the whole without embezzlement shall be brought in and judgment passed entirely upon the whole without fraud, and upon pain that every person offending herein shall forfeit and lose all share of the capture, and suffer such further punishment as shall be imposed by a Court Martial, or such Court of Admiralty according to the nature and degree of the offence.

9. If any Ship or Vessel shall be taken as prize, none of the Officers, Mariners or other persons on board her shall be stripped of their clothes, or in any sort pillaged, beaten or evil treated upon pain that the person or persons so offending shall be liable to such punishment as a Court Martial shall think fit to inflict.



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10. Every Superior Officer belonging to the Indian Navy, who upon signal or order of fight, or sight of any Ship or Vessel which it may be his duty to engage, or who upon likelihood of engagement shall not make the necessary preparations for fight, and shall not in his own person and according to his place encourage the inferior Officers and men to fight courageously shall suffer death, or such other punishment as from the nature and degree of the offence a Court Martial shall deem him to deserve; and if any person belonging to the Indian Navy shall treacherously or cowardly yield or cry for quarter, any person so offending and being convicted thereof by the sentence of a Court Martial shall suffer death, or such other punishment as from the nature and degree of the offence a Court Martial shall deem him to deserve.

11. Every person belonging to the Indian Navy who shall not duly observe the orders of the Officer Commanding in Chief the Squadron or Division, or other his Superior Officer, for assailing, joining battle with, or making defence against any Fleet, Squadron, or Ship or Vessel, or shall not obey the orders of his Superior Officer as aforesaid in time of action to the best of his power, or shall not use all possible endeavours to put the same effectually in execution, every such person so offending and being convicted thereof by the sentence of a Court Martial shall suffer death, or such other punishment as from the nature and degree of the offence a Court Martial shall deem him to deserve.

12. Every person belonging to the Indian Navy who through cowardice, negligence or disaffection shall in time of action withdraw or keep back, or not come into the fight or engagement, or shall not do his utmost to take or destroy every Ship and Vessel which it shall be his duty to engage, and to assist and relieve all and every the Ships and Vessels of Her Majesty and of the East India Company, or of Her Majesty's or the said Company's Allies, which it shall be his duty to assist and relieve, every such person so offending, and being convicted thereof by the sentence of a Court Martial shall suffer death, or such other punishment as from the nature and degree of the offence a Court Martial shall deem him to deserve.

13. Every person belonging to the Indian Navy who through cowardice, negligence or disaffection shall forbear to pursue the chase of any Enemy, Pirate or Rebel, beaten or flying, or shall not relieve or assist a known friend in view to the utmost of his power, being convicted of such offence by the sentence of a Court Martial shall suffer death, or such other punishment as from the nature and degree of the offence a Court Martial shall deem him to deserve.

14. If when action or any service shall be commanded, any person belonging to the Indian Navy shall presume to delay or discourage the said action or service upon pretence of arrears of wages, or upon any pretence whatsoever, every person so offending being convicted thereof by the sentence of a Court Martial shall suffer death, or such other punishment as from the nature and degree of the offence a Court Martial shall deem him to deserve.

15. Every person in or belonging to the Indian Navy who shall desert to an Enemy, Pirate or Rebel, or run away with any of the Ships or Vessels of War of Her Majesty or of the East India Company, or any Ordnance, Ammunition, Stores or Provisions belonging thereto, to the weakening of the service, or yield up the same cowardly or treacherously to any Enemy, Pirate or Rebel, being convicted of any such offence by the sentence of a Court Martial shall suffer death, or such other punishment as from the nature and degree of the offence a Court Martial shall deem him to deserve.

16. Every person belonging to the Indian Navy who shall desert or entice others so to do, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as the circumstances of the offence shall



shall deserve and a Court Martial shall judge fit ; and if any Commanding Officer of any of the East India Company's Ships or Vessels of War shall receive or entertain a deserter from any other Ship or Vessel of Her Majesty or of the East India Company, after discovering him to be such deserter, and shall not with all convenient speed give notice to the Captain of the Ship or Vessel to which such deserter belongs ; or if the said Ships or Vessels are at any considerable distance from each other, to the Government or to the Officer Commanding in Chief, every person so offending, and being convicted thereof by the sentence of a Court Martial shall be cashiered.

