

ANNO QUADRAGESIMO OCTAVO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. CXXVII.

An Act to render valid certain Marriages solemnized in certain Churches and Publick Chapels in which Banns had not usually been published before or at the Time of passing an Act made in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled, *An Act for the better preventing of clandestine Marriages.*

[30th *June* 1808.]

WHEREAS since the making of an Act passed in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled, *An Act for the better preventing of clandestine Marriages*; and of Two Acts, one passed in the Twenty-first Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled, *An Act to render valid certain Marriages solemnized in certain Churches and Publick Chapels in which Banns had not usually been published before or at the Time of passing an Act made in the Twenty-sixth Year of King* George *the Second, intituled,* '*An Act for the better preventing of clandestine Marriages*;' and the other, passed in the Forty-fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled, *An Act to render valid certain Marriages solemnized in certain Churches and Publick Chapels in which Banns had not usually been published before or at the Time of passing an Act made in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty*

26 G. 2. c. 33.

21 G. 3. c. 53.

44 G. 3. c. 77.

Majesty King George *the Second, intituled,* '*An Act for the better preventing of clandestine Marriages:*' And whereas divers Marriages have been solemnized since the passing of the said last-mentioned Act within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, *Wales*, and Town of *Berwick-upon-Tweed*, in divers Churches and Chapels duly consecrated, but by reason that in such Churches and Chapels Banns of Matrimony had not usually been published before or at the Time of passing the said first-mentioned Act, such Marriages have been or may be deemed to be void: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it 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 all Marriages already solemnized or to be solemnized before the Twenty-third Day of *August* One thousand eight hundred and eight, in any Church or Publick Chapel in that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, *Wales*, and the Town of *Berwick-upon-Tweed*, duly consecrated, shall be as good and valid in Law as if such Marriages had been solemnized in Parish Churches or Publick Chapels having Chapelries annexed, and wherein Banns had usually been published before or at the Time of passing the said last-mentioned Act.

Marriages solemnized before Aug. 23, 1808 in any Church or Chapel duly consecrated, shall be as valid as if done in Parish Churches.

II. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Parsons, Vicars, Ministers, and Curates, who, before the said Twenty-third Day of *August* One thousand eight hundred and eight, shall have solemnized any of the Marriages which are hereby enacted to be valid in Law, shall be and they are hereby indemnified against the Penalties inflicted by the said recited Act, made in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *George* the Second, upon Persons who shall solemnize Marriages in any other Place than a Church or Publick Chapel in which Banns had been usually published before or at the Time of passing the said last-mentioned Act.

Ministers who shall have solemnized such Marriages indemnified.

III. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Registers of Marriages solemnized, or to be solemnized, in the said Churches or Chapels, which are hereby enacted to be valid in Law, or Copies thereof, shall be received in all Courts of Law and Equity in Evidence, in the same Manner as the Registers of such Marriages solemnized in Parish Churches or Publick Chapels in which Banns were usually published before or at the Time of passing the said recited Act of the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *George* the Second, or Copies thereof, are received in Evidence: Provided nevertheless, that in all such Courts the same Objections shall be available to the receiving such Registers or Copies in Evidence, as would have been available to the receiving the same in Evidence, if such Registers or Copies had related to Marriages mentioned in such last mentioned Parish Churches or Publick Chapels as aforesaid.

Registers of such Marriages to be received in Evidence.

IV. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Registers of all Marriages solemnized in any Publick Chapels which are hereby enacted to be valid in Law, shall, within Thirty Days next after the said Twenty-third Day of *August* One thousand eight hundred and eight, be removed to the Parish Church of the Parish in which such Chapel shall be situated; and in case such Chapel shall be situated in an Extra-parochial Place, then to the Parish Church next adjoining

Registers of Marriages solemnized in publick Chapels shall be removed to the Parish Churches, &c.

to such Extra-parochial Place, to be kept with the Marriage Registers of such Parish, and in like Manner as Parish Registers are directed to be kept by the said recited Act, made in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *George* the Second; and within Twelve Months after the Removal of such Registers to such Parish Churches respectively, Two Copies thereof respectively shall be transmitted by the respective Churchwardens of such Parishes to the Bishop of the Diocese, or his Chancellor, subscribed by the Hands of the Minister and Churchwardens of such Parishes respectively, to the End that the same may be faithfully preserved in the Registry of the said Bishop.

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