## **DOCUMENTS**

# ILLUSTRATIVE OF ENGLISH CHURCH HISTORY

COMPILED FROM ORIGINAL SOURCES

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### LV.

#### THE SUPREMACY ACT, A. D. 1534.

26 HENRY VIII, CAP. 1.

This Act was passed in November, 1534; it was repealed by Mary's second Act of repeal (post, No. LXXVI), which repeal was confirmed by I Elizabeth, cap. I (post, No. LXXIX). It should be noted that the saving clause in the Submission of the Clergy of A.D. 1532 (ante, No. XLVIII) is dropped in this Act.

[Transcr. Statutes of the Realm, iii. 402.]

Albeit the king's majesty justly and rightfully is and ought The king is to be the supreme head of the Church of England, and so supreme head of is recognized by the clergy of this realm in their Convoca- the Church tions, yet nevertheless for corroboration and confirmation of England, and so thereof, and for increase of virtue in Christ's religion recognized within this realm of England, and to repress and extirp all in Convoerrors, heresies, and other enormities and abuses heretofore used in the same; be it enacted by authority of this present Parliament, that the king our sovereign lord, his heirs

1534.

[584. That title his successors.

and successors, kings of this realm, shall be taken, accepted, and reputed the only supreme head in earth of the Church connrmed to him and of England, called Anglicana Ecclesia; and shall have and enjoy, annexed and united to the imperial crown of this realm, as well the title and style thereof, as all honours, dignities, pre-eminences, jurisdictions, privileges, authorities, immunities, profits, and commodities to the said dignity of supreme head of the same Church belonging and appertaining; and that our said sovereign lord, his heirs and succesthe king to sors, kings of this realm, shall have full power and authority siastically, from time to time to visit, repress, redress, reform, order, correct, restrain, and amend all such errors, heresies, abuses, ecclesiasti- offences, contempts, and enormities, whatsoever they be, cal abuses. which by any manner spiritual authority or jurisdiction ought or may lawfully be reformed, repressed, ordered, redressed, corrected, restrained, or amended, most to the pleasure of Almighty God, the increase of virtue in Christ's religion, and for the conservation of the peace, unity, and tranquillity of this realm; any usage, custom, foreign law, foreign authority, prescription, or any other thing or things to the contrary hereof notwithstanding.

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