ANNO UNDECIMO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. LV.

An Act to incapacitate *John Burnett*, *Charles Hannington*, *Thomas Haſelgrove*, *Ralph Moor*, *Thomas Parſons*, *Thomas Snook* junior, *Thomas Hannington*, *John Hannington*, *John Robinſon*, *William Cheeſman*, *George Browne*, *John Parſons*, *John Curl*, *Frederick Dean*, *William Dean*, *Samuel Tuppen*, *John Sawyers*, *Thomas Crowter*, *Thomas Pockney*, *Joſeph Dedman*, *John Dean*, *John Whiting*, *William Stevens*, *John Bawcomb*, *Robert Parker*, *John Hogsfleſh*, *John Purſe*, *John Dean*, *Thomas Jennings*, *John Snook* junior, *Richard Tilſtone*, *William Turner*, *Walter Sawyers*, *Charles Mitchell*, *John Jarmand*, *John Wood*, *Friend Daniel*, *William Gratwick*, *Nathaniel Hillman*, *Thomas Roberts*, *John Aſhman*, *William Cooter*, *Thomas Froſt*, *Michael Smith*, *Richard*

Carver, *Michael Durrant*, *Emery Churcher*, *Walter Broad*, *Richard Stonehain*, *James Bennett*, *Clement Freeman*, *William Jupp*, *Thomas Crowter*, *John Barnard*, *James Mitchell*, *James Millar*, otherwise *Miller*, *William Newnham*, *Jeffery Carver*, *Randall Button*, *James Carver*, *John Martin*, *John Dedman* senior, *William Jennings*, *William Hards*, *Thomas Gear*, *William Rusbridge*, *Henry Robinson*, and *Henry Hannington*, from voting at Elections of Members to serve in Parliament, and for the preventing Bribery and Corruption in the Election of Members to serve in Parliament for the Borough of *New Shoreham*, in the County of *Sussex*.

Preamble.

WHEREAS a wicked and corrupt Society, calling itself the Christian Society, hath, for several Years, subsisted in the Borough of New Shoreham, in the County of Sussex, and consisted of a great Majority of Persons, having a Right to vote at Elections of Members to serve in Parliament for the said Borough: And whereas it appears that the chief End of the Institution of the said Society was for the Purpose of selling, from Time to Time, the Seat or Seats in Parliament for the said Borough: And whereas John Burnett, Charles Hannington, Thomas Haselgrove, Ralph Moor, Thomas Parsons, Thomas Snooks junior, Thomas Hannington, John Hannington, John Robinson, William Cheesman, George Browne, John Parsons, John Curl, Frederick Dean, William Dean, Samuel Tapper, John Sawyers, Thomas Crowter, Thomas Pockney, Joseph Dedman, John Dean, John Whiting, William Stevens, John Bawcomb, Robert Parker, John Hogsflesh, John Purse, John Dean, Thomas Jennings, John Snook junior, Richard Tilstone, William Turner, Walter Sawyers, Charles Mitchell, John Jarmand, John Wood, Friend Daniel, William Gratwick,

wick, Nathaniel Hillman, Thomas Roberts, John Aſhman, William Cooter, Thomas Froſt, Michael Smith, Richard Carver, Michael Durrant, Emery Churcher, Walter Broad, Richard Stoneham, James Bennett, Clement Freeman, William Jupp, Thomas Crowter, John Barnard, James Mitchell, James Millar, otherwiſe Miller, William Newnham, Jeffery Carver, Randall Button, James Carver, John Martin, John Dedman ſenior, William Jennings, William Hards, Thomas Gear, William Ruſbridge, Henry Robinſon, and Henry Hannington, were Members of the ſaid Society: In order therefore to prevent ſuch unlawful Practices for the future, and that the ſaid Borough from henceforth be duly repreſented in Parliament, be it enacted by the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty, by and 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 the ſaid John Burnett, Charles Hannington, Thomas Haſelgrove, Ralph Moor, Thomas Parſons, Thomas Snook junior, Thomas Hannington, John Hannington, John Robinſon, William Cheeſman, George Browne, John Parſons, John Curl, Frederick Dean, William Dean, Samuel Tuppen, John Sawyers, Thomas Crowter, Thomas Pockney, Joſeph Dedman, John Dean, John Whiting, William Stevens, John Bawcomb, Robert Parker, John Hogsfleſh, John Purſe, John Dean, Thomas Jennings, John Snook junior, Richard Tilſtone, William Turner, Walter Sawyers, Charles Mitchell, John Jarmand, John Wood, Friend Daniel, William Gratwick, Nathaniel Hillman, Thomas Roberts, John Aſhman, William Cooter, Thomas Froſt, Michael Smith, Richard Carver, Michael Durrant, Emery Churcher, Walter Broad, Richard Stoneham, James Bennett, Clement Freeman, William Jupp, Thomas Crowter, John Barnard, James Mitchell, James Millar, otherwiſe Miller, William Newnham, Jeffery Carver, Randall Button, James Carver, John Martin, John Dedman ſenior, William Jennings, William Hards, Thomas Gear, William Ruſbridge, Henry Robinſon, and Henry Hannington, ſhall be, and by virtue of this Act are, from henceforth, incapacitated, and diſabled from giving any Vote at any Election for the chuſing a Member or Members to ſerve in Parliament.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That from henceforth it ſhall and may be lawful to and for every Freeholder, being above the Age of One and Twenty Years, who ſhall have within the Rape of Bramber, in the ſaid

Freeholders, above 21 Years of Age, of 40 *s.* annually, entitled to vote.

said County of Sussex, a Freehold of the clear yearly Value of Forty Shillings, to give his Vote at every Election of a Burgess or Burgesses to serve in Parliament for the said Borough of New Shoreham.

