ANNO TRICESIMO PRIMO & TRICESIMO SECUNDO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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C A P. LXXV.

An Act to amend the Law relating to Petit Juries in *Ireland*. [31st *July* 1868.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Laws relating to Petit Juries in *Ireland:* 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, as follows:

Short Title.

1. This Act may be cited for all Purposes as "The Juries Act (*Ireland*), 1868."

To extend to Ireland only.

2. This Act shall extend to *Ireland* only.

Provisions of 24 & 25 Vict. c. 66., as to Witnesses who object to be sworn, extended to Jurors.

3. If any Person summoned or required to serve as a Juror in any Civil or Criminal Proceeding shall refuse or be unwilling, from alleged conscientious Motives, to be sworn, it shall be lawful for the Court or Judge, or other presiding Officer or Person qualified to administer an Oath to a Juror, upon being satisfied of the Sincerity of such Objection, to permit such Person, instead of

 being

being sworn, to make his or her solemn Affirmation or Declaration in the Words following:

'I *A.B.* do solemnly, sincerely, and truly affirm and declare that the taking of any Oath is, according to my religious 'Belief, unlawful; and I do also solemnly, sincerely, and truly 'affirm and declare,' &c.

Which solemn Affirmation and Declaration shall be of the same Force and Effect, and if untrue shall entail all the same Consequences as if such Person had taken an Oath in the usual Form; and whenever in any legal Proceedings it is necessary or usual to state or allege that Jurors have been sworn, it shall not be necessary to specify that any particular Juror has made Affirmation or Declaration instead of Oath, but it shall be sufficient to state or allege that the Jurors have been "sworn or affirmed."

Power to send Juries to the adjoining County for the Night where necessary to keep them together.

4. Where any Jury shall be empannelled and sworn to try any Issue of Treason or Felony in the Court House of any County, which Court House shall be situate within or shall adjoin a different County or County of a City, if it shall become necessary to keep such Jury together for any Night or Nights or for any *Sunday*, it shall be lawful for the Court to direct that such Jury shall be taken for such Night or Nights, or such *Sunday*, to any convenient Place, to be named by the Court, within such surrounding or adjoining County or County of a City; and such Jury, in going to, remaining at, and returning from such Place, shall be kept in the like Custody, and treated in all respects in the same Manner, and all Officers intrusted with the Duty of keeping such Jury together shall have the same Powers, as if such surrounding or adjoining County or County of a City formed Part of the County to which such Court House shall belong.

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