

ANNO SECUNDO & TERTIO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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CAP. XXVIII.

An Act for more equally assessing and levying Watch Rates in certain Boroughs.

[19th *July* 1839.]

WHEREAS by reason of the Restrictions contained in an Act passed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty, intituled *An Act to provide for the Regulation of Municipal Corporations in* England *and* Wales, the Watch Rate authorized by the said Act to be levied upon those Parts of the Boroughs within the Provisions of the said Act which are regularly watched is insufficient for that Purpose, and the Deficiency in many Cases is paid out of the Borough Rate, to which all Parts of the Borough, whether or not regularly watched, are liable: For Remedy thereof 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, That after the passing of this Act it shall be lawful for the Council of any Borough named in either of the Schedules to the said Act to levy a Watch Rate upon the Occupiers of all Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments within those Parts of the Borough which shall be watched by Day and by Night, and which from Time to Time, by any Order of the Council of any such Borough, shall be declared liable to such Watch Rate; and every such Rate shall be made upon an Estimate of the net annual

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Watch Rate may be levied not exceeding 6*d.* in the Pound, or in certain Cases the Average Rate.

Value

Value of the several Hereditaments rated thereunto, that is to say, of the Rent at which, one Year with another, the same might in their actual State be reasonably expected to let from Year to Year, the probable annual Average Cost of the Repairs, Insurances, and other Expences (if any) necessary to maintain the Hereditaments in their actual State, and all Rates, Taxes, and public Charges, except Tithes or Tithe Commutation Rent-charges (if any), being paid by the Tenant, and either by One Rate made yearly, or by Two or more Rates made Half-yearly, or otherwise: Provided always, that no such Rate shall exceed, in any One Year, the Rate of Sixpence in the Pound on the net annual Value of the Hereditaments rated thereunto, unless in those Boroughs in which, at the Time of passing the said Act, the Sum authorized by the said Act to be levied by way of Watch Rate exceeded the Sum which might have been then raised by the said Rate of Sixpence in the Pound; and in such Cases as last aforesaid it shall be lawful to levy a Watch Rate under this Act upon all the Hereditaments liable thereunto, at such Rate as would have sufficed to raise such greater Sum: Provided also, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to extend to either of the Universities, so as to make the Members thereof liable to pay to any Rate to be made in pursuance of this Act to which the said Universities or the Members thereof were not liable to contribute before the passing of this Act, nor shall be deemed to affect the Liability of the Borough Fund to make good any Deficiency of the Watch Rate towards the Expences of the Police, should any such Deficiency arise, nor to make liable to the Watch Rate any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments which are now exempted by any Local Act from the Payment of Watch Rates, or to alter the comparative Liability of any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to the Watch Rate, which by any Local Act are now, in respect of any Watch Rate, entitled to any Deduction from or chargeable with any Increase upon an equal Pound Rate; but the like comparative Deductions and increased Charges shall be made in respect of such Hereditaments in the Rates to which such Hereditaments shall be rated under this Act.

As to the Powers of the Council of any Borough.

II. And be it enacted, That for the Purposes aforesaid the Council of every such Borough, and all other Persons interested or concerned therein, shall have all the Powers heretofore given to them respectively, in the Matter of the Borough Rate and Watch Rate or either of them, by the said Act or by any other subsequent Act, for ordering, making, assessing, levying, raising, collecting, or paying the same, or as near thereto as the Nature of the Case will admit.

Act may be amended or repealed.

III. And be it enacted, That this Act may be amended or repealed by any Act to be passed during the present Session of Parliament.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and ANDREW SPOTTISWOODE, Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1839.