

Suppressing Blasphemy and Swearing.

N^o 22.

other Magistrate, if the Conviction be by Oath or Confession before them, to be whipped by the Constable, or other Person especially to be appointed, as aforesaid; or by the Parent, Guardian or Master of such Offender, in the Presence of such Magistrate, Constable, or other Person, as aforesaid, provided such whipping exceed not what is above directed for any one Offence, or at any one Time of Punishment.

or be whipped.

IV. And be it further Enacted, That if any the Officers or Persons aforesaid, appointed as aforesaid to act judicially in the putting this Act in Execution, shall wilfully and wittingly omit the Performance of what is required of them by this Act, or shall be guilty of the like Offences of Cursing or Swearing themselves, in the Presence of any other Officer, or shall be thereof convicted upon Oath made, or Confession, as aforesaid, shall forfeit the Sum of Ten Shillings for every such Offence or Omission; and the Magistrate before whom such Offence or Conviction shall happen, shall certify the same under his Hand and Seal, to the Justices of the County Court of the County where such Offence or Omission shall be committed or made, who are hereby required to award Execution thereupon by *Levati Facias*, against the Body, Goods or Chattels of such Offender, to be applied to the Uses aforesaid.

Magistrates swearing themselves, or omitting to punish it, forfeit double;

And his Conviction to be certified to Court.

V. And be it further Enacted, That in case any the Offenders aforesaid shall use any abusive, reviling or threatening Speeches against any the Persons that shall put the same in Execution against them, upon their doing thereof, such Speeches shall be deemed a Breach of good Behaviour; for the sure keeping whereof, for the space of three Months then next following, in general, and especially to such Officer as shall convict them, they shall be bound with two sufficient Sureties in Five Pounds Penalty at the least, or be committed, for want thereof: And in case any Assault or Battery shall be made by such Offender against such Officer, as aforesaid, upon the putting this Act in Execution, as aforesaid, that then such Offender shall be indicted for the same. And in case the Party grieved shall sue such Offender for such Assault and Battery, he shall recover treble Damages, and such Offender shall be bound over, as aforesaid.

Offenders that abuse or revile the Magistrates, are Breakers of the Peace, and shall be bound over.

In case they assault, shall be indicted, and if sued, shall pay treble Damages.

VI. And in case any Suit or Action shall be commenced or brought against any the Persons whatsoever, for doing or causing to be done any thing in pursuance of this Act, concerning the said Offences, the Defendant in such Action may plead the General Issue, and give the special Matter in Evidence: and if upon such Action, Verdict be given for the Defendant, or the Plaintiff become Non-suit, or discontinue his Action, then the Defendant shall have treble Costs.

Persons sued for executing this Act, may plead the General Issue.

And give special Matter in Evidence, and recover treble Damages.

VII. Pro.