Anno ſexto

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. LIII.

An Act for altering the Oath of Abjuration and the Aſſurance; and for amending ſo much of an Act of the Seventh Year of Her late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, intituled, *An Act for the Improvement of the Union of the Two Kingdoms*, as, after the Time therein limited, requires the Delivery of certain Liſts and Copies therein mentioned to Perſons indicted of High Treaſon, or Miſpriſion of Treaſon.



WHEREAS by an Act paſſed in the Firſt Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King George the Firſt, intituled, An Act for the further Security of His Majeſty's Perſon and Government, and the Succeſſion of the Crown in the Heirs of the late Princeſs *Sophia*, being Proteſtants; and for extinguiſhing the Hopes of the pretended Prince of *Wales*, and his open and ſecret Abettors; it is, amongſt other Things, enacted, That all and every Perſon and Perſons therein mentioned, within Great Britain, and the ſeveral Iſlands of Jerſey

Preamble, reciting Clauſes in Act 1 *Geo.* I.

ſey and Guernſey, ſhould take and ſubſcribe the Oath of Abjuration therein mentioned; and all and every Perſon and Perſons therein mentioned within Scotland, ſhould alſo ſubſcribe the Aſſurance therein mentioned; in the Manner, at the Times and Places, and under the Pains and Penalties, in the ſaid Act expreſſed: And whereas by an Act paſſed in the Fifth Year of the Reign of His ſaid late Majeſty, intituled, An Act for making more effectual the Laws appointing the Oaths, for Security of the Government, to be taken by the Miniſters and Preachers in Churches and Meeting-houſes in *Scotland*, it is enacted, That all and every Perſon and Perſons therein mentioned, in Scotland, ſhould ſubſcribe the Aſſurance in the above mentioned Act contained, and alſo take and ſubſcribe the Oath of Abjuration therein directed to be taken, in lieu of the Oath of Abjuration formerly required by Law, in the Manner, at the Times and Places, and under the Penalties and Diſabilities, in the ſaid Act provided: And whereas by the Death of the Perſon who pretended to be Prince of Wales during the Life of the late King James, and, ſince his Deceaſe, pretended to be, and took upon himſelf the Stile and Title of, King of England, by the Name of James the Third, or of Scotland, by the Name of James the Eighth, or the Stile and Title of King of Great Britain, it is become neceſſary to make ſome Alteration in the Oath of Abjuration, and the Aſſurance, contained in the ſaid Acts above mentioned: Be it therefore declared and 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 from and after the Fourth Day of June, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty ſix, the Oath of Abjuration in the ſaid Act above mentioned, be adminiſtered in ſuch Manner and Form as is herein after ſet down and preſcribed; (that is to ſay)

and Act 5 *Geo.* I.

From and after 4 *June*, 1766, the Oath of Abjuration required to be taken by the recited Acts, to be adminiſtered in the following Form.

The Form.

I *A. B.* do truly and ſincerely acknowledge, profeſs, teſtify, and declare, in my Conſcience, before God and the World, That our Sovereign Lord King *George* is lawful and rightful King of this Realm, and all other His Majeſty's Dominions and Countries thereunto belonging. And I do ſolemnly and ſincerely declare, That I do believe, in my Conſcience, That not any of the Deſcendants of the Perſon who pretended to be Prince of *Wales* during the Life of the late King *James* the Second, and, ſince his Deceaſe, pretended to be, and took upon himſelf the Stile

Stile and Title of, King of *England*, by the Name of *James* the Third, or of *Scotland*, by the Name of *James* the Eighth, or the Stile and Title of King of *Great Britain*, hath any Right or Title whatſoever to the Crown of this Realm, or any other the Dominions thereunto belonging: And I do renounce, refuſe, and abjure, any Allegiance or Obedience to any of them. And I do ſwear, That I will bear Faith and true Allegiance to His Majeſty King *George*, and Him will defend to the utmoſt of my Power, againſt all traiterous Conſpiracies and Attempts whatſoever, which ſhall be made againſt His Perſon, Crown, or Dignity. And I will do my utmoſt Endeavour to diſcloſe and make known to His Majeſty, and His Succeſſors, all Treaſons and traiterous Conſpiracies which I ſhall know to be againſt Him, or any of Them. And I do faithfully promiſe, to the utmoſt of my Power, to ſupport, maintain, and defend, the Succeſſion of the Crown, againſt the Deſcendants of the ſaid *James*, and againſt all other Perſons whatſoever, which Succeſſion, by an Act, intituled, *An Act for the further Limitation of the Crown, and better ſecuring the Rights and Liberties of the Subject*, is and ſtands limited to the Princeſs *Sophia*, Electoreſs and Dutcheſs Dowager of *Hanover*, and the Heirs of her Body, being Proteſtants. And all theſe Things I do plainly and ſincerely acknowledge and ſwear, according to theſe expreſs Words by me ſpoken, and according to the plain common Senſe and Underſtanding of the ſame Words, without any Equivocation, mental Evaſion, or ſecret Reſervation whatſoever. And I do make this Recognition, Acknowledgement, Abjuration, Renunciation, and Promiſe, heartily, willingly, and truly, upon the true Faith of a Chriſtian.

