Seventh and Eighth Years of King George the Fourth, and of the Fourth and Fifth Years of King William the Fourth, or to lessen or take away any of the Rights or Powers which by the said Act were vested in the said Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses, (except so far as the same are by this Act expressly altered or taken away,) or to alter or take away any of the Rights, Tolls, Emoluments, Liberties, Franchises, or any Jurisdiction which the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the said Borough of Boston were possessed of or had a Right unto, by Charter, Prescription, Custom, or otherwise, before the passing of this Act, except so far as the same are by this Act expressly altered or taken away.

Interpretation of Act.

XL. And be it enacted, That in the Construction of this Act and of all former Acts relating to the said Port and Harbour of *Boston* the following Words and Expressions shall have the several Meanings hereby assigned to them, unless there be something in the Subject or Context repugnant to such Construction; (that is to say,)

Words importing the Singular Number shall include the Plural Number, and Words importing the Plural Number shall include the Singular Number:

Words importing the Masculine Gender only shall extend to Females as well as Males:

The Word "Month" shall mean Calendar Month:

The Word "Ship" or the Word "Vessel" shall include Lighters, Keels, Barges, Hoys, Boats, Rafts, Crafts, and Floating Vessels of all Kinds, and whether propelled by Wind, Steam, Manual Power, or otherwise:

The Word "Master" shall include all Persons (other than and except the Pilot) having for the Time being the Command or Care or Management of any such Ship or Vessel, and whether he be the Owner thereof or otherwise:

The Word "Owner," used relatively to Corn, Grain, and Pulse, or to Goods, Wares, or any Articles of Merchandize, shall include the Consignee and Shipper of such Corn, Grain, Pulse, Goods, Wares, Articles, and Merchandize.

Public Act.

LXI. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be a Public Act, and shall be judicially taken notice of as such.

Commencement of Act.

LXII. And be it enacted, That this Act shall commence and take effect upon the Day of the passing thereof.

END OF THE ACTS.