

ANNO QUADRAGESIMO SEXTO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. LXIX.

An Act for making better Provision for Soldiers.

[20th *June* 1806.]

WHEREAS it is expedient that Provision should be made for the securing to invalid, disabled, and discharged Soldiers, such Pensions and Allowances as they may become entitled to by reason of their Service, or of their having become invalid, or disabled; and that the same should be regulated and paid by or under the Management, Order, Superintendance, and Direction, of the Commissioners of *Chelsea* Hospital; may it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King'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, That, from and after the passing of this Act, the Payment of all Pensions, Allowances, and Relief granted or to be granted to disabled, invalid, or discharged Soldiers, shall be under the Management, Controul, and Direction of the Commissioners for the Time being of *Chelsea* Hospital.

Pensions to Soldiers to be under the Management of the Commissioners of Chelsea Hospital,

II. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any Three or more of them, for the Time being, to make such Orders, Rules, and Regulations, and from Time to Time to alter the same, in relation to the Payment of any Pensions, Allowances, or Relief to any Soldiers entitled thereto, and also as to any Certificates, Vouchers, Receipts, or Orders for the better regulating, managing, and making

who may make Orders and Regulations for the Payment of Pensions, &c.

making such Payments, and to require such Proofs and Affidavits relating thereto, as may be requisite for the ordering and securing the Payment of such Pensions, Allowances, and Relief, either at *Chelsea* or at *Kilmainham* Hospitals, or in any other Place where the same shall be payable to the Persons entitled thereto, as the Case may be: Provided always, that every such Order or Regulation may from Time to Time be revoked or altered by any Warrant, Order, or Instruction, under His Majesty's Royal Sign Manual.

Such Orders may be revoked by His Majesty.

Soldiers entitled to receive such Pensions as shall be fixed in the Regulations made by His Majesty at their Inlistment.

III. And be it further enacted, That every Soldier who shall from and after the passing of this Act become entitled to his Discharge, by reason of the Expiration of any Period of Service fixed in any Orders and Regulations made by His Majesty in that Behalf, or shall have been discharged by reason of being an invalid, or disabled, or having been wounded, shall thereupon become legally entitled to receive such Pension, Allowance, or Relief, as shall have been fixed in any Orders or Regulations made by His Majesty in relation to such Cases respectively, and in force at the Time of his Inlistment, and for the Payment whereof Money shall have been voted by Parliament; and every such Soldier may claim to be paid or receive the same under the Provisions of this Act, or any Rules or Regulations made in pursuance thereof by such Commissioners as aforesaid.

Orders and Regulations relating to Discharge of Soldiers after Expiration of Periods of Service, and to Pensions, to be annually laid before Parliament.

IV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That all Orders and Regulations from Time to Time made by His Majesty in relation to the Discharge of Soldiers after the Expiration of any Periods of Service, and also in relation to any Pension, Allowance, or Relief to any discharged or invalid, disabled, or wounded Soldiers, shall annually be laid before Parliament; and that Estimates of the Amount of all such Pensions, Allowances, and Relief, and of all contingent Expences and Charges relating to the Payment, Controul, and Management thereof, shall also be annually laid before Parliament.

Soldiers to remain entitled to the Benefits under the Regulations made at the Time of enlisting.

V. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That every Soldier enlisted under any such Orders or Regulations as aforesaid shall thenceforth remain entitled to all the Benefit of all the Provisions contained in all such Orders and Regulations made by His Majesty as shall have been or were in force at the Time of his so enlisting, notwithstanding such Orders or Regulations may be thereafter altered, varied, or annulled, and new Orders or Regulations made in lieu thereof.

Treasury may order Pensions to be paid by Receiver General of Land Tax, &c.

