

ANNO VICESIMO PRIMO & VICESIMO SECUNDO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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CAP. LXXVIII.

An Act to enable the Committees of both Houses of Parliament to administer Oaths to Witnesses in certain Cases. [2d *August* 1858.]

WHEREAS it is expedient that the Evidence taken before the Committees of either House of Parliament on a Private Bill should be available, if desired, before the Committee of the other House to which the same Bill is referred, and that for this Purpose the Committees of the House of Commons on Private Bills should be enabled to administer an Oath to the Witnesses examined before them; and it is also expedient for the Convenience of the House of Lords that the Committees of that House should be enabled to administer an Oath to the Witnesses examined before them, instead of such Witnesses being as heretofore sworn at the Bar of the House: Be it 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:

Select Committees of House of Commons may examine Witnesses upon Oath, and administer the same.

I. Any Select Committee of the House of Commons to which any Private Bill has been referred by the House may examine Witnesses upon Oath upon Matters relating to such Bill, and for that Purpose may administer an Oath to any such Witness.

II. Any

Administration of Oaths by Committees.

Any Committee of H. L. may administer Oath.

II. Any Committee of the House of Lords may administer an Oath to the Witnesses examined before such Committee.

False Evidence Perjury.

III. Any Person examined as aforesaid who shall wilfully give false Evidence shall be liable to the Penalties of Perjury.

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