ANNO TRICESIMO PRIMO & TRICESIMO SECUNDO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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C A P. CXIII.

An Act to render valid Marriages heretofore solemnized in the Chapel of Ease called *Saint James-the-Greater* Chapel, *Blakedown*, in the Parish of *Hagley* in the County of *Worcester*.

[31st *July* 1868.]

WHEREAS the Church or Chapel known as *Saint James-the-Greater* in the Hamlet of *Blakedown* in the County and Diocese of *Worcester* is a Chapel of Ease to the Parish Church of *Hagley* aforesaid, and was on the Twenty-fifth Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and sixty duly consecrated for the Performance of Divine Service, but no Authority hath ever been given by the Bishop of the said Diocese or otherwise for the Publication of Banns and Solemnization of Marriages therein: And whereas divers Marriages have nevertheless been solemnized in the said Church or Chapel under an erroneous Impression on the Part of the Minister thereof that, by virtue of the Consecration of the said Church or Chapel, or otherwise, Marriages might be lawfully solemnized therein, and Entries of the said Marriages so solemnized have from Time to Time been made in the Register Books kept either at the said Church or Chapel or at the Parish Church of

Hagley aforesaid: And whereas it is expedient, under the Circumstances aforesaid, to remove all Doubts touching the Validity of the Marriages so solemnized in the said Church or Chapel: 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:

Marriages heretofore solemnized in Chapel of St. James-the-Greater to be as valid as those in Hagley Church.

1. All Marriages heretofore solemnized in the said Church or Chapel by the Officiating Minister thereof or by any other Clergyman respectively, being duly ordained Ministers of the Church of *England*, and the Publication of Banns in such Church or Chapel by such Minister or Clergyman previous to any such Marriages, shall be and be deemed to have been as good, valid, and effectual in the Law to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever as if such Marriages had been solemnized and such Publication of Banns had taken place in the Parish Church of *Hagley* aforesaid.

Minister officiating not liable to Censure.

2. No Minister who has solemnized any of the said Marriages shall be liable to any Ecclesiastical Censures, or to any other Proceedings or Penalties whatsoever, by reason of his having so solemnized the same respectively.

Registers of such Marriages to be Evidence.

3. The Registers of the Marriages so solemnized, or Copies of such Registers, shall be received in all Courts of Law and Equity as Evidence of such Marriages respectively, in the same Manner as Registers of Marriages in Parish Churches, or Copies thereof, are by Law receivable in Evidence.

LONDON:
Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1868.