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# ANGLIA

**A**NGLIAE REGNUM Albionis pars maxima ab Anglis inter Iutas & Saxones circa Slesvium cum in Cymbrica Chersoneso sitis, nomen accepit. Vnde autem dicti sint Angli, varia est doctorum opinio, eiusque rei cupidum Lectorem eo relegamus. Angliæ Rex supremam potestatem & merum imperium habet, nec in Imperij clientela est, nec inuestituram ab alio quouis accipit, nec præter Deum superiorem agnoscit. Eius subditi vel sunt Laici vel Ecclesiastici: Item sunt vel nobiles vel plebei. Nobiles sunt vel maiores: vt Duces, Comites & Barones: vel minores vt equites aurati, Armigeri & qui vulgo generosi & Gentelmen dicuntur. Hi omnes aut Hereditario iure his titulis gaudent aut iisdem virtutis ergo à Rege exornantur. Ducis autem nomen soli Regis filio natu maximo hoc tempore conuenit: quamuis olim plures eo titulo insigniti fuerint. Plebei ciues sunt, qui in sua quilibet vrbe publicis funguntur muneribus & in Parlamentarijs Angliæ comitijs locū habent: vel ingenui, quos Legales homines Lex vocat & ex agris quos optimo iure tenent, quadraginta ad minimū solidos quotannis colligunt: vel opifices, qui mercede operam locant. Diuiditur autem tota Anglia in Comitatus quos vel conuentus vel pagos propriè & latine voces. Angli vero peculiari vocabulo Shyres appellant à Scyre Saxonica dictione, quæ partiri & diuidere significat. Comitatus vero in centurias (quæ in nonnullis partibus VVapentaches à tactu armorum nominantur) & hæc in decurias diuiduntur. In his Comitatus difficilioribus temporibus, præfectus Regius, quem Lieutenant vocant, ne quid detrimenti respublica capiat, constituitur. Singulis vero annis nobilis aliquis ex incolis præficitur, quem vicecomitem, quasi vicarium Comitatus & Anglica lingua Shyriffe, id est, Comitatus præpositum vocant: qui etiã Comitatus vel Prouinciæ Quæstor rectè dici potest. Eius enim est publicas pecunias prouinciæ suæ conquirere, multas irrogatas vel pignoribus ablatis colligere, & ærario inferre: Iudicibus præsto adesse, & eorum mandata exequi: Duodecim viros cogere, qui in causis de facto cognoscunt (& ad iudices referunt) Iudices enim apud Anglos iuris solum & non facti sunt iudices) condemnatos ad supplicium ducere & in minoribus litibus cognoscere. In maioribus autem ius dicunt iustitiarij, quos olim itinerrantes, nunc Iustitarios ad Assisas vocant, qui quotannis hos Comitatus bis obeunt, vt de causis cognoscant & de incarceratis sententiam ferant. Hi autem ab Henrico II. instituti vel potius restituti iurant se cuiuslibet ius suum conseruatueros illæsum.

## Nomina Comitatum hæc sunt.

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Quod ad Ecclesiasticam jurisdictionem attinet, duas nunc habet Anglia prouincias. Archiepiscopos item duos: Cantuariensem totius Angliæ Primatem & Eboracensem, quibus subsunt Episcopi sequentes.

## Sub Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, qui & Roffensis est, subsunt Episcopi:

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