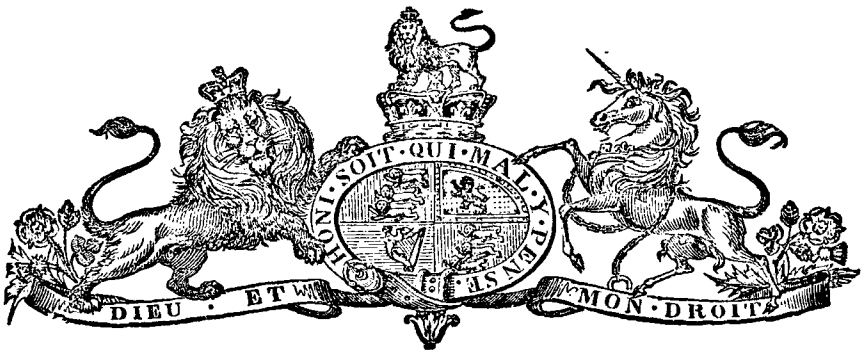


ANNO TRICESIMO & TRICESIMO PRIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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CAP. CXXX.

An Act for the Regulation of Agricultural Gangs.

[20th *August* 1867.]

WHEREAS in certain Counties in *England* certain Persons known as Gangmasters hire Children, Young Persons, and Women with a view to contracting with Farmers and others for the Execution on their Lands of various Kinds of Agricultural Work: And whereas it is expedient to make Regulations with respect to the Employment of Children, Young Persons, and Women by Gangmasters:

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, 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, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited for all Purposes as "The Agricultural Gangs Act, 1867." Short Title.

2. This Act shall come into operation on the First of *January* One thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight. Commencement of Act.

3. The

Agricultural Gangs.

Definition of Terms.

3. The following Words and Expressions shall in this Act have the Meanings hereby assigned to them, unless there is something in the Context inconsistent with such Meanings; that is to say,

"Child" shall mean a Child under the Age of Thirteen Years:

"Young Person" shall mean a Person of the Age of Thirteen Years and under the Age of Eighteen Years:

"Woman" shall mean a Female of the Age of Eighteen Years or upwards:

"Gangmaster" shall mean any Person, whether Male or Female, who hires Children, Young Persons, or Women with a view to their being employed in Agricultural Labour on Lands not in his own Occupation; and, until the contrary is proved, any Children, Young Persons, or Women employed in Agricultural Labour on Lands not in the Occupation of the Person who hired them shall be deemed to have been hired with the aforesaid View:

"Agricultural Gang" shall mean a Body of Children, Young Persons, and Women, or any of them, under the Control of a Gangmaster.

Regulations as to Gangs.

4. The following Regulations shall be observed by every Gangmaster with respect to the Employment of Children, Young Persons, and Women:

(1.) No Child under the Age of Eight Years shall be employed in any Agricultural Gang:

(2.) No Females shall be employed in the same Agricultural Gang with Males:

(3.) No Female shall be employed in any Gang under any Male Gangmaster unless a Female licensed to act as Gangmaster is also present with that Gang:

And any Gangmaster employing any Child, Young Person, or Woman in contravention of this Section, and any Occupier of Land on which such Employment takes place, unless he proves that it took place without his Knowledge, shall respectively be liable to a Penalty not exceeding Twenty Shillings for each Child, Young Person, or Woman so employed.

Gangmasters to be licensed.

5. No Person shall act as a Gangmaster unless he has obtained a Licence to act as such under this Act.

Any Person acting as a Gangmaster without a Licence under this Act shall incur a Penalty not exceeding Twenty Shillings for every Day during which he so acts.

Licences not to be granted to Keepers of Public Houses.

6. No Licence shall be granted to any Person who is licensed to sell Beer, Spirits, or any other exciseable Liquor.

7. Licences

Licences to Gangmasters.

7. Licences to Gangmasters shall be granted by Two or more Justices in Divisional Petty Sessions, on due Proof to the Satisfaction of such Justices that the Applicant for a Licence is of good Character, and a fit Person to be intrusted with the Management of an Agricultural Gang.

The Justices shall annex to their Licence a Condition limiting, in such Manner as they think expedient, the Distances within which the Children employed by such Gangmaster are to be allowed to travel on Foot to their Work, and any Gangmaster violating the Condition so annexed to his Licence shall for each Offence be liable to a Penalty not exceeding Ten Shillings.

Any Person aggrieved by the Refusal of the Justices to grant him a Licence to act as Gangmaster may appeal to the next practicable Court of General or Quarter Sessions; and it shall be lawful for such Court, if they see Cause, to grant a Licence to the Applicant, which shall be of the same Validity as if it had been granted by the Justices in Petty Sessions.

Renewal of Licences.

8. Licences under this Act shall be in force for Six Months only, and may be renewed on similar Proof to that on which an original Licence is granted.

Fees in respect of Licences.

9. There shall be charged in respect of each Grant or Renewal of Licence a Fee of One Shilling, and such Fee shall be accounted for and applied in manner in which the Fees ordinarily received by the Authority granting the Licence are applicable.

Licence how affected by Conviction of Gangmaster.

10. On any Conviction of a Gangmaster of any Offence against this Act the Justices who convict him shall endorse on his Licence the Fact of such Conviction; and on any Conviction of such Gangmaster of a Second Offence against this Act the Justices may, in addition to any other Penalty, withhold his Licence for a Period not exceeding Three Months; and on any Conviction of any Gangmaster of a Third Offence against this Act the Justices may, in addition to any other Penalty, withhold his Licence for a Period not exceeding Two Years.

And after a Fourth Conviction for an Offence against this Act the Gangmaster shall be disqualified from holding or receiving a Licence under this Act.

Recovery of Penalties.

11. All Penalties under this Act may be recovered summarily before Two or more Justices in manner directed by an Act passed in the Session holden in the Eleventh and Twelfth Years of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen *Victoria*, Chapter Forty-three, intituled *An Act to facilitate the Performance of the Duties of Justices of the Peace*

11 & 12 Vict. c. 43.

Peace out of Sessions within England *and* Wales *with respect to summary Convictions and Orders*, or any Act amending the same.

Extent of Act.

12. This Act shall not apply to *Scotland* or *Ireland*.

LONDON:
Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1867.