Punishment of Persons disobeying Rule or Order to appear or to produce Writings or Documents required.

VI. And be it enacted, That upon the Service of such Rule or Order upon the Person named therein, if he or she shall not appear before such Commissioner or Commissioners as aforesaid for Examination, or to produce the Writings or Documents mentioned in such Rule or Order, the Disobedience to such Rule or Order shall, if the same shall happen in *England* or in *Ireland*, render the Person disobeying subject and liable to such Pains and Penalties as he or she would be subject and liable to by reason of Disobedience to a Writ of Subpœna in *England* or in *Ireland*, and if such Disobedience shall happen in *Scotland* it shall be competent to the Lord Ordinary on the Bills, upon an Application made to him by or on behalf of any Party suing out such Commission, and upon Proof of such Disobedience made before him, to direct the Issue of Letters of Second Diligence, according to the Forms of the Law of *Scotland*, to be used against the Person disobeying such Rule or Order.

For Payment of Witnesses, &c.

VII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That every Person whose Attendance shall be so required shall be entitled to the like Conduct Money and Payment of Expences and for Loss of Time as for and upon Attendance at any Trial in a Court of Law; and that no Person shall be compelled to produce under such Rule or Order any Writing or other Document that he or she would not be compellable to produce at a Trial, nor to attend on more than Two consecutive Days, to be named in such Rule or Order.

CAP. LXXXIII.

An Act to amend the Law respecting the Duties of Coroners. [22d *August* 1843.]

'WHEREAS the Coroners of Boroughs and Liberties are empowered and directed by Law to appoint Deputies to act in their Stead in certain Cases: And whereas the Coroners of Counties have no sufficient Authority of the Law for making such Appointments: And whereas it is expedient to prevent unnecessary Expence and Delay in the holding of Inquests in Counties:' 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, That from and after the passing of this Act it shall be lawful for every Coroner of any County, City, Riding, Liberty, or Division, and he is hereby directed, by Writing under his Hand and Seal, to nominate and appoint from Time to Time a fit and proper Person, such Appointment being subject to the Approval of the Lord High Chancellor, Lord Keeper or Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal, to act for him as his Deputy in the holding of Inquests; and all Inquests taken and other Acts performed by any such Deputy Coroner under and by virtue of any such Appointment shall be deemed and taken, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, to be the

Coroners of Counties, &c. may appoint Deputies, subject to the Approval of the Lord Chancellor.

Acts and Deeds of the Coroner by whom such Appointment was made: Provided always, that a Duplicate of such Appointment shall be forthwith transmitted to the Clerk of the Peace for the County, City, Riding, Liberty, or Division in which such Coroner shall reside, to be filed among the Records of the said County, City, Riding, Liberty, or Division: Provided also, that no such Deputy shall act for any such Coroner as aforesaid except during the Illness of the said Coroner, or during his Absence from any lawful or reasonable Cause: Provided also, that every such Appointment may at any Time be cancelled and revoked by the Coroner by whom the same was made.

Duplicate of Appointment to be transmitted to Clerk of the Peace.

Deputy to act only during Illness, &c.

II. 'And whereas by an Act passed in the Seventh Year of 'the Reign of King *George* the Fourth certain Provisions were 'made for preventing the quashing of Indictments on tech- 'nical Grounds: And whereas it is expedient to make Pro- 'visions for supporting Coroners Inquisitions, and for prevent- 'ing the same from being quashed on account of technical 'Defects;' be it therefore enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act no Inquisition found upon or by any Coroner's Inquest, nor any Judgment recorded upon or by virtue of any such Inquisition, shall be quashed, stayed, or reversed for Want of the Averment therein of any Matter unnecessary to be proved, nor for the Omission of the Words "with Force and Arms," or of the Words "against the Peace," or of the Words "against the Form of the Statute," nor for the Omission or Insertion of any other Words or Expressions of mere Form or Surplusage, nor for the Insertion of the Words "upon their Oath," instead of the Words "upon their Oaths," nor for omitting to state the Time at which the Offence was committed, when Time is not the Essence of the Offence, nor for stating the Time imperfectly, nor because any Person or Persons mentioned in any such Inquisition is or are designated by a Name of Office or other descriptive Appellation, instead of his, her, or their proper Name or Names, nor by reason of the Non-insertion of the Names of the Jurors in the Body of any such Inquisition, or of any Difference in the Spelling of the Names of any of the Jurors in the Body of any such Inquisition and the Names subscribed thereto, nor because any Juror or Jurors shall have set his or their Mark or Marks to any such Inquisition, instead of subscribing his or their Name or Names thereto, nor because any such Mark or Marks is or are unattested, provided the Name or Names of such Juror or Jurors is or are set forth, nor because any Juror or Jurors has or have signed his or their Christian Name or Names by means of an Initial or partial Signature only, and not at full Length, nor because of any Erasures or Interlineations appearing in any such Inquisition, unless the same shall be proved to have been made therein after the same was signed, nor for Want of a proper Venue, where the Inquest shall appear or purport to have been taken by a Coroner of or for the County, Riding, City, Borough, Liberty, Division, or Place in which it shall appear or purport to have been taken, nor

Inquisitions, &c. not to be quashed on account of technical Defects.

(except only in Cases of Murder or Manslaughter) for or by reason of any such Inquisition not being duly sealed or written upon Parchment, nor by reason of any such Inquisition having been taken before any Deputy instead of the Coroner himself, nor because the Coroner and Jury did not all view the Body at one and the same Instant, provided they all viewed the Body at the first Sitting of the Inquest; and in all or any of such Cases of technical Defect as are herein-before mentioned it shall be lawful for any Judge of either of Her Majesty's Courts at *Westminster*, or any Judge of Assize or Gaol Delivery, if he shall so think fit, upon the Occasion of any such Inquisition being called in question before him, to order the same to be amended in any of the respects aforesaid, and the same shall forthwith be amended accordingly.

Extent of Act.

III. And be it enacted, That this Act shall extend only to that Part of the United Kingdom called *England* and *Wales*.

Act may be amended, &c.

IV. And be it enacted, That this Act may be amended or repealed by any Act to be passed in this present Session of Parliament.

CAP. LXXXIV.

An Act to amend the Laws relating to the Customs. [22d *August* 1843.]

'WHEREAS several Acts were passed in the Third and Fourth Years of the Reign of His late Majesty King *William* the Fourth for consolidating the Laws of the Customs: And whereas it has been found necessary from Time to Time to make certain Alterations therein: And whereas certain further Alterations and Amendments are now required;' 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, That from and after the passing of this Act the same shall come into and be and continue in full Force and Operation for the Purposes mentioned therein, except where any other Commencement is herein-after particularly directed.

Commencement of Act.

Management.

Commissioners may examine Witnesses upon Oath. 3 & 4 W. 4. c. 51.

II. 'And whereas by one of the said Acts, intituled *An Act for the Management of the Customs*, Powers are given to the Surveyor General of Customs, and the Inspector General of Customs, to examine on Oath: And whereas it is expedient that the Commissioners of Customs should have the like Power of examining on Oath;' be it therefore enacted, That upon Examinations and Inquiries made by the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs, or any One or more of them, for ascertaining the Truth of Facts relative to the Customs, or the Conduct of Officers or Persons employed therein, any Person examined before the said Commissioners or Commissioner shall deliver his Testimony on Oath, to be administered by such Commissioners or Commissioner as shall examine