

ANNO DECIMO QUARTO & DECIMO QUINTO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

****

CAP. LX.

An Act to prevent the Assumption of certain Ecclesiastical Titles in respect of Places in the United Kingdom. [1st *August* 1851.]

WHEREAS divers of Her Majesty's Roman Catholic Subjects have assumed to themselves the Titles of Archbishop and Bishops of a pretended Province, and of pretended Sees or Dioceses, within the United Kingdom, under colour of an alleged Authority given to them for that Purpose by certain Briefs, Rescripts, or Letters Apostolical from the See of *Rome*, and particularly by a certain Brief, Rescript, or Letters Apostolical purporting to have been given at *Rome* on the Twenty-ninth of *September* One thousand eight hundred and fifty: And whereas by the Act of the Tenth Year of King *George* the Fourth, Chapter Seven, after reciting that the Protestant Episcopal Church of *England* and *Ireland*, and the Doctrine, Discipline, and Government thereof, and likewise the Protestant Presbyterian Church of *Scotland*, and the Doctrine, Discipline, and Government thereof, were by the respective Acts of Union of *England* and *Scotland*, and of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, established permanently and inviolably, and that the Right and Title of Archbishops to their respective Provinces, of Bishops to their Sees, and of Deans to their Deaneries, as well in *England* as in *Ireland*,

10 G. 4. c. 7. s. 24.

Ireland, had been settled and established by Law, it was enacted, that if any Person after the Commencement of that Act, other than the Person thereunto authorized by Law, should assume or use the Name, Style, or Title of Archbishop of any Province, Bishop of any Bishopric, or Dean of any Deanery, in *England* or *Ireland*, he should for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of One hundred Pounds: And whereas it may be doubted whether the recited Enactment extends to the Assumption of the Title of Archbishop or Bishop of a pretended Province or Diocese, or Archbishop or Bishop of a City, Place, or Territory, or Dean of any pretended Deanery in *England* or *Ireland*, not being the See, Province, or Diocese of any Archbishop or Bishop or Deanery of any Dean recognized by Law; but the Attempt to establish, under colour of Authority from the See of *Rome* or otherwise, such pretended Sees, Provinces, Dioceses, or Deaneries, is illegal and void: And whereas it is expedient to prohibit the Assumption of such Titles in respect of any Places within the United Kingdom: Be it therefore declared and enacted by the Queen'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 —

Briefs, Rescripts, or Letters Apostolical declared unlawful and void.

I. All such Briefs, Rescripts, or Letters Apostolical, and all and every the Jurisdiction, Authority, Pre-eminence, or Title conferred or pretended to be conferred thereby, are and shall be and be deemed unlawful and void.

Persons procuring, publishing, or putting in use any such Brief, &c. for constituting Archbishops, Bishops, &c. of pretended Provinces, Sees, or Dioceses, liable to a Penalty of 100*l.* for every Offence.

II. And be it enacted, That if, after the passing of this Act, any Person shall obtain or cause to be procured from the Bishop or See of *Rome*, or shall publish or put in use within any Part of the United Kingdom, any such Bull, Brief, Rescript, or Letters Apostolical, or any other Instrument or Writing, for the Purpose of constituting such Archbishops or Bishops of such pretended Provinces, Sees, or Dioceses within the United Kingdom, or if any Person, other than a Person thereunto authorized by Law in respect of an Archbishopric, Bishopric, or Deanery of the United Church of *England* and *Ireland*, assume or use the Name, Style, or Title of Archbishop, Bishop, or Dean of any City, Town, or Place, or of any Territory or District, (under any Designation or Description whatsoever,) in the United Kingdom, whether such City, Town, or Place, or such Territory or District, be or be not the See or the Province, or co-extensive with the Province, of any Archbishop, or the See or the Diocese, or co-extensive with the Diocese, of any Bishop, or the Seat or Place of the Church of any Dean, or co-extensive with any Deanery, of the said United Church, the Person so offending shall for

for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of One hundred Pounds, to be recovered as Penalties imposed by the recited Act may be recovered under the Provisions thereof, or by Action of Debt at the Suit of any Person in One of Her Majesty's Superior Courts of Law, with the Consent of Her Majesty's Attorney General in *England* and *Ireland*, or Her Majesty's Advocate in *Scotland*, as the Case may be.

Recovery of Penalties.

III. This Act shall not extend or apply to the Assumption or Use by any Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in *Scotland* exercising Episcopal Functions within some District or Place in *Scotland* of any Name, Style, or Title in respect of such District or Place; but nothing herein contained shall be taken to give any Right to any such Bishop to assume or use any Name, Style, or Title which he is not now by Law entitled to assume or use.

Act not to extend to Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Scotland.

IV. Be it enacted, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to annul, repeal, or in any Manner affect any Provision contained in an Act passed in the Eighth Year of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act for the more effectual Application of Charitable Donations and Bequests in* Ireland.

Nothing to affect Provisions of 7 & 8 Vict. c. 97.

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