

ANNO SEXTO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

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CAP. X.

An Act to facilitate the Proceedings before the Commissioners of Inquiry relating to Courts of Justice in *Ireland*. [31st *March* 1825.]

WHEREAS it is expedient that His Majesty's Commissioners, appointed under the Great Seal of *Ireland*, in pursuance of an Address of the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses in Parliament assembled, for inquiring into the Duties, Salaries, and Emoluments of the Officers, Clerks, and Ministers of Justice in all Temporal and Ecclesiastical Courts of *Ireland*, should have the Power of compelling the Attendance of Witnesses, and the Production of Evidence before them, for the more effectually carrying such Inquiry into Effect: 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 it shall and may be lawful for such Commissioners of Inquiry from Time to Time, for the Time being, to send their Precept or Precepts, under their Hands and Seals, or under the Hands and Seals of any Three of them, to any Person or Persons whomsoever, to attend and appear and be examined before any such Commissioners, and also for all such Accounts, Returns, Records, Books, Papers, Deeds, Writings, or Documents, in any way relating to the Matters and Things to be inquired of by such Commissioners, as shall by such Commissioners be deemed necessary for carrying into Execution the Inquiries authorized by any such Commission as aforesaid.

Commissioners of Judicial Inquiry may, by their Precept, send for Persons, Books, and Papers.

Persons summoned shall attend and be examined on Oath, and produce Papers required.

II. And be it further enacted, That all and every Persons and Person who shall be called upon or summoned by any such Precept of such Commissioners of Inquiry, shall and they and he are and is hereby required and directed to attend such Commissioners of Inquiry, or any Three of them, at such Time and Times, and Place and Places, as shall be appointed; and it shall be lawful for such Commissioners of Inquiry, or any of them, and such Commissioners or Commissioner are and is hereby authorized and empowered to examine any such Person or Persons upon Oath (or Affirmation in the case of Quakers); and such Commissioners of Inquiry, or any One of such Commissioners, (Three or more being present) shall and may and are and is hereby authorized and empowered to administer such Oath or Affirmation to any such Person or Persons respectively; and all and every such Persons and Person shall answer upon Oath or Affirmation as aforesaid, to all Questions which shall be put to them by such Commissioners, or any of them, and shall also make and give such Accounts and Returns, and shall also produce all such Records, Accounts, Returns, Books, Papers, Deeds, Writings, or Documents whatever, as such Commissioners of Inquiry shall require to be made and given, or to be produced by any such Person or Persons, and as shall be in the Possession, Custody, or Power of such Person or Persons respectively, and shall observe and execute all such Orders and Directions as such Commissioners of Inquiry, or any Three of them, shall make or give for the Purposes aforesaid.

Commissioners of Inquiry empowered to issue Warrants for apprehending and committing to Prison, Persons neglecting to attend, &c.

III. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons summoned to appear before such Commissioners of Inquiry for the Time being, or before any Three of them, shall wilfully neglect or refuse to appear before such Commissioners, or any Three of them, or to make or give, or to bring or produce any Accounts or Returns, or any Records, Books, Papers, Deeds, Writings, or Documents relating to any Inquiry before such Commissioners, which shall be in the Possession, Custody, or Power of such Person or Persons, and which such Person or Persons shall have been required by such Precept to make or give or produce, or shall refuse to be sworn, or being Quakers shall refuse to affirm, or being sworn, or being Quakers having affirmed, shall refuse to answer, or shall be found to prevaricate in any Answer to any Question or Questions put by such Commissioners of Inquiry, or any of them, touching, concerning, or relating to any Matter or Thing which such Commissioners of Inquiry are or shall be authorized to inquire into, then and in every such case it shall and may be lawful to and for such Commissioners of Inquiry, or any Three or more of them, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to make and issue their Warrant or Warrants, under their Hands and Seals, or under the Hands and Seals of any Three of them, for taking and apprehending and bringing before them any such Person or Persons; and if such Commissioners shall deem it necessary for the effectual Execution of any such Inquiry, it shall be lawful for such Commissioners, or any Three of them, by like Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to commit any such Person or Persons so brought or being before them to such Prison as the said Commissioners shall think fit, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, until such Person or Persons shall submit to be examined touching

and concerning all Matters and Things necessary for the Execution of the Powers given to such Commissioners, or to make such Productions of such Accounts, Returns, Records, Books, Papers, Deeds, Writings, or Documents as aforesaid, as the Case may require.

Persons giving false Evidence guilty of Perjury.

IV. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall, upon his, her, or their Examination before any such Commissioners of Inquiry, or any Three of them, wilfully and corruptly give false Evidence, every such Person so offending, and being thereof duly convicted, shall be and is and are hereby declared to be subject and liable to such Pains and Penalties as by any Law in force and effect Persons guilty of Perjury are subject and liable to.

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