

ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO OCTAVO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. XCV.

An Act to regulate the Election of Coroners for Counties. [10th *June* 1818.]

WHEREAS there are no ſufficient Regulations for the Election of Coroners for Counties; 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 from and after the paſſing of this Act, upon every Election to be made of any Coroner or Coroners of any County in *England* and *Wales*, the Sheriff of the County where ſuch Election ſhall be made ſhall hold his County Court for the ſame Election at the moſt uſual Place or Places of Election of Coroners within the ſaid County, and where the ſame have moſt uſually been held for Forty Years laſt paſt, and ſhall there proceed to Election at the next County Court, unleſs the ſame fall out to be held within Six Days after the Receipt of the Writ *de Coronatore eligendo*, or upon the ſame Day; and then ſhall adjourn the ſame Court to ſome convenient Day, not exceeding Fourteen Days, giving Ten Days Notice of the Time and Place of Election; and in caſe the ſaid Election be not determined upon the View, with the Conſent of the Freeholders there preſent, but that a Poll ſhall be demanded for Determination thereof, then the ſaid Sheriff, or in his Abſence his Under Sheriff, with ſuch others as ſhall be deputed by him, ſhall forthwith there proceed to take the ſaid Poll, in ſome public Place, by the ſame Sheriff, or his Under Sheriff as aforeſaid in his Abſence, or others appointed for the taking thereof as aforeſaid; and every ſuch Poll ſhall commence on the Day upon which the ſame ſhall be demanded, and be duly and regularly proceeded in from Day to Day (*Sunday* excepted)

Sheriff to hold his County Court for the Election of Coroner at the uſual Place of Election;

and if Election not determined on View, then to proceed to take a Poll.

Commencement and Duration of Poll.

cepted) until the ſame be finiſhed; but ſo as that no Poll for ſuch Election ſhall continue more than Ten Days at moſt (*Sunday* excepted), and the ſaid Poll ſhall be kept open Seven Hours at the leaſt each Day, between the Hours of Nine in the Morning and Five at Night: And for the more due and orderly proceeding in the ſaid Poll, the ſaid Sheriff, or in his Abſence his Under Sheriff, or ſuch as he ſhall depute, ſhall appoint ſuch Number of Clerks as to him ſhall ſeem meet or convenient for the taking thereof; which Clerks ſhall all take the ſaid Poll in the Preſence of the ſaid Sheriff or his Under Sheriff, or ſuch as he ſhall depute; and before they begin to take the ſaid Poll, every Clerk ſo appointed ſhall by the ſaid Sheriff or his Under Sheriff, or ſuch as he ſhall depute as aforeſaid, be ſworn truly and indifferently to take the ſame Poll, and to ſet down the Names of each Freeholder, and the Place of his Abode and Freehold, and the Name of the Occupier thereof, and for whom he ſhall poll, and to poll no Freeholder who is not ſworn, if required to be ſworn by the Candidates or either of them, and which Oaths of the ſaid Clerks, the ſaid Sheriff or his Under Sheriff, or ſuch as he ſhall depute, are hereby empowered to adminiſter; and the Sheriff, or in his Abſence his Under Sheriff as aforeſaid, ſhall appoint for each Candidate ſuch One Perſon as ſhall be nominated to him by each Candidate, to be Inſpector of every Clerk who ſhall be appointed for taking the Poll; and every Freeholder, before he is admitted to poll at the ſame Election, ſhall, if required by the Candidates or any of them, firſt take the Oath herein-after mentioned, which Oath the ſaid Sheriff by himſelf or his Under Sheriff, or ſuch ſworn Clerk by him appointed for taking the ſaid Poll as aforeſaid, is hereby authorized to adminiſter; *videlicet*,

Poll Clerks to be appointed and ſworn.

Inſpector of Poll Clerk to be appointed.

Freeholder, if required, to be ſworn before he polls.

The Oath of Qualification.

'YOU ſwear [*or*, being one of the People called *Quakers*, you ſolemnly affirm] That you are a Freeholder of the County of and have a Freehold Eſtate, conſiſting of lying at within the ſaid County; and that ſuch Freehold Eſtate has not been granted to you fraudulently, on purpoſe to qualify you to give your Vote at this Election; and that the Place of your Abode is at [*and if it be a Place conſiſting of more Streets or Places than One, ſpecifying what Street or Place;*] that you are Twenty-one Years of Age, as you believe, and that you have not been before polled at this Election.'

Puniſhment againſt Perjury, or Subornation of Perjury.

And in caſe any Freeholder or other Perſon taking the ſaid Oath or Affirmation hereby appointed to be taken by him as aforeſaid ſhall thereby commit wilful and corrupt Perjury, and be thereof convicted, and if any Perſon ſhall unlawfully or corruptly procure or ſuborn any Freeholder or other Perſon to take the ſaid Oath or Affirmation in order to be polled, whereby he ſhall commit ſuch wilful and corrupt Perjury, and ſhall be thereof convicted, he and they for every ſuch Offence ſhall incur ſuch Pains and Penalties as are declared in and by Two Acts of Parliament, the one made in the Fifth Year of the late Queen *Elizabeth*, intituled *An Act for Puniſhment of ſuch as ſhall procure or commit any wilful Perjury*; and the other made in the Second Year of His late Majeſty King *George* the Second, intituled *An Act for the more effectual preventing and further Puniſhment of Forgery, Perjury, and Subornation of Perjury, and to make it Felony to ſteal Bonds, Notes, or other Securities for Payment of Money*; and by any other Law or Statute now in force for the Puniſhment of Perjury or Subornation of Perjury.

5 Eliz. c. 9.

2 G. 2. c. 25.

II. And be it further enacted, That no Perſon or Perſons ſhall be allowed to have any Vote at ſuch Elections for Coroner or Coroners of any County in *England* and *Wales* as aforeſaid, for or by reaſon of any Truſt Eſtate or Mortgage, unleſs ſuch Truſtee or Mortgagee be in actual Poſſeſſion or Receipt of the Rents and Profits of ſuch Eſtate; but that the Mortgagor or *Ceſtuique* Truſt in Poſſeſſion ſhall and may vote for the ſame Eſtate, notwithſtanding ſuch Mortgage or Truſt; and that all Conveyances of any Meſſuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, in order to multiply Voices, or to ſplit or divide the Intereſt in any Houſes or Lands among ſeveral Perſons, to enable them to vote at Elections for a Coroner of any County as aforeſaid, are hereby declared to be void and of none Effect. Mortgagor and Ceſtuique Truſt to vote.

III. And be it further enacted, That all the reaſonable Coſts, Charges, and Expences, the ſaid Sheriff or his Under Sheriff or other Deputy ſhall expend or be liable to in and about the providing of Poll Books, Booths, and Clerks (ſuch Clerks to be paid not exceeding One Pound and One Shilling each *per Diem*) for the Purpoſe of taking the Poll at any ſuch Election, ſhall be borne, ſuſtained, and paid by the ſeveral Candidates at ſuch Election, in equal Proportions. Expences of Sheriff and Poll Clerks to be paid by the Candidates.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty. 1818.