

ANNO QUARTO

GULIELMI IV. REGIS.

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CAP. XVIII.

An Act to indemnify Witnesses who may give Evidence before the Lords Spiritual and Temporal on a Bill to exclude the Freemen of *Liverpool* from voting at the Election of Members of Parliament for that Borough.

[22d *May* 1834.]

WHEREAS the Commons of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* in Parliament assembled have passed a Bill, intituled *An Act to exclude the Freemen of* Liverpool *from voting at the Election of Members of Parliament for that Borough:* And whereas it is alleged that gross and notorious Bribery and Corruption have been proved to have long prevailed amongst the said Freemen at Elections of Members to serve in Parliament: And whereas it is necessary to examine as Witnesses at the Bar of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in respect of such alleged Bribery and Corruption, several Persons: And whereas the Evidence of such Persons may lead to Disclosures tending to expose them to penal Consequences: And whereas it is expedient to indemnify such Persons as they are herein-after indemnified, upon their truly and faithfully making such Disclosure and Discovery as herein-after mentioned: Be it therefore enacted by the King'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

All Persons, except Candidates, who may be examined by the House of Lords respecting any alleged Bribery at Elections at Liverpool, indemnified from penal Actions for any Disclosures they may make touching such Elections.

of the same, That, for the more effectually prosecuting the said Inquiry, all and every Person and Persons, not having been Candidates or a Candidate for the said Borough at the last Election, who may or hath been or may have been implicated or engaged in such alleged Bribery and Corruption at or connected with any Election of Members to serve in Parliament for the said Borough of *Liverpool*, and who shall be examined as Witnesses or a Witness at the Bar of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, touching such alleged Bribery and Corruption, and who shall upon such Examination make a true and faithful Discovery and Disclosure to the best of his, her, or their Knowledge, touching all Acts, Matters, and Things to which he, she, or they shall be so examined, shall be, and he, she, and they is and are hereby freed, indemnified, and discharged of, from, and against all penal Actions, Forfeitures, Punishments, Disabilities, and Incapacities, and all criminal Prosecutions which he, she, or they may have been or may become liable or subject to, or which he, she, or they may have incurred or may incur, at the Suit of His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, or any other Person or Persons, for or by reason or means of or in relation to any Act, Matter, or Thing done or committed by such Person or Persons in respect of such alleged Bribery and Corruption, respecting or concerning which such Person or Persons shall be so examined as aforesaid, and shall make such true and faithful Discovery and Disclosure as aforesaid.

No Witness indemnified without Certificate from Lord Chancellor that he has given true Evidence.

II. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That where any Witness shall be examined before the House of Lords, such Witness shall not be indemnified under this Act unless he or she shall receive from the Lord Chancellor or Lord Speaker a Certificate in Writing stating that such Witness has, upon his or her Examination, made a true and faithful Disclosure touching all Acts and Matters to which he or she has been so examined.

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