

## C A P. II. (12.)

*An act concerning the commissioners of the admiralty.*

**W**HEREAS the office of lord high admiral of England hath at sundry times, and for several years, been executed, and till the authorities to the same belonging exercised, by divers commissioners for that purpose appointed by their Majesties and the late Kings, but of late some doubt hath risen, whether certain authorities belonging to the said office of lord high admiral did or do of right belong to, and might, may, or ought to have been or be exercised by such commissioners for the time being: now for avoiding all such doubts and questions,

The power of admiral may be executed by commissioners.

II. Be it declared and enacted by the King's and Queen's most excellent majesties, 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 and singular authorities, jurisdictions, and powers, which by any act of parliament or otherwise have been, and are lawfully vested, settled, and placed in the lord high admiral of England for the time being, have always appertained to, and of right might have been, and may, and shall be had, enjoyed, used, exercised, and executed by the commissioners for executing the office of high admiral of England for the time being, according to their commissions, to all intents and purposes, as if the said commissioners were lord high admiral of England.

This act gives no new power.

III. Provided, That nothing in this act contained shall extend, or be taken, or construed to extend, to give or allow to the lord high admiral, or to the commissioners for executing the office of high admiral, any other authority, jurisdiction, or power, than the lord high admiral lawfully had, or might have had, used and exercised, if this act had not been made.

Officers tryers shall take an oath.

IV. Provided always, and be it enacted, That upon all tryals of offenders by courts martial to be held by virtue of any commission to be granted by the lord high admiral, or the commissioners for executing the office of high admiral, every officer present shall before any proceeding to tryal, take an oath before the court (which oath the judge advocate, or his deputy for the time being, are hereby respectively authorized to administer) in these words following;

The oath.

**Y**OU shall well and truly try and determine the matter now before you, between our sovereign lord and lady the King and Queen's majesties, and the prisoner to be tryed;

So help you God.

*This clause directing the oath to be taken by officers upon trials is repealed by 22 Geo. 2. c. 33.*

## C A P. III. (13.)

*An act for doubling the duty of excise upon beer, ale, and other liquors, during the space of one year.*

C A P.