ANNO QUADRAGESIMO TERTIO

GEORGII III. REGIS

Cap. 128.

An Act for the Improvement of the Town of *Bedford*, in the County of *Bedford*, and for rebuilding the Bridge over the River *Ouze*, in the said Town.

[27th *July* 1803.]

WHEREAS the Town or Borough of *Bedford*, in the County of *Bedford*, is a populous trading Town, and publick Markets have for Time immemorial been held there on certain Days in every Week, and a publick Fair at divers Times in every Year: And whereas the present Guildhall of the said Town is in a ruinous and decayed State, and the present Market Places and Butchers Shambles are inconveniently situated for the Purposes of the Market, and the Passage along the publick Streets is greatly obstructed, and rendered inconvenient to Passengers and Travellers, by the Number of Stalls placed therein on Market Days; and great Nuisances are frequently committed by slaughtering Sheep and Cattle in the said publick Streets, or in Places open thereto: And whereas the several Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Passages and Places, within the said Town of *Bedford*, are in many Parts incommodious to Passengers, very ill paved, and not sufficiently cleansed, lighted, watched, or watered, and are subject to various Nuisances, Annoyances, Encroachments, and Obstructions: And whereas the Bridge over the River *Ouze*, in the said Town of *Bedford*, called *Bedford Bridge*, is very ancient, narrow, incovenient, and dangerous for the passing of Persons, Carriages, and Cattle, over the same, and the Piers of the said Bridge are so constructed as to impede the Current of the said River in Time of Flood, to the great

Injury of the Inhabitants of the ſaid Town: And whereas the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty of the Town and Borough of *Bedford* aforeſaid, for the Time being, are ſubject and liable to the Repairs of the ſaid Bridge, but do not poſſeſs any adequate Fund to enable them to rebuild the ſame: And whereas it would contribute much to the Benefit and Convenience of the Inhabitants of the ſaid Town, and to all Perſons having Occaſion to reſort thereto, as well as to the Increaſe of the Trade and Proſperity thereof, if the preſent Guildhall, Market Places, and Butchers Shambles, were taken down, and a new Guildhall, and new Market Houſes and Butchers Shambles, with proper Shops, Sheds, Stalls, Slaughter Houſes, and other Buildings and Conveniencies, were erected, and the Streets and Avenues leading thereto widened and improved; and if the Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages and Places within the ſaid Town, were properly paved, repaired, cleanſed, lighted, watched, watered, improved, and regulated, and all Nuiſances, Annoyances, Encroachments, and Obſtructions, removed and prevented in future; and alſo if the ſaid Bridge over the ſaid River *Ouze* was taken down and rebuilt, and proper Avenues, Ways, and Paſſages, leading to the ſaid intended Bridge, were opened, and made commodious; but inaſmuch as the ſeveral Purpoſes aforeſaid cannot be effectually accompliſhed without the Aid of Parliament: 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 the Mayor, Recorder, and Repreſentatives in Parliament for the Time being of the ſaid Town and Borough of *Bedford*, *Charles Bailey*, *Joſeph Barnard* the elder, *William Belſham*, *Edward Chapman* the elder, *Edward Chapman* the younger, *Thomas Cockman*, *John Cooke*, *John Thomas Dawſon*, *John Day*, *Iſaac Elger*, *John Foſter*, *Francis Green*, *Thomas Kidman*, *Richard Leach*, *George Livius*, *John Miller*, *Peregrine Naſh*, *Joſeph Okely*, *Benjamin Palmer*, *Edward Turner Palmer*, *John Parker*, *Theed Pearſe*, *John Pheaſant*, *Anthony Pulley*, *William Long*, *William Sharp*, *William Smith* Printer, *William Smith* Grazier, *Abraham Stapleton*, *William Stapleton*, *John Trapp*, *Charles Webb*, *William Whitworth*, *John Wing*, and *Grant David Yeats*, and the ſeveral other Perſons from Time to Time to be elected and appointed in Manner herein-after mentioned, ſhall be and they are hereby appointed Commiſſioners for putting this Act into Execution; and ſhall be ſtiled and called by the Name of *The Commiſſioners for the Improvement of the Town of Bedford, in the County of Bedford*; and by ſuch Name and Deſcription ſhall and may ſue and plead, and be ſued in all Courts and Places whatſoever; and by the ſame Name and Deſcription ſhall and may purchaſe, take, hold, and enjoy any Meſſuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, Goods, and Chattels, for the Purpoſes of this Act; and by that Name and Deſcription the ſaid Commiſſioners may and are hereby empowered to convey, aſſign, releaſe, tranſfer, let, ſet, demiſe, or diſpoſe of any ſuch Meſſuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments as there ſhall be Occaſion, ſubject to the Proviſions and Regulations herein-after contained; and in every Indictment to be preferred for any Felony or Miſdemeanour in ſtealing, taking, carrying away, demoliſhing, deſtroying, or damaging any of the Buildings, Works, Materials, Goods, or Chattels of the ſaid Commiſſioners, it ſhall be ſufficient to ſtate the ſame to be the Property of *The Commiſſioners for the Improvement of the Town of Bedford, in the County of Bedford.*