17. The Officers and Seamen of all Ships or Vessels belonging to the Indian Navy, appointed for Convoy and Guard of Merchant Ships or Vessels, or of any other, shall diligently attend upon that charge without delay according to their instructions in that behalf, and whosoever shall be faulty therein, and shall not faithfully perform their duty and defend the Ships, Vessels and Goods in their Convoy without either diverting to other parts, or occasions, or refusing or neglecting to fight in their defence, if they be assailed, or running away cowardly and submitting the Ships in their Convoy to peril and hazard, or shall demand or exact any money or other reward from any Merchant or Master for convoying of any Ships or Vessels entrusted to their care, or shall misuse the Masters or Mariners thereof, shall be condemned to make reparation of the damage to the Merchants, Owners and others, as the Court of Admiralty or other competent Court shall judge ; and also be punished criminally according to the quality of their offences ; be it by pains of death, or other punishment, according as shall be adjudged fit by a Court Martial.

18. If any Captain, Commander or other Officer of any of the Ships or Vessels of the Indian Navy shall receive on board, or permit to be received on board such Ship or Vessel any Goods or Merchandizes whatsoever, other than for the sole use of the Ship or Vessel, except Gold, Silver, or Jewels, and except the Goods and Merchandizes belonging to any Merchant or other Ship or Vessel which may be Shipwrecked either on the High Seas, or in any Port, Creek or Harbour, in order to the preserving them for their proper Owners, and except such Goods or Merchandizes as he shall at any time be ordered to take or receive on board by order of any competent authority, every person so offending being convicted thereof by the sentence of a Court Martial shall be cashiered, and be for ever afterwards rendered incapable to serve in any place or office in the Naval Service of the East India Company.

19. If any person belonging to the Indian Navy shall make or endeavour to make any mutinous assembly upon any pretence whatsoever, or shall utter any words of sedition or mutiny, he shall suffer death, or such other punishment as a Court Martial shall deem him to deserve ; and if any Officer, Engineer, Soldier, Marine, Seaman, or other person belonging to the Indian Navy shall behave himself with contempt to his Superior Officer, such Superior Officer being in the execution of his office, he shall suffer such punishment according to the nature of his offence as a Court Martial shall deem him to deserve.

20. If any person belonging to the Indian Navy shall conceal any traitorous or mutinous practice or design, being convicted thereof by the sentence of a Court Martial, he shall suffer death, or such other punishment as a Court Martial shall think fit : and if any person belonging to the Indian Navy shall conceal any traitorous or mutinous words spoken by any to the prejudice of Her Majesty, or any words, practice or design tending to the hindrance of the service, and shall not forthwith reveal the same to the Commanding Officer, or being present at any mutiny or sedition shall not use his utmost endeavours to suppress the same, he shall be punished as a Court Martial shall think he deserves.

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21. If any person belonging to the Indian Navy shall find cause for complaint of the unwholesomeness of the victuals or upon other just ground, he shall quietly make the same known to his Superior Officer, or Captain, or Commander-in-Chief, as the occasion may deserve, that such present remedy may be had as the matter may require; and the said Superior Officer, Captain or Commander in Chief shall as far as he is able cause the same to be presently remedied, and no person belonging to the Indian Navy upon any such or any other pretence shall attempt to stir up any disturbance upon pain of such punishment as a Court Martial shall think fit to inflict according to the degree of the offence.

22. If any Officer, Engineer, Soldier, Marine, Seaman, or other person belonging to the Indian Navy shall strike any of his Superior Officers, or draw or offer to draw or lift up any weapon against him being in the execution of his office on any pretence whatsoever; Or if any Officer, Engineer, Soldier, Marine, Seaman, or other person belonging to the Indian Navy shall presume to quarrel with any of his Superior Officers, being in the execution of his office, or shall disobey any lawful command of any of his Superior Officers, every such person being convicted of any such offence by the sentence of a Court Martial shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall according to the nature and degree of his offence be inflicted upon him by the sentence of a Court Martial.

23. If any person belonging to the Indian Navy shall quarrel or fight with any other person therein, or use reproachful or provoking speeches or gestures, tending to make any quarrel or disturbance, he shall upon being convicted thereof suffer such punishment as the offence shall deserve and a Court Martial shall impose.

24. There shall be no embezzlement nor wasteful expense of any Powder, Shot, Ammunition, or other Stores. But the Stores and Provisions shall be carefully preserved upon pain of such punishment as shall be by a Court Martial found just in that behalf.

25. Every person belonging to the Indian Navy who shall unlawfully burn or set fire to any Magazine, or Store of Powder, or Ship, Boat, Ketch, Hoy or Vessel, or tackle or furniture, thereunto belonging, not then appertaining to an Enemy, Pirate or Rebel, being convicted of any such offence by the sentence of a Court Martial shall suffer death, or such other punishment as from the nature and degree of the offence a Court Martial shall deem him to deserve.

