CAP. XXII.

An Act to remove Doubts as to the Liability of Lords and Peers of Parliament to Punishment in certain Cases of Felony. [21st *June* 1841.]

'WHEREAS Doubts have been entertained whether, notwithstanding the Provisions of an Act passed in the Seventh and Eighth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for further improving the Administration of Justice in Criminal Cases in* England, so much of an Act passed in the First Year of the Reign of His Majesty King *Edward* the Sixth, intituled *An Act for the Repeal of certain Statutes concerning Treasons and Felonies*, as enacts "that in all and every Case and Cases where any of the King's Majesty's Subjects shall and may, upon his Prayer, have the Privilege of Clergy as a Clerk Convict that may make Purgation, in all those Cases and every of them, and also in all and every Case and Cases of Felony wherein the Privilege and Benefit of Clergy is restrained, excepted, or taken away by this Statute or Act, (wilful Murder and poisoning of Malice prepensed only excepted,) the Lord or Lords of the Parliament, and Peer and Peers of the Realm having Place and Voice in Parliament, shall, by virtue of this present Act, of common Grace, upon his or their Request or Prayer alleging that he is a Lord or Peer of this Realm, and claiming the Benefit of this Act, though he cannot read, without any burning in the Hand, Loss of Inheritance, or Corruption of his Blood, be adjudged, deemed, taken, and used, for the first Time only, to all Intents, Constructions, and Purposes, as a Clerk Convict, and shall be in Case of a Clerk Convict which may make Purgation, without any further or other Benefit or Privilege of Clergy to any such Lord or Peer from thenceforth, at any Time after, for any Cause to be allowed, adjudged, or admitted, any Law, Statute, Usage, Custom, or any other Thing to the contrary notwithstanding," may not, for some Purposes, still remain in force:' 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Authority of the same, That so much of the said last-mentioned Act as is herein-before recited shall from henceforth be repealed and utterly void, and no longer of any Effect; and that every Lord of Parliament or Peer of this Realm having Place and Voice in Parliament, against whom any Indictment for Felony may be found, shall plead to such Indictment, and shall upon Conviction be liable to the same Punishment as any other of Her Majesty's Subjects are or may be liable upon Conviction for such Felony, any Law or Usage to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

7 & 8 G. 4. c. 28.

1 Edw. 6. c. 12. s. 13.

Part of recited Act repealed.

Peers convicted of Felony liable to same Punishment as other Subjects.