Commiſſioners.

II. And

Appointment of new Commissioners.

II. And be it further enacted, That in case any of the Commissioners appointed or hereafter to be appointed under or by virtue of this Act, shall refuse or neglect to act for the Space of Twelve Calendar Months together, after having been duly convened by the Clerk to the said Commissioners, or shall die, or become disqualified or disabled from acting as a Commissioner by virtue of this Act, then and so often it shall be lawful for the surviving or remaining Commissioners under this Act, or any Five or more of them, assembled at the then next or some subsequent Meeting which shall be held by virtue of this Act, and they are hereby required (the Refusal or Neglect to act, or the Death, Disqualification, or Disability of such Commissioner or Commissioners as last aforesaid, and the intended Election of his or their Successor or Successors, being expressed in the Notice of Summons for such Meeting), to elect and appoint a Commissioner, qualified as herein-after mentioned, in the room and stead of every such Commissioner so refusing or neglecting to act, or dying, or becoming disqualified or disabled to act as before mentioned; and every such Commissioner so from Time to Time elected and appointed as hereinbefore is directed, shall be joined with the other Commissioners, and have the like Power and Authority vested in him in all Respects whatsoever for putting this Act in Execution, as if he had been named a Commissioner in and by this Act.

Qualification of Commissioners.

III. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Person (save and except such Persons, who, by virtue of their respective Offices, are by this Act appointed Commissioners) shall be capable of acting as a Commissioner in the Execution of this Act, (otherwise than in administering the Oath herein-after mentioned), unless at the Time of his acting he shall be in his own Right, or in the Right of his Wife, in the actual Possession and Enjoyment or Receipt of the Rents and Profits of a Real Estate, lying within the Town and County of *Bedford*, or either of them, of the clear yearly Value of Ten Pounds above Reprizes, or shall be rated, or liable to be rated by virtue or for the Purposes of this Act, at or for the annual Value of Fifteen Pounds, and shall have taken and subscribed an Oath to the following Effect (which Oath any One of the Commissioners is hereby empowered to administer):

Oath of Qualification.

'I *A. B.* do swear, That I am truly in my own Right [*or*, in the Right of my Wife] in the actual Possession or Enjoyment, or the Receipt of the Rents and Profits of a Real Estate, situate and being within the Town and County of *Bedford*, or One of them, of the clear yearly Value of Ten Pounds above Reprizes; or that I am rated or liable to be rated at and for the annual Value of Fifteen Pounds under and by virtue of an Act of Parliament, made in the Forty-third Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, intituled, *An Act* [*here set forth the Title of this Act*] and that I will well and truly execute and perform all and every the Powers and Authorities vested in me in pursuance of the said Act, according to the best of my Skill and Judgement.

'So help me GOD.'

And that no Person who, by virtue of his Office, is by this Act appointed a Commissioner, shall be capable of acting as such in the Execution of this Act, unless he shall have taken and subscribed an Oath to the following Effect (which Oath any One of the Commissioners is hereby empowered to administer):

'I, *A. B*

Oath.

'I, *A. B.* do ſwear, That I will well and truly execute and perform all and every the Powers and Authorities veſted in me in purſuance of an Act, made in the Forty-third Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, intituled, *An Act*, [*here ſet forth the Title of this Act*] according to the beſt of my Skill and Judgement.

'So help me GOD.'

