ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO SECUNDO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

Cap. 2.

An Act for veſting in the Clerk of the Peace of the County of *Stafford*, a Houſe for the Accommodation of His Majeſty's Judges at the Aſſizes, and for maintaining and ſupporting the ſame; and for amending an Act of His preſent Majeſty for building a new Shire Hall for the ſaid County.

[28th *February* 1812.]

WHEREAS, for the better Accommodation of His Majeſty's Judges at the Aſſizes for the County of *Stafford*, a Houſe adjoining to and communicating with the Shire Hall of the ſaid County, and now called *The Judges Houſe*, has been erected, fitted up, and furniſhed at the Expence of the Inhabitants of the ſaid County, and the Scite or Ground on which the ſaid Houſe has been erected was purchaſed under the Proviſions of an Act of Parliament paſſed in the Thirty-fourth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled *An Act for building a new Shire Hall for the County of* Stafford; but inſomuch as the ſame Houſe is not under the ſaid Act of Parliament appropriated to the Purpoſes for which the ſame Houſe hath been erected and built, and Doubts may ariſe under the ſaid Act of Parliament, whether the ſame Houſe can be appropriated for the Purpoſes for which it is deſigned, and alſo whether the ſame Houſe can be ſupported or maintained, or Furniture for the ſame provided under the Proviſions of the ſaid recited Act of Parliament: May it 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

The House and Furniture vested in the Clerk of the Peace for the Time being of the County of Stafford, &c.

present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That the said House so built as aforesaid, with the Appurtenances and every Matter and Thing belonging thereto, and the Furniture thereof, shall henceforth be vested in, and the same is hereby henceforth vested in the Clerk of the Peace for the Time being of the said County of *Stafford*, to hold to him and his Successors for ever, upon special Trust and Confidence, and to the End, Intent, and Purpose, that the Clerk of the Peace for the Time being shall and will from Time to Time, and at all Times hereafter, peaceably, quietly, and freely permit and suffer the said House, with the Offices, Accommodations, and Furniture thereof, to be used for the Residence and Convenience of His Majesty's Judges and their Officers and Attendants, when attending at the Assizes for the said County, and for the Transaction of the Business usually done and transacted during the Assizes at the Lodgings of His Majesty's Judges, and also for the Residence and Convenience of the Justices of the Peace for the Time being of the said County at the Sessions of the Peace of the said County, when the same Sessions shall not happen during the Assizes of the said County; and that when the said House and Furniture thereof, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, shall not be used for any of the Purposes aforesaid, the said Clerk of the Peace for the Time being is hereby empowered and required to permit and suffer the same to be used and employed for such Uses and Purposes, and in such Manner and under such Regulations, as the said Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Stafford*, at their General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, shall from Time to Time, by an Order of the said Court of Quarter Sessions, order, direct, and appoint.

Justices to direct Alterations, Repairs, Insurances, &c.

II. And be it further enacted, That whenever such House, Buildings, Offices, or Accommodations, or any Part thereof, shall require Alterations, Additions, or Improvements, or become out of Repair, or any Furniture thereto belonging shall become unfit for Use, or any new Furniture shall be necessary, it shall be lawful for the Justices of the Peace for the Time being of the said County, at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, by an Order of the said Sessions, from Time to Time to direct all such Alterations, Additions, Improvements, Repairs, Furniture, Matters, and Things, wanted to be made, done, and supported; and it shall be lawful for the said Justices in Sessions, from Time to Time by such Order, to appoint a proper Person or Persons, with such Salary or Salaries, Allowances or Fees, as to them shall seem meet, to take charge of the said House and the Furniture thereof, and to discharge such Person or Persons from Time to Time, and to appoint another or others in his or her or their Place or Places, as to them shall seem proper; and also to cause the said House, Furniture, and Appurtenances, to be insured from Fire, and all Taxes, Rates, and Assessments, made, set, and imposed upon the said Premises, or any Part thereof, to be paid and discharged; and likewise, that it shall be lawful for the said Justices at their General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, by such Order as aforesaid, to order and direct all Charges and Expences which shall and may be incurred by the Ways and Means aforesaid, and also the Costs, Charges, and Expences incident to the soliciting, obtaining, and passing of this Act, to be defrayed and paid by and out of the Monies to be raised by the general Rates and Assessments made and to be made, assessed, and levied in the said County, by virtue of the several Acts of Parliament made in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Years of

His late Majesty King *George* the Second, and in such Manner as is directed in and by an Act of the Ninth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act to enable the Justices of the Peace in the General Quarter Sessions of their respective Counties and Divisions, to repair the Shire Halls, County Halls, or other Buildings wherein the Assizes or Grand Sessions are usually held.*

The Allowance made to the Sheriff for the Judges Lodgings to be paid over to the Clerk of the Peace, &c.

III. And be it further enacted, That during such Time as the said House shall be used for the Accommodation of His Majesty's Judges at the Assizes, all and every Sum and Sums of Money allowed to the Sheriff of the said County out of His Majesty's Exchequer for such Lodgings and Accommodations shall be paid over by the said Sheriff to the Clerk of the Peace for the Time being, and by him to the Treasurer of the said County, to be taken and applied as Part of the publick Stock of the said County, collected under the Rates for the same County.

The Clerk of the Peace may sue and be sued for or in respect of any Thing done under this Act.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the said Clerk of the Peace for the Time being of the said County may sue and be sued for or in respect of any Claim, Contract, or other Matter or Thing made or done, or to be made or done, or in any Way arising under the Authority of this Act, in any Court or Courts of Law or Equity; and that no Action or Suit, to be brought or commenced by or against the said Clerk of the Peace by virtue of this Act, shall abate or be discontinued by the Death or Removal of such Clerk of the Peace, or by any Act of the said Clerk of the Peace done without the Consent of the said Justices, but such Clerk of the Peace for the Time being shall always be deemed the Plaintiff or Defendant in such Actions or Suits nominally, but the same shall be carried on and defended under the Direction of the said Justices, and the Damages (if any) be levied, and also all Expences be by them defrayed in like Manner as their Charges under this Act; and the said House, Buildings, Offices, Furniture, and Appurtenances, and all Furniture, Articles, Matters, and Things therein or thereunto now or at any Time hereafter belonging, shall, in any Indictment or Indictments, be laid, alledged, and described to be the Property of the said Clerk of the Peace for the Time being, and under the Style and Description of *The Clerk of the Peace of the County of Stafford*: Provided, that in all and every Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, to be brought and commenced as aforesaid, no Person or Persons whomsoever shall be deemed incompetent to give Evidence by reason of his, her, or their paying or contributing towards the publick Stock of the said County, or by reason of his, her, or their being charged with or liable to pay any of the publick Rates of the said County; and that no Costs, Charges, Damages, and Expences shall be levied on the Lands or Tenements, Goods or Chattels, which shall belong to the said Clerk of the Peace for the Time being in his individual Capacity.

Limitation of Actions.

V. And be it further enacted, That no Action or Suit shall be commenced against any Person or Persons for any Thing done in pursuance or by virtue of this Act, after Six Calendar Months next after the Fact committed, or cause of Action accrued, for which such Action or Suit shall be so brought; and the Defendant or Defendants in any such Action or Suit may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the special Matter in Evidence at any Trial to be had thereupon.

VI. And

Publick Act. VI. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a Publick Act, and shall be judicially taken Notice of as such by all Judges, Justices, and others, without being specially pleaded.

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