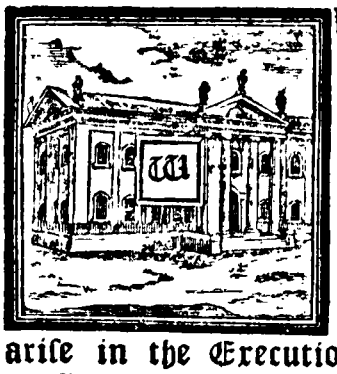
ANNO UNDECIMO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. XLII.

An Act to explain and amend an Act made in the last Session of Parliament, intituled, *An Act to regulate the Trials of controverted Elections, or Returns of Members to serve in Parliament.*



WHEREAS an Act was passed in the last Session of Parliament, intituled, An Act to regulate the Trials of controverted Elections, or Returns of Members to serve in Parliament: And whereas further Provisions may be necessary to prevent all Obstructions and Difficulties, which in certain Cases may arise in the Execution of the said Act; be it therefore enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with

Preamble. Act 10 *Geo.* III.

with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this Act, if several Parties, on distinct Interests or Grounds of Complaint, shall present separate Petitions, complaining of an undue Election, or Return of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament, the same Notices and Orders shall be given to all such Parties, or their respective Agents, as by the said Act are directed to be given to the sitting Members, or the Petitioners therein mentioned, or their respective Agents.

After passing hereof, Complaint of an undue Election, &c. Notice and Orders to be given to Parties and their Agents.

And be it further enacted, That the Clause in the said Act which provides, that no Petition shall be taken into Consideration within Fourteen Days after the Appointment of the Committee of Privileges, be repealed; and that from henceforth no Petition, complaining of an undue Election, or Return of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament, shall be taken into Consideration within Fourteen Days after the Commencement of the Session of Parliament, in which it is presented, nor within Fourteen Days after the Return to which it relates, shall be brought into the Office of the Clerk of the Crown.

Clause in Act 10 *Geo.* III. repealed.

And be it further enacted, That if at the Time of drawing by Lot the Names of the Members in Manner prescribed by the said Act, the Number of Forty-nine Members, not set aside nor excused, cannot be compleated, the House shall proceed in the Manner they are directed by the said Act to proceed, in case there be less than One hundred Members present at the Time therein prescribed for counting the House; and so, from Day to Day, as often as the Case shall happen.

If at the Time of Drawing 49 Members cannot be compleated, the House to proceed in Manner directed by Act 10 *Geo.* III.

And be it further enacted, That on the Day appointed for taking any Petition, complaining of an undue Election or Return of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament, into Consideration, the House shall not proceed to any other Business whatsoever, except the Swearing of Members previous to the Reading of the Order of the Day for that Purpose.

On the Day appointed for hearing Complaints of undue Elections, the House shall not proceed to other Business previous to reading the Order.

And be it further enacted, That if the select Committee shall have Occasion to apply or report to the House, in relation to Adjournment of the said select Committee, the Absence of the Members thereof, or the Non-attendance or Misbehaviour of Witnesses summoned to appear, or appearing

Manner of adjourning the select Committee.

pearing before them, and the House shall be then adjourned for more than Three Days, the said select Committee may also adjourn to the Day appointed for the Meeting of the House,

And be it further enacted, That if on a Complaint by Petition of an undue Election or Return, there shall be more than Two Parties before the House, on distinct Interest, or complaining or complained of upon different Grounds, whose Right to be elected or returned may be affected by the Determination of the said select Committee, each of the said Parties shall successively strike off a Member from the Forty-nine Members to be chosen by Lot, until the said Number be reduced to Thirteen, in the same Manner as by the said Act is directed for the striking off a Member alternately by the Parties therein mentioned; and the Lists of the Forty-nine Members chosen by Lot, shall, for this Purpose, be given to all the said Parties, and the Order in which the said Parties shall so strike off the said Members shall be determined by Lot after they are withdrawn from the Bar, and in such Case, neither of the said Parties (there being more than Two) shall be permitted to name a Member to be added to the Members so drawn by Lot as aforesaid; but that as soon as the List of Thirteen Members shall be returned by the Parties to the House, such Thirteen Members shall immediately withdraw, and shall by themselves chuse Two Members then present in the House, whose Names shall not have been drawn, to be added to the said Thirteen Members; and shall, within One Hour from the Time of their withdrawing, report the Names of such Two Members to the House; which Two Members, shall be liable to be set aside on the like Objections, for which Nomenees may be set aside by virtue of the said Act: And in case such Two Members, or either of them, shall be set aside for any of the Causes aforesaid, then the said Thirteen Members shall chuse One or Two other Members, as the Case shall require, until Two Members are chosen, against whom none of the Objections to Nomenees mentioned in the said Act shall be taken and allowed; and that the Names of such Two Members shall be then added to the said List of Thirteen Members; and all the said Fifteen Members shall be sworn at the Table, and they shall be the select Committee appointed for the Purposes expressed in this and the said former Act.

If on Complaint of undue Election, there shall be more than Two Parties on distinct Interest,

each Party shall strike off a Member from the 49, successively, until reduced to 13.

When the List is returned to the House, the 13 Members to withdraw;

and, within One Hour, report the Names of such Two Members.

In case such Two Members shall be set aside, they shall chuse others,

until Two are chosen.

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Where the Nomenees are directed to be named, no Member to depart till the Time of Meeting of the select Committee is fixed.

And be it further enacted, That where the said Nomenees are by this Act directed to be named by the said Thirteen Members, no Member present at the Time of the Ballot shall depart from the House until the Time for the Meeting of the said select Committee shall be fixed.

FINIS.