CAP. XII.

An Act to amend an Act of the Ninth Year of King *George* the Fourth, Chapter Eighty-two, intituled *An Act to make Provision for the lighting, cleansing, and watching of Cities, Towns Corporate, and Market Towns in* Ireland, *in certain Cases.* [21st *March* 1857.]

'WHEREAS by Sections LXVIII., LXIX., and LXX., respectively, of the Act 9 *George* IV. Chapter LXXXII., certain Penalties, Forfeitures, and Disqualifications are imposed on Persons acting as Commissioners under the said Act, or as Clerks or Treasurers to such Commissioners, in case they shall be interested in or hold any Employment in connexion with any Contract entered into with such Commissioners: And whereas it is expedient to exempt from the said Provisions of the said Act Persons becoming Shareholders in or holding Offices or Employments in any Joint Stock Company which may contract with the Commissioners of any Town for the Supply of Water or Gas thereto, or otherwise for the Improvement thereof:' Be it therefore 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, as follows:

Recited Provisions of Act 9 G. 4. c. 82. (Ireland) not to affect Proprietors in Joint Stock Companies having Contracts for lighting, &c. Towns subject to said Act.

I. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the said recited Act or any other Act contained, no Person being a Commissioner for the Execution of the said recited Act, or a Treasurer or Clerk of any Commissioners acting under the said recited Act, shall from and after the passing of this Act be subject or liable to any Forfeiture, Loss of Office, Disqualification, or Penalty, by reason of such Person being a Proprietor of a Share or Shares or a Holder of any Office or Employment in any Joint Stock Company which may have made or may make or enter into any Contract with the Commissioners of such Town acting under the said Act, and no Contract entered into between any such Company and such Commissioners shall be void or voidable by reason of any such Commissioner, Clerk, or Treasurer being interested in such Company as a Shareholder or Officer in the same.

No Commissioner, &c., holding Office to take part or vote in any Contract, &c.

II. Provided always, That no Commissioner interested as a Shareholder or holding any Office or Employment in any Company shall at any Meeting of the Commissioners take part in or vote upon any Arrangements or any Contract with such Company.

CAP. XIII.

An Act for punishing Mutiny and Desertion, and for the better Payment of the Army and their Quarters. [21st *March* 1857.]

'WHEREAS the raising or keeping a Standing Army within the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* in Time of Peace, unless it be with the Consent of Parliament, is against Law: And whereas it is adjudged necessary by Her Majesty and this present Parliament that a Body of Forces should be continued for the Safety of the United Kingdom, the Defence of the Possessions of Her Majesty's Crown, and the Preservation of the Balance of Power in *Europe*, and that the whole Number of such Forces should consist of One hundred and twenty-six thousand seven hundred and ninety-six Men, exclusive of the Officers and Men belonging to the Regiments and other Corps employed in the Territorial Possessions of the *East India* Company, but including the Officers and Men of the Troops and Companies recruiting for those Regiments and Corps: And whereas no Man can be forejudged of Life or Limb, or subjected in Time of Peace to any Kind of Punishment within this Realm, by Martial Law, or in any other manner than by Judgment of his Peers, and according to the known and established Laws of this Realm; yet nevertheless it being requisite, for the retaining all the before-mentioned Forces in their Duty, that an exact Discipline be observed, and that Soldiers who shall mutiny or stir up Sedition, or shall desert Her Majesty's Service, or be guilty of Crimes and

Numbers 126,796 Men.