

STATUTES

Made at WESTMINSTER, Anno Regni CAROLI II. Regis Angliæ
&c. duodecimo and A. D. 1660.

CAP. XXIV.

An Act for Taking away the Court of Wards and Liveries, and Tenures *in Capite*, and by Knights-Service, and Purveyance, and for settling a Revenue upon his Majesty in lieu thereof.

VIII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That where any Person hath, or shall have any Child or Children under the Age of one and twenty Years, and not married at the Time of his Death, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Father of such Child or Children, whether born at the Time of the Decease of the Father, or at that Time in *ventre sa mere*; or whether such Father be within the Age of one and twenty Years, or of full Age, by his Deed executed in his Life-time, or by his last Will and Testament in Writing, in the Presence of two or more credible Witnesses; in such Manner, and from Time to Time as he shall respectively think fit, to dispose of the Custody and Tuition of such Child or Children, for, and during such Time as he or they shall respectively remain under the Age of one and twenty Years, or any lesser Time, to any Person or Persons in Possession or Remainder, other than Popish Recusants; (2) and that such Disposition of the Custody of such Child or Children made since the twenty-fourth of *February*, one thousand six hundred forty-five, or hereafter to be made, shall be good and effectual against all and every Person or Persons claiming the Custody or Tuition of such Child or Children as Guardian in Socage or otherwise: (3) And that such Person or Persons to whom the Custody of such Child or Children hath been, or shall be so **467** *disposed or devised, as aforesaid, shall and may maintain an Action of Ravishment of Ward or Trespass, against any Person or Persons which shall wrongfully take away or detain such Child or Children, for the Recovery of such Child or Children; (4) and shall and may recover Damages for the