ANNO SEPTIMO & OCTAVO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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C A P. LXXXVII.

An Act to amend the Law for regulating Places kept for slaughtering Horses.

[9th *August* 1844.]

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His Majesty King *George* the Third, and also by an Act passed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *William* the Fourth, Provision was made for the Regulation and Inspection of Houses and Places kept for the Purpose of slaughtering Horses: And whereas it is expedient to make further Provision for the better and more effectual Regulation and Inspection of such Houses and Places; 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 every Licence which shall after the passing of this Act be granted under or by virtue of the said Act of the Twenty-sixth Year of King *George* the Third, authorizing any Person to keep or use any House or Place for the Purpose of slaughtering or killing any Horse or other Cattle (not killed for Butchers Meat), shall be granted, and shall continue in force, for a Period not exceeding One Year from the Date at which the same was granted, determinable as herein-after provided: Provided nevertheless, that in the Case of the Renewal of

New Licences to be annual.

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any such Licence to any Person to whom any such Licence may have been previously granted as aforesaid it shall not be necessary for such Person to obtain or produce to the Justices at such General Quarter Sessions of the Peace a Certificate under the Hands and Seals of the Minister, Churchwardens, Overseers, or Householders, as required by the said last-mentioned Act.

Justices in Quarter Sessions may cancel Licences.

II. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Justices assembled at any General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for any County, upon Application and Complaint made to them in Writing by any Person, and upon due Proof being made to them that the Party so complaining had given Fourteen Days previous Notice in Writing thereof to the Clerk of the Peace for such County, and also to the Party complained against, and upon due Proof to their Satisfaction that any Person so licensed as aforesaid has been guilty of any Breach or Violation of the said Two several herein-before recited Acts or either of them, or of this Act, or any Part or Parts thereof respectively, to cancel and wholly put an end to any and every Licence which may have been granted to the Person or Persons so complained against, and from thenceforth the same shall be of no Force or Effect.

Persons wantonly or cruelly ill-treating any Horse to be liable to Penalty.

III. And be it enacted, That if any such licensed or other Person shall wantonly or cruelly beat, ill-treat, abuse, wound, or torture any Horse or other Cattle in any House, Pound, Stable, or other Place in the Occupation or Use of such licensed Person, every such Person shall for every such Offence, on Conviction thereof, forfeit and pay a Sum of Money not exceeding Five Pounds.

Power for Constables to enter licensed Places.

IV. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Constable from Time to Time, and as often as he shall think fit, at all reasonable Times in the Daytime, by Authority of this Act, either alone or accompanied by any Inspector appointed or to be appointed under the first-recited Act, to enter upon and view and inspect all and every the Houses, Stables, Sheds, Yards, Grounds, and Premises for the keeping of which any such Licence shall have been granted as aforesaid, and also to inspect or take an Account of all or any of the Horses or other Cattle which shall from Time to Time be found upon such Premises or any Part thereof.

Penalty for obstructing Inspectors.

V. And be it enacted, That in case any Person to whom any such Licence shall be granted as aforesaid, or any other Person, shall at any Time or in any Manner obstruct, hinder, molest, or assault any such Inspector whilst in the Discharge of his Duty, or the Exercise of his Power or Authority under or by virtue of the said first-recited Act or of this Act, every such Offender shall for every such Offence, on Conviction thereof, forfeit and pay such a Sum of Money, not exceeding Ten Pounds, as any Two or more Justices before whom such Offender shall be brought shall deem fit.

Penalty for Inspector neglecting his Duty.

VI. And be it enacted, That in case any such Inspector shall at any Time be guilty of any Neglect or Violation of the Duty required of him by Law, then and in every such Case such Inspector shall, upon

upon Conviction, forfeit and pay for every such Offence a Sum of Money not exceeding Ten Pounds.

Offences may be heard by Two Justices.

VII. And be it enacted, That all Offences against this Act, or any of the Provisions thereof, shall and may be heard and determined before and by any Two or more Justices of the Peace for the County within which the Offence shall have been committed; and all Penalties and Forfeitures incurred thereby respectively shall and may be recoverable, with Costs, before and awarded by any such Justices, and shall be applied as follows; namely, such Part as the Justices shall think fit to the Person who shall inform and prosecute for the same, and the Remainder thereof to the Sheriff or other proper Officer of the County in which such Conviction shall take place, for Her Majesty's Use, and shall be returned to the Court of Quarter Sessions, under the Provisions of an Act passed in the Third Year of His late Majesty King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for the more speedy Return and levying of Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures and Recognizances estreated;* and in case of Nonpayment of any such Penalty or Forfeiture respectively it shall and may be lawful for such Justices forthwith to commit the Offender to the Common Gaol or Prison within the Jurisdiction of such Justices for any Time not exceeding One Calendar Month, as to such Justices shall seem meet.

Penalties, how to be recovered and applied.

3 G. 4. c. 46.

Limitation as to summary Proceedings.

VIII. And be it enacted, That the Prosecution of every Offence punishable under this Act shall be commenced within Three Calendar Months next after the Commission of the Offence, and not otherwise; and the Evidence of the Party complaining shall be admitted in proof of the Offence.

Appeal to Quarter Sessions.

IX. And be it enacted, That any Person who shall think himself aggrieved by any summary Order or Conviction made by any Justice or Justices of the Peace under the Authority of this Act may appeal to the Justices of the Peace at the next General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the County wherein the Cause of Complaint shall have arisen, provided that such Person at the Time of the Order or Conviction, or within Forty-eight Hours thereafter, shall enter into a Recognizance, with Two sufficient Sureties, conditioned personally to appear at the said Sessions to try such Appeal, and to abide the further Judgment of the Justices at such Sessions assembled, and to pay such Costs as shall be by the last-mentioned Justices awarded; and it shall be lawful for the Justice or Justices of the Peace by whom such Order or Conviction shall have been made to bind over the Witnesses who shall have been examined in sufficient Recognizances to attend and be examined at the hearing of such Appeal, and that every such Witness, on producing a Certificate of his being so bound under the Hand of the Justice or Justices, shall be allowed Compensation for his Time, Trouble, and Expences in attending the Appeal, which Compensation shall be paid in the first instance by the Treasurer of the County, in like Manner as in Cases of Misdemeanor, under the Provisions of an Act passed in the Seventh Year of the Reign of King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for improving the Administration of Criminal Justice in* England; and in case the Appeal

7 G. 4. c. 64.

Appeal shall be dismissed, and the Order or Conviction affirmed, the reasonable Expences of all such Witnesses attending as aforesaid, to be ascertained by the Court, shall be repaid to the Treasurer of the County by Appellant.

Meaning of certain Words used in this Act.

X. And be it enacted, That the Words herein-after mentioned, which in their usual Signification have a more restricted or different *Meaning*, shall in this Act (except where the Nature of the Provisions or the Context of the Act shall exclude such Construction) be interpreted as follows; (that is to say,) the Word "County" shall include City, Town, Borough, Cinque Port, Riding, Liberty, or Division; the Word "Horse" shall include Mare, Gelding, Mule, Pony, Colt, or Filly; the Word "Cattle" shall include Bull, Ox, Cow, Steer, Heifer, Calf, Ass, Sheep, Lamb, Goat, Pig, or any other domestic Animal; the Word "Constable" shall include Headborough, Peace Officer, or Police Officer; and every Word importing the Singular Number only shall extend and be applied to several Persons and Things as well as to one Person or Thing; and every Word importing the Masculine Gender only shall extend to a Female as well as a Male.

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