26. Care shall be taken in the conducting and steering of any of the Ships or Vessels of the Indian Navy that through wilfulness, negligence or other defaults no Ship or Vessel be stranded or run upon any rocks, or sands, or split, or hazarded, upon pain that such as shall be found guilty therein be punished by death, or such other punishment as the offence by a Court Martial shall be judged to deserve.

27. No person belonging to the Indian Navy shall sleep upon his watch, or negligently perform the duty imposed on him, or forsake his station upon pain of death, or such other punishment as a Court Martial shall think fit to impose and as the circumstances of the case shall require.

28. All murders committed by any person belonging to the Indian Navy shall be punished with death by the sentence of a Court Martial.

29. If any person belonging to the Indian Navy shall commit the unnatural and detestable sin of buggery or sodomy with man or beast, he shall be punished with death, or such other punishment as the offence by a Court Martial shall be judged to deserve.



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30. All robbery committed by any person belonging to the Indian Navy shall be punished with death or otherwise as a Court Martial upon consideration of circumstances shall find meet.

31. Every Officer or other person belonging to the Indian Navy who shall knowingly make or sign a false muster or muster book, or who shall command, counsel, or procure the making or signing thereof, or who shall aid or abet any other person in the making or signing thereof, shall, upon proof of any such offence being made before a Court Martial, be cashiered.

32. No person belonging to the Indian Navy being duly authorized so to do shall refuse to apprehend any criminal whom he shall be authorized by legal Warrant to apprehend, or to receive, or keep any prisoner committed to his charge, or wilfully suffer him to escape being once in his custody, or dismiss him without lawful order upon pain of such punishment as a Court Martial shall deem him to deserve; and all Captains, Officers and others belonging to the Indian Navy shall do their endeavour to detect, apprehend and bring to punishment all offenders, and shall assist the Officers appointed for that purpose therein upon pain of being proceeded against and punished by a Court Martial according to the nature and degree of the offence.

33. If any Superior Officer, Captain, or Commander, or Lieutenant belonging to the Indian Navy shall be convicted before a Court Martial of behaving in a scandalous, infamous, cruel, oppressive, or fraudulent manner unbecoming the character of an Officer he shall be dismissed from the Indian Navy, or suffer such other punishment as a Court Martial shall deem him to deserve.

34. Every person belonging to the Indian Navy, being in actual service and full pay, who shall be guilty of Mutiny, Desertion, or Disobedience to any lawful command, in any part of the Territories under the Government of the East India Company, on shore, when in actual service relative to the Indian Navy, shall be liable to be tried by a Court Martial, and suffer the like punishment for every such offence as if the same had been committed at Sea on board any Ships or Vessels of the Indian Navy.

35. If any person belonging to the Indian Navy, who shall be in actual service and full pay, shall commit upon the shore in any place or places out of the Territories under the Government of East India Company, any of the crimes punishable by these Articles and Orders, the person so offending shall be liable to be tried and punished for the same in like manner to all intents and purposes as if the said crimes had been committed at Sea on board any of the Ships or Vessels of the Indian Navy.

II. Provided always, that no person convicted of any offence, shall by the sentence of any Court Martial, to be held by virtue of this Act, be adjudged to be imprisoned for a longer term than the space of two years.

III. Provided also, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend to empower any Court Martial to be constituted by virtue of this Act to proceed to the punishment or trial of any of the offences specified in the several articles contained in this act or of any offence whatsoever (other than the offences specified in the 5th, 34th and 35th of the foregoing Articles and Orders), which shall not be committed upon the Main Sea or in Great Rivers only beneath the Bridges of the said Rivers nigh to the Sea, or any Haven, River, or creek within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty, and which shall not be committed by such persons as at the time of the offence committed shall be in actual service and full pay in the Indian Navy, such persons only excepted, and for such offences only as are described in the 5th of the foregoing Articles and Orders.

IV. Provided



IV. Provided also, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to empower any Court Martial to be constituted by virtue of this Act, to proceed to the punishment or trial of any Land Officer, or Soldier, on board any Transport Ship, for any of the offences specified in the several Articles contained in this Act.

V. And it is hereby further enacted, that the Governor General of India in Council, and the Governors in Council of Madras and Bombay respectively, shall have full power and authority to grant Commissions to any Officer Commanding in Chief, any Fleet or Squadron of Ships or Vessels of War, to call and assemble Courts Martial, consisting of Captains, Commanders and Lieutenants; and that in case any Officer Commanding in Chief any Fleet or Squadron of Ships or Vessels of War, (who shall be authorized by the Governor General or Governor in Council for the time being, to call and assemble Courts Martial in Foreign parts,) shall happen to die, or be recalled or removed from his command, then the Officer upon whom the command of the said Fleet or Squadron shall devolve, not under the rank of Commander, and so from time to time the Officer not under the rank of Commander, who shall have the command of the said Fleet or Squadron, shall have the same power to call and assemble Courts Martial as the first Commander-in-Chief of the said Fleet or Squadron was invested with.