And that from and after the Twenty fourth Day of June, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty ſix, the Aſſurance, in the ſaid firſt-mentioned Act contained, be adminiſtered in ſuch Manner and Form as is herein after ſet down and preſcribed; that is to ſay,

And from and after 24 *June*, 1766, the Aſſurance in firſt recited Act, to be adminiſtered in the following Form.

I *A. B.* do, in the Sincerity of my Heart, aſſert, acknowledge, and declare, That His Majeſty King *George* is the only lawful and undoubted Sovereign of this Realm, as well *de Jure*, that is, of Right King, as *de Facto*, that is, in the Poſſeſſion and Exerciſe of the Government. And therefore I do promiſe and ſwear, That I will with Heart and Hand, Life and Goods, maintain and defend his Right, Title, and Government, againſt the Deſcendants of the Perſon who pretended to be Prince of *Wales*

The Form.

during the Life of the late King *James*, and, ſince his Deceaſe, pretended to be, and took upon himſelf the Stile and Title of, King of *England*, by the Name of *James* the Third, or, of *Scotland*, by the Name of *James* the Eighth, or the Stile and Title of King of *Great Britain*, and their Adherents; and all other Enemies who, either by open or ſecret Attempts, ſhall diſturb or diſquiet His Majeſty in the Poſſeſſion and Exerciſe thereof.

The ſaid Oath, and Aſſurance, to be adminiſtered, taken, and ſubſcribed, within the Time, and in the Manner, &c. as by the recited Acts are directed.

And that all and every Perſon and Perſons who are enjoyned and required to adminiſter, take, or ſubſcribe, the Oath of Abjuration, and the Aſſurance, in the ſaid above mentioned Acts contained, ſhall reſpectively adminiſter, take, and ſubſcribe, the Oath of Abjuration, and ſubſcribe the Aſſurance, according to the Form herein ſet down and preſcribed, in ſuch Courts, within ſuch Time limited, in ſuch Manner, and with due Obſervance of the ſame Requiſites, and with Benefit of the ſame Savings, Proviſoes, and Indemnities, as by the ſaid Acts above mentioned, or by any other Acts, or any Part of them, now ſubſiſting, are directed and enacted; and in caſe of Neglect or Refuſal, he or they ſhall be ſubject and liable to the ſame Penalties and Diſabilities as, by the Laws and Statutes aforeſaid, are enacted.

From and after 1 *Auguſt*, 1766, the ſame Oath of Abjuration to be taken in *Ireland*, and other His Majeſty's Dominions. Benefit of Indemnities granted by Act of 1 *Geo.* I. to be in Force in *Ireland*.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the Firſt Day of Auguſt, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty ſix, the ſame Oath of Abjuration by this Act appointed to be taken in Great Britain, ſhall be the Oath of Abjuration to be taken in the Kingdom of Ireland, and the reſt of His Majeſty's Dominions, and no other; and that the Benefit of the Indemnities given by the ſaid firſt mentioned Act of the Firſt Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King George the Firſt, ſhall continue and be in Force, as to the ſaid Kingdom of Ireland, in like Manner as if this Act had never been made; any thing herein contained to the contrary in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

Clauſe in Act 7 *Annæ*.

And whereas by an Act paſſed in the Seventh Year of the Reign of Her late Majeſty Queen Anne, intituled, An Act for improving the Union of the Two Kingdoms, it is enacted, That from and after the Deceaſe of the Perſon who pretended to be Prince of Wales during the Life of the late King James, and, ſince his Deceaſe, pretended to be King of Great Britain, and at the End of the Term of Three Years after the immediate Succeſſion to the Crown upon the Demiſe of Her ſaid late Majeſty ſhould take Effect, when any Perſon is indicted for High Treaſon, or Miſpriſion of Treaſon, a Liſt of the

the Witnesses that shall be produced on the Trial for proving the said Indictment, and of the Jury, mentioning the Names, Profession, and Place of Abode, of the said Witnesses and Jurors, be also given, at the same Time that the Copy of the Indictment is delivered, to the Party indicted; and that Copies of all Indictments for the Offences aforesaid, with such Lists, shall be delivered to the Party indicted Ten Days before the Trial, and in Presence of Two or more credible Witnesses; be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That nothing contained in the said recited Act, shall any ways extend to any Indictment of High Treason for counterfeiting His Majesty's Coin, the Great Seal or Privy Seal, His Sign Manual, or Privy Signet, or to any Indictment of High Treason, or to any Proceedings thereupon against any Offender or Offenders who, by any Act or Acts now in Force, is and are to be indicted, arraigned, tried, and convicted, by such like Evidence, and in such Manner, as is used and allowed against Offenders for counterfeiting His Majesty's Coin.

Recited Act not to extend to Indictments for counterfeiting the Coin, Privy Seal, Privy Signet, or other Indictments of High Treason, &c.

FINIS.