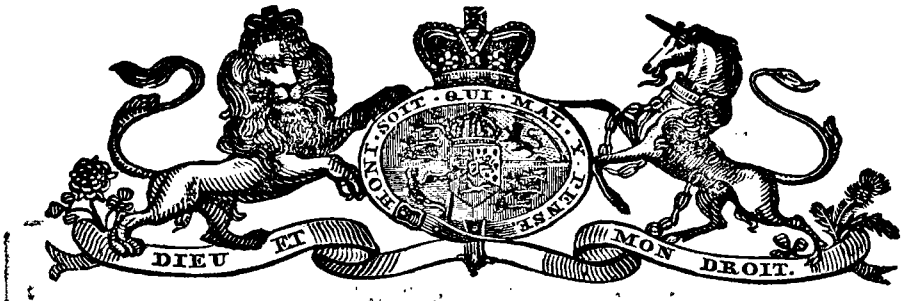


ANNO SEPTIMO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

CAP. XVII.

An Act for remedying Inconveniences in the Administration of Justice, arising from the present Vacancy of the See of *Durham*, and for preventing the like in future. [11th *April* 1826.]

WHEREAS the Office of Sheriff in the County Palatine of *Durham* is held by Grant of the Bishop of *Durham* for the Time being, during the Pleasure of the same Bishop, and the See of *Durham* is now vacant by the Decease of the late Bishop thereof; and by reason of his Decease the said Office of Sheriff hath also become vacant, and there was no Officer legally authorized to return Jurors or to execute Writs at the General Quarter Session of the Peace for the said County Palatine in the Week after the Clause of *Easter*; and it is necessary to provide a Remedy for the Inconveniences which may ensue therefrom, and in other respects from the Vacancy of the said Office of Sheriff: 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 last Sheriff of the said County Palatine, his Deputy or Deputies, and all other Officers and Ministers of Justice within the same, whose Offices determined on the Decease of the late Bishop of the said See, shall be and they are hereby continued in their respective Offices from the Decease of the said late Bishop for the Term of Six Calendar Months thence next ensuing, in as full and ample Manner to all Intents and Purposes as if the said See had not become

The last Sheriff, &c. of Durham to continue in Office for Six Months from the Decease of the late Bishop, unless succeeding Bishop shall

sooner determine the same.

become vacant, unless the succeeding Bishop of the said See shall sooner determine the same or any of them; and that the said Sheriff, Officers, and Minister respectively, shall have the like Power and Authority of executing and returning all Writs and Precepts to him or them directed or to be directed, and of doing all other Acts to their respective Offices appertaining, as fully and effectually as if the said See had not become vacant; and that all Trials and other Proceedings had and taken, or to be had and taken, in the Court of Quarter Session holden for the said County Palatine in the Week after the Clause of *Easter*, or at any Adjournment thereof, and all Judgments and Orders there pronounced and made, and all Sentences and Punishments there passed and awarded, shall be good, valid, and effectual to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, any Law or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to legalise or render valid any Act which would not have been legal or valid if the said See had not become vacant.

Proceedings at the last Easter Quarter Session valid.

Determination of Grants of Office hereafter to be made by any Bishop of Durham.

II. And, for preventing the like Inconveniences in future, be it further enacted, That no Grant or Appointment of or to any Office or Employment concerning the Administration of Justice in the said County Palatine, hereafter to be made by any Bishop of the said See, shall cease, determine, or be void by reason of the Death of any such Bishop, but every such Grant and Appointment shall continue in full force for the Term of Six Calendar Months after any such Death, unless in the meantime determined by any succeeding Bishop of the said See.

Public Act.

III. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a Public Act, and shall be judicially taken notice of as such by all Judges, Justices, and others, without being specially pleaded.

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