

ANNO TERTIO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

CAP. CXV.

An Act to regulate the Qualification of Persons holding the Office of Coroner in *Ireland*.

[5th *August* 1822.]

WHEREAS anciently none were chosen Coroners but Persons of an Estate sufficient to maintain the Dignity of the Office, and to answer all Demands which might be made upon them for Misbehaviour: And whereas for many Years past the Office of Coroner, in *Ireland*, has been suffered to fall into Disrepute, and get into low and indigent Hands: For Remedy whereof, 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 from and after the passing of this Act, no Person shall be capable of being elected or chosen to the Office of Coroner, for any County in *Ireland*, who shall not have an Estate of Inheritance of the Annual Value of Two hundred Pounds, or an Estate of Freehold for his own Life, or the Life or Lives of some other Person or Persons, either at Law or in Equity, to and for his own Use and Benefit, of or in Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, over and above what will satisfy and clear all Incumbrances that may affect the same, lying and being within the County for which such Person shall be elected or chosen Coroner, of the Annual Value of Four hundred Pounds; and if any Person who shall be elected or chosen to serve the Office of Coroner for any County in *Ireland* shall not, at the Time of such Election, be seised of or entitled to such an Estate, in Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, as is herein-before required, such Election shall be void.

Qualification of Coroners.

Candidate for Coroner to take an Oath.

II. Provided always, and it is hereby enacted, That every Person, who from and after the passing of this Act shall appear as a Candidate, or shall by himself, or any others, be proposed to be elected to serve the Office of Coroner for any County as aforesaid, shall be and he is hereby enjoined and required to take a Corporal Oath, in the Form or to the Effect following:

Oath of Qualification.

'I *A. B.* do swear, That I truly and *bonâ fide* have such an Estate, in Law or Equity, to and for my own Use and Benefit, of or in Lands, Tenements or Hereditaments, over and above what will satisfy and clear all Incumbrances that may affect the same, of the Annual Value of Two hundred Pounds, or Four hundred Pounds, [*as the Case may be*] as doth qualify me to be elected and chosen to serve the Office of Coroner for the County of according to the Tenor and Meaning of an Act passed in the Second Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act to regulate the Qualification of Persons holding the Office of Coroner in* Ireland; and that my said Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments are lying or being in the Parish of in the Barony of and County aforesaid.'

Sheriffs to administer Oath.

III. And be it further enacted, That the Oath aforesaid shall and may be administered by the Sheriff or Under Sheriff for any such County as aforesaid, to whom it shall appertain to take the Poll at such Election for a Coroner for the same County; and the said Sheriff or Under Sheriff who shall administer the said Oath, is hereby required to certify the same, together with and as a Schedule to the Writ under and by virtue of which such Election of a Coroner shall be made, into the High Court of Chancery in *Ireland*; and if any Candidate, or Person proposed to be elected Coroner as aforesaid, shall refuse to take the Oath hereby required, then the said Sheriff or Under Sheriff shall not take any Poll for, or return such Candidate or Person as a Coroner for the said County.

No Fee for administering Oath.

IV. And be it further enacted, That no Fee or Reward shall be taken for administering any such Oath as is herein-before required, or for filing the same.

Persons taking the Qualification Oath falsely, to be deemed guilty of Perjury.

V. And be it further enacted, That if any Person taking the Oath prescribed by this Act, shall wilfully swear falsely in such Oath to be so taken, and shall be lawfully convicted thereof, the Person so offending shall be deemed guilty of wilful and corrupt Perjury, and shall suffer such Punishment as by Law may be inflicted on Persons convicted of wilful and corrupt Perjury.

In what Cases Writs or Processes are not to be awarded to Coroner.

VI. And be it further enacted, That no Writ or Process in any Civil Suit or Action shall in any Case be awarded to any Coroner in *Ireland*, except in Cases in which the Sheriff to whom such Process should be awarded shall be interested in the Suit, or shall be of Kindred either to the Plaintiff or Defendant; any Law, Usage, or Custom to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Punishing Coroners

VII. And be it further enacted, That if any Coroner in *Ireland* shall, from and after the passing of this Act, be lawfully convicted of Extortion,

tortion, or wilful Neglect of Duty, or Misdemeanor in his Office, it shall be lawful for the Court before whom he shall be so convicted, to adjudge that he shall be removed from his Office; and thereupon a Writ shall issue, removing him from his Office, and electing another Coroner in his Stead. guilty of Extortion.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be deemed, construed, or taken to extend, to any Coroner to be elected, or who has been already elected, to the Office of Coroner for any County of a City or County of a Town in *Ireland*, or to the Town and Liberties of *Kinsale*, nor to interfere with any Right of Appointment of Coroner given by Charter to any Corporation in *Ireland*. Act not to extend to Coroners for Counties of Cities or Towns, &c.

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