VI. Provided always, and it is hereby enacted, that no Commander-in-Chief of any Fleet or Squadron of the Indian Navy or Detachment thereof, consisting of more than five Ships or Vessels, shall preside at any Court Martial, but that the Officer next in Command to such Officer Commanding in Chief shall hold such Court Martial and preside thereat, any Law, Custom or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

VII. And it is hereby further enacted, that if any three or more of the Ships or Vessels of the Indian Navy shall happen to meet together in Foreign parts, then and in such case it shall be lawful for the Senior Officer of the said Ships or Vessels, not under the rank of Commander, to hold Courts Martial and preside thereat from time to time as there shall be occasion during so long time as the said Ships or Vessels of the Indian Navy, or any three or more of them shall continue together.

VIII. Provided nevertheless and it is also enacted, that where any material objection occurs which may render it improper for the person who is next in Command to the Senior Officer or Commander-in-Chief of any Fleet or Squadron of the Ships of the Indian Navy in Foreign parts, to hold Courts Martial or preside thereat, in such case it shall be lawful for the said Governor-General or Governor in Council, as also the Commander in Chief of any such Squadron of the Ships or Vessels of the Indian Navy in Foreign parts respectively, to appoint the third Officer in Command to preside at or hold such Court Martial.

IX. And it is hereby further enacted, that no Court Martial to be held or appointed by virtue of this present Act, shall consist of more than thirteen or less than five persons, to be composed of such Superior Officers, Captains, Commanders or Lieutenants, then and there present as are next in seniority to the Officer who presides at the Court Martial, such Lieutenants not to exceed two-fifths of the whole Court. Provided always, and it is hereby enacted, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to authorize or empower the said Governor-General, or Governor in Council, (as the case may be) or any Officer empowered to order or hold Courts Martial to direct or ascertain the particular number of persons of which any Court Martial to be held or appointed by virtue of this Act shall consist.

X. And it is hereby further enacted, that upon all trials of offenders by any Court Martial all the Officers present, who are to constitute the said Court Martial, shall  
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before they proceed to such trial take such oath as is hereinafter mentioned upon the Holy Evangelists before the Court, which oath the Judge Advocate or his Deputy, or the person appointed to officiate as such, is hereby authorized and required to administer in the words following (that is to say)

I, A B, do swear that I will administer justice according to the Articles and Orders established by an Act passed for the better securing the Observance of an exact Discipline in the Indian Navy, without partiality, favor or affection, and if any case shall arise, which is not particularly mentioned in the said Articles and Orders, I will duly administer justice according to my conscience and the best of my understanding. And I do further swear that I will not upon any account at any time whatsoever disclose or discover the vote or opinion of any particular Member of this Court Martial unless thereunto required by an Act of the Governor General of India in Council.

So help me God.

And so soon as the said oath shall have been administered to the respective Members, the President of the Court is hereby authorized and required to administer to the Judge Advocate, or the person officiating as such, an Oath in the following words :

I, A B, do swear that I will not upon any account at any time whatsoever, disclose or discover the vote or opinion of any particular Member of this Court Martial unless thereunto required by an Act of the Governor General of India in Council.

So held me God.

XI. And it is hereby further enacted, that in case any person in the Indian Navy being called upon to give evidence at any Court Martial shall refuse to give his evidence upon oath, or shall prevaricate in his evidence, or behave with contempt to the Court, it shall and may be lawful for such Court Martial to punish every such offender by imprisonment at the discretion of the Court; such imprisonment not to continue longer than three months in case of such refusal or prevarication, nor longer than one month in the case of such contempt, and that all and every person and persons who shall commit any wilful perjury in any evidence or examination upon oath at any such Court Martial, or who shall corruptly procure or suborn any person to commit such wilful perjury shall and may be prosecuted in Her Majesty's Courts by Indictment or Information, and every issue joined in any such Indictment or information shall be tried according to the Laws in force in such cases.

XII. And it is further enacted, that in every Information or Indictment to be prosecuted by virtue of this Act for any such offence, it shall be sufficient to set forth the offence charged upon the defendant without setting forth the Commission or Authority for holding the Court Martial, and without setting forth the particular matter tried or to be tried, or directed or intended to be tried before such Court.