VI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury in *Great Britain*, and *Ireland* respectively, to order and direct that any Pensions, Allowances, and Relief so due as aforesaid, for the Payment whereof Money shall have been voted by Parliament, shall be paid by any Receiver General of the Land Tax, or Collector of the Cess in *Scotland*, or any Collector of Duties of Customs or Excise, or any Collector of the Duties under the Management of the Commissioners for the Affairs of Taxes, out of any publick Money in their Hands respectively; and that the Vouchers and Receipts for the Payments of such Money shall be taken as Cash in the Accounts, and in Part of the Duties collected by such Receivers General or Collectors respectively; and all such Sums of Money so advanced under any such Rule or Regulation for any such Payment shall be repaid to the Account

of the Duties out of which the same shall have been paid, in such Manner as the said Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury in *Great Britain* or *Ireland* respectively shall direct.

Assignments of Pensions void.

VII. And be it further enacted, That all Assignments, Bargains, Sales, Orders, Contracts, Agreements, or Securities whatsoever, which shall be given or made by any Person entitled to any such Pension, Allowance, or Relief as aforesaid, for, upon, or in respect of any such his Pension, Allowance, or Relief, shall be absolutely null and void to all Intents and Purposes.

Personating Persons entitled to Pensions, declared Felony.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act if any Person shall willingly and knowingly personate or falsely assume the Name or Character of, or procure any other Person to personate or falsely to assume the Name or Character of any other Person entitled or supposed to be entitled to any such Pension, Allowance, or Relief as aforesaid, in order to receive the same or any Part thereof, every such Person so offending, and being lawfully convicted thereof, shall be deemed guilty of Felony, and suffer Death as in Cases of Felony, without Benefit of Clergy.

Forging their Names, or the Names of Persons required to sign Certificates, &c. relative to the Payment of Pensions, punished by Transportation.

IX. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall knowingly and wilfully forge or counterfeit, or cause or procure to be forged or counterfeited, or knowingly and wilfully act or assist in forging and counterfeiting the Name or Hand Writing of any Person entitled to any such Pension, Allowance, or Relief, or of any Person or Persons required by any Rules or Regulations made under and by virtue of this Act to sign any Certificate, Voucher, or Receipt, in relation to the Payment of any such Pension, Allowance, or Relief, for and in order to the receiving or obtaining any Money on any such Pension, Allowance, or Relief; or shall utter any such, knowing the same to be forged or counterfeited, with an Intention to defraud any Person whatsoever, every such Person so offending, being thereof lawfully convicted, shall be and is hereby declared and adjudged to be guilty of Felony, and may be transported for Life, or for such Term of Years as the Court shall adjudge.

Justices, &c. to enquire into the Truth of Certificates required to be produced by Persons claiming Pensions.

X. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Justice of the Peace or Magistrate, or any Receiver General of the Land Tax, Collector of the Cess in *Scotland*, Collector of the Customs, or Collector of Excise, to enquire into the Truth of any Certificate or Voucher required by any such Rules or Regulations, and produced to him by any Person claiming any Pension, Allowance, or Relief under any such Certificate or Voucher, or any Person acting for him, by the Oath or Affirmation of the Person producing the same, which Oath or Affirmation any such Justice of the Peace, or Magistrate, or Receiver General, or Collector aforesaid, is hereby authorised and required to administer, and upon being satisfied of the Truth of such Certificate or Voucher, to testify the same on the Back of such Certificate or Voucher, and every Person who shall in any such Oath or Affirmation wilfully and corruptly swear or affirm any Matter or Thing which shall be false or untrue, every such Person so offending, and being thereof lawfully convicted, shall be and is hereby declared to be subject and liable to the like Pains and Penalties as any Person convicted of wilful and corrupt Perjury is by any Law now in force subject and liable to.

XI. And

Orders and Certificates to be free from the Duty on Stamps.

XI. And be it further enacted, That all Orders, Certificates, Vouchers, and Receipts, for or relating to any ſuch Penſions, Allowances, or Relief as aforeſaid, ſhall be free from all Duties of Stamps, and be good, valid, and effectual, although the ſame ſhall not have been ſtamped; any Thing in any Act contained to the contrary notwithſtanding.

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