

ANNO PRIMO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

CAP. XXIV.

An Act to amend and continue, until the Twentieth Day of *June* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, an Act of the Fifty-second Year of His late Majesty, for the more effectual Preservation of the Peace, by enforcing the Duties of Watching and Warding. [30th *June* 1820.]

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Fifty-second Year of His late Majesty's Reign, intituled *An Act for the more effectual Preservation of the Peace, by enforcing the Duties of Watching and Warding, until the First Day of* March *One thousand eight hundred and fourteen, in Places where Disturbances prevail or are apprehended;* which Act was afterwards renewed, and has been continued, by an Act of the Fifty-eighth Year of His said late Majesty's Reign, until the Twentieth Day of *June* in the present Year; and it is expedient that the same should be amended and further continued: 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 the said Act of the Fifty-second Year aforesaid shall be and the same is hereby further continued, as hereby amended, for the Term hereinafter mentioned.

52G. 3. c. 17.

58G. 3. c. 52.

Recited Act, 52G. 3. c. 17. further continued.

II. And

Justices in Special or Petty Sessions may direct Constables to settle the Order of Duty to be performed.

II. And whereas the Provision in the said Act, that the Justices of the Peace at any Special or Petty Sessions held for carrying the said Act into Execution, shall determine, settle, and arrange the Order, Rotation, and Time in which every Person liable to the Duty of Watching and Warding shall undertake and perform the same, and regulate the Manner in which the said Duty shall be performed, hath in some Places been found highly inconvenient, and the good Effect of the Act hath been thereby greatly impaired; be it therefore enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Justices at any such Special or Petty Sessions, in case they shall see fit, to direct the Constables or Special Constables of any Parish, Township, or Place, to determine, settle, and arrange the Order, Rotation, and Time in which every Person liable to the said Duty shall undertake and perform the same, and to regulate the Manner in which the said Duty shall be performed; and that in every Parish, Township, or Place, as to which such Direction shall be given, every Person so liable shall undertake and perform the Duty accordingly, and shall incur such Penalties, Fines, and Forfeitures as are by the said Act imposed for neglecting or refusing to appear at the appointed Time or Place, or to proceed in the regular and punctual Performance of the said Duty, as if the Manner of performing the same had been regulated by the Justices in pursuance of the said Act: Provided nevertheless, that it shall be lawful for every Person aggrieved by any Order or Regulation made by the Constables or Special Constables in this Behalf to apply for Redress to the Justices at the first Special or Petty Sessions held under the said Act, who shall make such Order therein as to them shall seem just and proper.

Persons aggrieved may apply for Redress.

Substitutes may be hired to serve for Quakers declining to act.

III. And be it further enacted, That if any Person, being One of the Persuasion of the People called *Quakers*, who shall be appointed to watch or to ward, shall neglect or refuse to appear at the Time and Place appointed for the Performance of the said Duties or either of them, or to proceed according to the Directions of any Constable or Special Constable in Performance of such Duties, such Person shall not be liable to the Fine or Penalty imposed by the said recited Act for Non-attendance or Non-observance of such Directions; but it shall and may be lawful for any Two or more Justices of the Peace forthwith to hire, on as reasonable Terms as may be, a fit and proper Person to serve as a Substitute for such Person so neglecting or refusing, which Person so provided as such Substitute shall be enrolled, and shall perform the Duties of Watching and Warding in the same Manner, and shall be subject to the same Duties and Authorities, and also to the same Penalties for neglecting or refusing to execute the same, or obey such Authorities, as if he had been personally subject to keep Watch and Ward; and any Two or more Justices of the Peace are hereby authorized, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to levy, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Quaker so refusing or neglecting, such Sum of Money as shall be necessary to defray the Expences of providing and hiring such Substitute, rendering to such Quaker the Overplus (if any), after deducting the reasonable Charges of such Distress and Sale; and if no Goods or Chattels belonging to such Quaker can be found sufficient to levy such Distress, and it shall appear

Expence to be levied on Goods of Quakers.

In Default of Distress

appear to such Justices that such Quaker is of sufficient Ability to pay the Sum of Ten Pounds, then it shall be lawful to commit such Quaker to the Common Gaol, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for the Space of One Month, or until he shall have paid such Sum of Money as such Parties shall have agreed to pay such Substitute as aforesaid: Provided always, that no Quaker so committed shall be confined among Felons. Quakers may be committed.

IV. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall continue in force until the Twentieth Day of *June* in the Year One thousand eight hundred and twenty-four. Continuance of Act.

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