ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO SEPTIMO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

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C A P. LXIII.

An Act to regulate the Offices of Clerks of the Signet and Privy Seal. [7th *July* 1817.]

WHEREAS it is expedient that the reſpective Offices of Clerks of the Signet and of Clerks of the Privy Seal ſhould be regulated; be it therefore 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 from and after and upon the reſpective Terminations of the reſpective exiſting Intereſts in each of the ſaid Offices of Clerks of the Signet and Privy Seal reſpectively, and as each of the ſaid Offices ſhall become vacant, upon the Termination of ſuch preſent exiſting Intereſts, the Duties of the ſaid Offices reſpectively ſhall be executed and performed by the ſeveral and reſpective Perſons who ſhall be appointed to execute the ſame in Perſon.

After Termination of exiſting Intereſts, Offices of Clerks to the Signet and Privy Seal to be performed in Perſon.

II. And be it further enacted, That from Time to Time as any of the ſaid Offices of the Clerks of the Signet and of the Clerks of the Privy Seal reſpectively ſhall become vacant, upon the Termination of the preſent exiſting Intereſts therein reſpectively, it ſhall be lawful for the Lord High Treaſurer of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, or the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Treaſury of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* for the Time being, or any Three or more of them, and they are hereby authorized and required, to regulate the Duties and Eſtabliſhments of the Offices ſo becoming vacant, ſo as that the ſaid Duties ſhall be performed in Perſon by ſuch Number of fit and proper Perſons to be appointed by the Perſons authorized to appoint ſuch reſpective Clerks as the ſaid Commiſſioners of the Treaſury or any Three or more of them ſhall

Treaſury to make Proviſion for the Execution of the Duties of ſuch Offices.

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deem fit, with ſuch Salaries or Emoluments as ſhall be ordered and appointed by the ſaid Commiſſioners or any Three or more of them in that Behalf, Regard being had in every ſuch Caſe to the Nature and Extent of the Duties to be performed, and to the Reſponſibility which may attach or belong to the ſeveral and reſpective Officers or Perſons executing the Duties of the ſaid Offices reſpectively; and all ſuch Regulations, Appointments, and Salaries, when ſo made and eſtabliſhed, ſhall become and be in full Force and Effect in relation to the ſaid Offices reſpectively; any Thing contained in any Act or Acts of Parliament, or any Law or Laws, or Uſage, Cuſtom, or Practice, to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Treaſury to lay Statements before Parliament.

III. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Lord High Treaſurer or Commiſſioners of the Treaſury of the United Kingdom, or any Three or more of them for the Time being, ſhall, within Six Weeks after the Regulation, under the Proviſions of this Act, of any ſuch Office of Clerk of the Signet or Clerk of the Privy Seal ſo becoming vacant as aforeſaid, if Parliament ſhall be then ſitting, or if Parliament ſhall not be then ſitting, then within Six Weeks after the Commencement of the next Seſſion of Parliament, lay before both Houſes of Parliament an Account of ſuch new Eſtabliſhment of the Office ſo regulated, with a Statement of the Number of Offices and Amount of Salaries of each reſpectively, together with a Statement of the former Eſtabliſhment of the Office ſo regulated.

Savings ariſing by new Regulations to go to the Conſolidated Fund.

IV. And be it further enacted, That all Sums of Money ariſing from Salaries, Fees, or Emoluments, which ſhall by reaſon of the Regulation of any ſuch Offices of Clerks of the Signet and Privy Seal reſpectively be more than ſufficient to defray the Salaries and incidental Charges of the new Eſtabliſhment of any ſuch Office, ſhall, by the Orders and Directions of the ſaid Lord High Treaſurer or Commiſſioners of the Treaſury (which Orders and Directions the ſaid Lord High Treaſurer or Commiſſioners of the Treaſury, or any Three or more of them, are hereby authorized and required to make and give for that Purpoſe), be carried to and paid into and make Part of the Conſolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; any Thing in any Act or Acts of Parliament to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Perſons belonging to the ſaid Offices, when regulated, incapable of ſitting or voting as Members of the Houſe of Commons.

V. And be it further enacted, That every Office and Appointment belonging to and making Part of the Eſtabliſhment of any of the ſaid Offices reſpectively, when ſo regulated as aforeſaid under the Proviſions of this Act, ſhall be deemed and taken to be a new Office within the true Intent and Meaning of an Act paſſed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of Her late Majeſty Queen *Anne*; and every Perſon holding any ſuch Office ſhall be incapable of ſitting or voting as a Member of the Houſe of Commons; and every ſuch Officer who ſhall ſit or vote in the Houſe of Commons ſhall be liable and ſubject to the Penalties and Forfeitures contained in an Act paſſed in the Fifteenth Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King *George* the Second, intituled *An Act to exclude certain Officers from being Members of the Houſe of Commons.*

15 G. 2. c. 22.

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