

ANNO VICESIMO QUARTO & VICESIMO QUINTO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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CAP. CXXXVII.

An Act for limiting and regulating the Treasury Chest Fund. [6th *August* 1861.]

WHEREAS various Sums were granted by Parliament from Time to Time, up to the Year One thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, for defraying certain Services denominated "The Extraordinaries of the Army:" And whereas a Fund now called "The Treasury Chest Fund," the available Balance of which amounted on the Thirty-first Day of *March* One thousand eight hundred and sixty to the Sum of One million three hundred and thirty thousand seven hundred and one Pounds Three Shillings and Threepence, has arisen out of the said Grants, and from the Receipt of other Moneys on the Public Account, and the said Fund has been employed, under the Direction of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, as a Banking Fund for facilitating Remittances, and for temporary Advances for Public and Colonial Services, to be repaid out of the Moneys appropriated by Parliament or otherwise applicable to those Services: And whereas it is expedient to maintain in the Treasury Chest Fund a sufficient available Balance for supplying the several Treasury Chests with Moneys for carrying on the Public Service, to limit the Amount of such Balance, and to make other Provisions in respect of the said Fund: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and

 Consent

Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, as follows:

Available Balance of Treasury Chest Fund to be limited as herein mentioned, and Surplus to form Part of Consolidated Fund.

1. From and after the passing of this Act, the available Balance of the Treasury Chest Fund shall be limited not to exceed the Sum of One million three hundred thousand Pounds; and in case upon the taking of the first annual Account herein-after directed, or upon the taking of any subsequent annual Account, such available Balance be found to exceed the said Sum of One million three hundred thousand Pounds, the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall direct the Surplus of such Balance above the said Sum of One million three hundred thousand Pounds to be paid to and form Part of the Consolidated Fund.

How Commissioners of Treasury are to employ the said Fund.

2. It shall be lawful for the said Commissioners to employ from Time to Time the said Treasury Chest Fund, or the Balances in the Hands of Persons acting as Paymasters for the same Fund, in the Purchase of Specie, and Payment of Bills drawn on the said Commissioners for the Supply of the several Treasury Chests, in making temporary Advances for Public and Colonial Services, to be repaid to the Treasury Chest Fund out of the Money appropriated by Parliament to such Services, or out of such other Moneys as may be applicable thereto, and in the Repayment of Moneys deposited in any of the Treasury Chests abroad on account of the Public Service: Provided always, that no Expenditure whatsoever shall be finally defrayed out of or permanently charged upon the said Fund.

Annual Abstract Account of said Fund to be made by Commissioners of Audit, and laid before Parliament by the Commissioners of the Treasury, with Returns of Special Warrants and Account of Claims outstanding.

3. The Commissioners for auditing the Public Accounts shall prepare an annual Abstract Account, made up to and including the Thirty-first Day of *March* in every Year, showing the Sums received into and paid out of the several Treasury Chests in the Financial Year ending such Thirty-first Day of *March*, and the Balances remaining on that Day in the Hands of each of the Persons acting as Paymasters for the Treasury Chest Fund; and such Account shall also show the Liabilities and Assets of the said Fund, and the available Balance thereof, on the said Thirty-first Day of *March*; and there shall be prepared by the Commissioners for auditing the Public Accounts Two Returns, showing the Special Warrants, if any, which may have been issued by Officers commanding Her Majesty's Troops at Foreign Stations for Advances or Payments from Treasury Chests not contemplated in the Regulations for the ordinary Service at the Stations; the one such Return being for the Period embraced in the said Account, and the other for the Period between the Termination of

of the Account and the Thirty-first Day of *December* following. There shall also be prepared by the said Commissioners an Account showing all the Debts due on the closing of the annual Abstract Account to the Treasury Chest Fund, and all Claims upon that Fund then outstanding, which were so due and outstanding on the Thirty-first Day of *March* of the Financial Year preceding the Year embraced in the Account; and the Commissioners for auditing the Public Accounts shall transmit the said annual Abstract Account, and the said Returns of Special Warrants and Account of outstanding Claims, to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, who shall annex to the said Returns and Account of Claims such Explanations or Observations as they may think fit, and shall lay the whole of the Documents so prepared before the House of Commons on or before the Thirty-first Day of *March* in the Year following the Termination of such Abstract Account, if Parliament be sitting, or if Parliament be not sitting, then within One Week after the next Meeting of Parliament.

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