ANNO PRIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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C A P. XLIV.

An Act to provide for the Costs of Prosecutions for concealing the Birth of Children by secret burying or otherwise disposing of their Dead Bodies. [12th *July* 1837.]

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Ninth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for consolidating and amending the Statutes in* England *relative to Offences against the Person*, it is amongst other things enacted, that if any Woman shall be delivered of a Child, and shall, by secret burying or otherwise disposing of the Dead Body of the said Child, endeavour to conceal the Birth thereof, every such Offender shall be guilty of a Misdemeanor: And whereas no Provision is made by Law for Payment of the Costs of Prosecutions for such Misdemeanors: 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 of the same, That where any Prosecutor or other Person shall appear before any Court, on Recognizance or Subpœna, to prosecute or give Evidence against any Person upon any Charge of having so endeavoured to conceal the Birth of any Child, every such Court is hereby authorized and empowered, whether any Bill of Indictment for such Charge shall or shall not be actually preferred, to order Payment of the Costs and Expences of the Prosecutor and Witnesses for the Prosecution, together with a Compensation for their

9 G. 4. c. 31.

Courts empowered to order Payment of Prosecutors and Witnesses in Indictments for concealing the Birth of any Child.

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their Trouble and Loss of Time, in the same Manner as Courts are now by Law authorized and empowered to order the same in Cases of Prosecutions for Felony.

Orders for Payment of Money in such Cases to be the same as Orders for Payment of Costs in Cases of Felony.

II. And be it enacted, That every Order for the Payment of any Money by virtue of this Act shall be made out and delivered by the proper Officer of the Court unto such Prosecutor or other Person upon the same Terms and in the same Manner in all respects as Orders for the Payment of Costs are now made in Cases of Felony; and the Treasurer or other Person, when any such Order shall be made, shall be and he is hereby required, upon Sight of such Order, forthwith to pay to the Person therein named, or to any one duly authorized in that Behalf, the Money in such Order mentioned; and such Treasurer or other Person shall be allowed the same in passing his Accounts.

Act may be altered.

III. And be it enacted, That this Act may be altered or repealed by any other Act in this present Session of Parliament.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW SPOTTISWOODE, Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1837.