XIII. And it is hereby further enacted, that no sentence of death given by any Court Martial shall be put in execution till after the Report of the proceedings of the said Court shall have been made to the said Governor General in Council and his directions shall have been given therein.

XIV. And it is further enacted, that the Judge Advocate for the time being, or his Deputy, shall have full power and authority, and is hereby required to administer an oath to any witness at any trial by Court Martial, and in the absence of the Judge Advocate and his Deputy the Court Martial shall have full power and authority to appoint any person to execute the office of Judge Advocate.

XV. And



XV. And it is further enacted, that all the powers given by the several Articles and Orders established by this Act shall remain and be in full force with respect to the Crews of such of the Ships or Vessels of the Indian Navy as shall be wrecked, or be otherwise lost or destroyed, and all the command, power and authority of the Officers of the said Ships or Vessels shall remain and be in full force as effectually as if such Ships or Vessels to which they did belong were not so wrecked, lost or destroyed until they shall be regularly discharged from the East India Company's further Service, or remove into some other of the Ships or Vessels of the Indian Navy, or until a Court Martial shall be held to enquire into the causes of the loss of the said Ships or Vessels; and if upon such enquiry it shall appear by the sentence of the Court Martial that all or any of the Officers or Seamen of the said Ships or Vessels did their utmost to preserve, get off or recover the same, and since the loss thereof have behaved themselves obediently to their Superior Officers according to the Discipline of the Indian Navy, and the said Articles and Orders hereinbefore established, then all the pay and wages of the said Officers and Seaman, or of such of them as shall have done their duty as aforesaid, shall continue and go on and be paid to the time of their discharge or death, or if they shall be then alive to the time of the holding of such Court Martial, or removal into some other of the Ships or Vessels of the Indian Navy, and every such Officer and Seamen of the Ships or Vessels of the Indian Navy who after the wreck or loss of his Ship or Vessel shall act contrary to the Discipline of the Indian Navy, and the several Articles and Orders hereinbefore established, or any of them, shall be sentenced by the said Court Martial and punished as if the Ship or Vessel to which he did belong was not so wrecked, lost or destroyed.

XVI. And it is further enacted, that all the pay and wages of such Officers and Seamen of any of the Ships or Vessels of the Indian Navy as are taken by the Enemy, who upon enquiry at a Court Martial shall appear by the sentence of the said Court to have done the utmost to defend the said Ships or Vessels, and since the taking thereof have behaved themselves obediently to their Superior Officers according to the Discipline of the Indian Navy, and the said Articles and Orders hereinbefore established, shall continue and go on and be paid from the time of their being so taken to the time of the holding of such Court Martial, or until they shall be regularly discharged from the East India Company's Service, or removed into some other of the Ships or Vessels of the Indian Navy, or if they shall die in captivity or not live to the time of the holding of such Court Martial to the time of their death in such manner and not otherwise, as if the said Ships or Vessels to which they did belong respectively were not so taken.

XVII. Provided always, and it is further enacted, that no person or persons not flying from justice shall be tried or punished by any Court Martial for any offence to be committed against this Act, unless the complaint of such offence be made in writing to the Governor-General in Council or Governor in Council, or some Officer empowered to order a Court Martial, or unless a Court Martial to try such offender shall be ordered by the said Governor-General or Governor in Council, or such Officer either within three years after such offence shall be committed, or within one year after the return of the Ship or Vessel or of the Squadron to which such offender shall belong into any of the Ports in the East Indies, or within one year after the return of such offender into the East Indies.

XVIII. Provided always, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to take away from the Lord High Admiral of Great Britain, or the Commissioners for executing the office of the Lord High Admiral of Great Britain, or any Vice Admiral, or any Judge or Judges of the Admiralty, or his or their Deputy or Deputies, or any other Officers or Ministers of the Admiralty, or any others having or claiming any Admiralty power, jurisdiction or authority within any of the Queen's Dominions, or from any person or Court whatsoever, any power, right, jurisdiction, pre-eminence



pre-eminence or authority which he or they, or any of them lawfully hath, have or had, or ought to have or enjoy before the making of this Act, so as the same person shall not be punished twice for the same offence.

XIX. And it is further enacted, that the proceedings of any Court Martial shall not be delayed by the absence of any of its Members, provided a sufficient number doth remain to compose such Court, which shall and is hereby required to sit from day to day, (Sundays always excepted,) until the sentence be given, any thing hereinbefore contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding; and no Member of the said Court Martial shall absent himself from the said Court during the whole course of the trial upon pain of being cashiered from the East India Company's Service, except in case of sickness, other extraordinary and indispensable occasion to be judged of by the said Court.