ANNO TERTIO & QUARTO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

****

CAP. XXVI.

An Act to remove Doubts as to the Competency of Persons, being rated Inhabitants of any Parish, to give Evidence in certain Cases.

[3d *July* 1840.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to remove all Doubt whether Persons are by Law competent to give Evidence in Cases where they have been formerly held to be disqualified by the Liability to pay Parochial Rates: Be it 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 from and after the passing of this Act no Person called as a Witness on any Trial in any Court whatever may and shall be disabled or prevented from giving Evidence by reason only of such Person being, as the Inhabitant of any Parish or Township, rated or assessed or liable to be rated or assessed to the Relief of the Poor, or for and towards the Maintenance of Church, Chapel, or Highways, or for any other Purpose whatever.

Persons not disqualified from giving Evidence on account of being assessed to Parochial Rates.

II. And be it enacted, That no Churchwarden, Overseer, or other Officer in and for any Parish, Township, or Union, or any Person rated or assessed or liable to be rated or assessed as aforesaid, shall be

Nominal Parties on any Trial not disabled

from giving Evidence.

be disabled or prevented from giving Evidence on any Trial, Appeal, or other Proceeding by reason only of his being a Party to such Trial, Appeal, or other Proceeding, or of his being liable to Costs in respect thereof, when he shall be only a nominal Party to such Trial, Appeal, or other Proceeding, and shall be only liable to contribute to such Costs in common with other the Rate-payers of such Parish, Township, or Union.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and ANDREW SPOTTISWOODE, Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1840.