Right of Election in whom vested.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Right of Election of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament for the said Borough of New Shoreham shall be, and is hereby declared to be, in such Freeholders as aforesaid, and in the Persons who, by the Custom and Usage of the said Borough, have, or shall hereafter have, a Right to vote at such Election, those whose Names are mentioned herein, and incapacitated and disabled by this Act, only excepted; and the Constable, or other proper Officer for the Time being, to whom the Return of such Writ or Precept does belong, is hereby required to return the Person or Persons, to serve in Parliament for the said Borough, who shall have the major Number of Votes of such Freeholders and other Persons having a Right to vote at such Election, (except such Persons as are herein before excepted); any Law or Usage to the Contrary notwithstanding.

Freeholders, before admitted to poll, to take the following

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every such Freeholder, before he is admitted to poll at any Election for the said Borough, shall, if required by the Candidates, or any of them, or any other Person having a Right to vote at the said Election, first take the Oath, (or being One of the People called Quakers, the Solemn Affirmation), following; videlicet,

Oath.

YOU shall swear, or, being a Quaker, solemnly affirm, That you are a Freeholder in the *Rape* of *Bramber*, in the County of *Sussex*, and have a Freehold Estate, consisting of *(specifying the Nature thereof, and if it consists in Messuages, Lands, or Tithes, in whose Occupation the same are, and if in Rent, the Names of the Owners or Possessors of the Tenements, out of which such Rent is issuing, or of some of them)*, lying or being at within the *Rape* of *Bramber* in the County of *Sussex*, of the clear yearly Value of Forty Shillings, over and above all Rents and Charges payable out of or in respect of the same; and that you have been in the actual Possession or Receipt of the Rents and Profits thereof for your own Use above Twelve Calendar Months, (or that the same came to you within the Time aforesaid, by Descent, Marriage, Marriage-settlement, Devise, or Promotion, to a Benefice in a Church, or by Promotion to an Office);

Office); and that such Freehold Estate has not been granted or made to you fraudulently, on Purpose to qualify you to give your Vote; and that the Place of your Abode as at in and that you are Twenty-one Years of Age, as you believe; and that you have not been polled before at this Election.

Which Oath, or solemn Affirmation, the Constable, or other proper Officer to whom the Return of any Writ or Precept for such Election shall belong, is hereby required to administer: And in case any Freeholder or other Person, taking the said Oath or Affirmation hereby appointed, shall thereby commit wilful Perjury, and be thereof convicted; or if any Person shall unlawfully and corruptly procure or suborn any Freeholder or other Person to take the said Oath or Affirmation, in order to be polled, whereby he shall commit such wilful Perjury, and shall be thereof convicted, he and they, for every such Offence respectively, shall incur such Penalties as are inflicted on Persons guilty of Perjury, or Subornation of Perjury, in and by Two Acts of Parliament, One made in the Fifth Year of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, (intituled, An Act for punishing such Persons as shall procure or commit wilful Perjury, or suborn or procure any Person to commit any wilful or corrupt Perjury); and the other made in the Second Year of His late Majesty's Reign, (intituled, An Act for the more effectual preventing, and further Punishment of Forgery, Perjury, and Subornation of Perjury, and to make it Felony to steal Bonds, Notes, or other Securities for Payment of Money), contrary to the said Acts.

Persons guilty of Perjury, &c. liable to the Penalties as directed by

Act 5 *Eliz.*

and Act 5 *Geo.* II.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That such Constable, or other proper Officer, to whom any Writ or Precept shall be directed for making any Election for the said Borough, shall, upon the Reception of such Writ or Precept, indorse upon the Back thereof the Day of his Receipt thereof, in the Presence of the Party from whom he received such Precept; and shall forthwith cause publick Notice to be given within the said Borough of New Shoreham, and at the Towns of Bramber and Steyning, in the said County of Sussex, by fixing up a Notice thereof in Writing, on the Market-houses, or on the Doors of the Churches of the said Towns, of the Day of Election; and shall proceed to Election thereupon, within the Space of

Constable to back a Precept the Day of the Receipt thereof.

of Twelve Days, and not less than Eight Days, next after his Receipt of the same Precept.

The Act to be read publickly.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That this Act shall be publickly read at every Election for the said Borough of New Shoreham, immediately after the Acts directed by any Act of Parliament to be read thereat, and before the Persons present shall proceed to make such Election.

7

FINIS.