Anno Quarto

Annæ Reginæ.

An Act for the Naturalization of the most Excellent Princess *Sophia*, Electress and Dutchess Dowager of *Hanover*, and the Issue of Her Body.

WHereas the Imperial Crown and Dignity of the Realms of England, France and Ireland, and the Dominions thereto belonging, after the Demise and Death of Your Majesty, Our most Gracious Sovereign, without Issue of Your Body, is limited by Act of Parliament, to the most Excellent Princess Sophia, Electress and Dutchess Dowager of Hanover, Grandaughter of the late King James the First, and the Heirs of Her Body, being Protestants: And whereas Your Majesty, by Your Royal Care and Concern for the Happiness of these Kingdoms, Reigns in the Hearts and Affections of all Your People, to their great Comfort and Satisfaction, and will be a Glorious Example to Your Royal Successors in future Ages: And to the end the said Princess Sophia, Electress and Dutchess Dowager of Hanover, and the Issue of Her Body, and all Persons lineally Descending from Her, may be Encouraged to become acquainted with the Laws and Constitutions of this Realm, it is just and highly Reasonable, that

 they,

they, in Your Majesties Life time (whom God long Preserve) should be Naturalized, and be Deemed, Taken and Esteemed Natural-born Subjects of England: We Your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in Parliament Assembled, do most Humbly Beseech Your Majesty that it may be Enacted; And therefore be it Enacted by the Queens most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Commons in this present Parliament Assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That the said Princess Sophia, Electress and Dutchess Dowager of Hanover, and the Issue of Her Body, and all Persons Lineally Descending from Her, born or hereafter to be born, be and shall be, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, Deemed, Taken and Esteemed Natural-born Subjects of this Kingdom, as if the said Princess, and the Issue of Her Body, and all Persons Lineally Descending from Her, born or hereafter to be born, had been born within this Realm of England; Any Law, Statute, Matter or Thing whatsoever to the contrary notwithstanding.

Provided always, and be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Person and Persons, who shall be Naturalized by virtue of this Act of Parliament, and shall become a Papist or profess the Popish Religion, shall not Enjoy any Benefit or Advantage of a Natural-born Subject of England; But every such Person shall be Adjudged and Taken as an Alien, born out of the Allegiance of the Queen of England, to all intents and purposes whatsoever; Any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

FINIS.