Penalty on acting if not qualified.

And if any Perſon not being duly qualified, or if any Perſon duly qualified as aforeſaid, during ſuch Time as he ſhall hold any Place or Office of Profit, (except the Office of Treaſurer) or be any way intereſted or concerned in any Contract to be eſtabliſhed or made by virtue of this Act, or in any Work or Buſineſs to be done under the ſame, or be perſonally intereſted, except as a Creditor, ſhall preſume to act as a Commiſſioner, or vote upon any Queſtion in which he ſhall be perſonally intereſted in the Execution of this Act, ſuch Perſon ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of One hundred Pounds, together with full Coſts of Suit, to any Perſon who ſhall ſue for the ſame in any of His Majeſty's Courts of Record at *Weſtminſter*, by Action of Debt, or on the Caſe, or otherwiſe, wherein no Eſſoign, Protection, or Wager at Law, or any more than One Imparlance ſhall be allowed; and every Perſon ſo ſued for acting as a Commiſſioner, not being duly qualified, ſhall prove that he is qualified as aforeſaid, or ſhall pay the ſaid Penalty without any other Proof or Evidence being given on the Part of the Plaintiff than that ſuch Perſon had acted as a Commiſſioner in the Execution of this Act: Provided always, that it ſhall be lawful for any Juſtices of the Peace for the ſaid Town or County to act as ſuch in the Execution of this Act, notwithſtanding their being Commiſſioners under the ſame.

Commiſſioners not to act if intereſted, but may as Juſtices.

Meetings of Commiſſioners.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners appointed by virtue of this Act, ſhall meet at the Guildhall in the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, on the Second *Monday* next after the paſſing this Act, between the Hours of Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon and One of the Clock in the Afternoon of the ſame Day, in order to put this Act in Execution, and ſhall and may then and from Time to Time afterwards adjourn themſelves to and meet at the Place aforeſaid, or any other convenient Place within the ſaid Town; and if at any Time there ſhall not appear at any ſuch Meeting a ſufficient Number to act of the Commiſſioners appointed or to be appointed by or by virtue of this Act, any One of the Commiſſioners preſent may adjourn the Meeting to another Day; and in caſe of any Neglect or Omiſſion to adjourn, any Five of the ſaid Commiſſioners, or their Clerk, ſhall and may appoint a Meeting to be held at the Place where the laſt Meeting of the Commiſſioners was appointed to be held, or was held, ſo as Notice in Writing thereof ſhall be left at ſuch Place of Meeting, and alſo be delivered at the uſual Places of Abode of ſuch of the ſaid Commiſſioners as ſhall be reſident in the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, at leaſt Three Days before the Time to be appointed for the ſame; and that at all Meetings to be held in purſuance of this Act, the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall defray their own Expences (except for the Uſe of the Room or Apartment where ſuch Meetings ſhall be held, which ſhall be paid for out of any Monies to be received by virtue of this Act); and no Act of the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall be valid unleſs made or done at ſome Meeting to be held by virtue of this Act; and that all the Powers and Authorities by this Act grantd to or veſted in the ſaid Commiſſioners appointed

Commiſſioners to defray their own Expences.

No Act valid except at a Meeting

pointed or to be appointed by or by virtue of this Act, ſhall and may, from Time to Time, be exerciſed by the major Part of them preſent at their reſpective Meetings to be holden as aforeſaid, the Number of Commiſſioners preſent at ſuch Meetings not being leſs than Eleven, for the Purpoſe of borrowing Money, and not being leſs than Seven for the Purpoſe of making Contracts, by virtue of this Act, and not being leſs than Five in any other Caſe, unleſs where herein otherwiſe particularly provided for; and that in all Caſes the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall vote by Ballot, in caſe the ſame ſhall be deſired, by any Two or more of the ſaid Commiſſioners then preſent; and in all Caſes where the Number of Votes upon any Queſtion ſhall be equal (including the Chairman's Vote) the Chairman ſhall have the caſting Vote; and at every Meeting to be held under or in purſuance of this Act, the firſt Buſineſs thereof ſhall be the Election of a Chairman to preſide at the ſame. Regulation of Meetings.

V. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the Commiſſioners appointed or to be appointed by or by virtue of this Act, and they are hereby authorized, to hold any ſpecial Meeting between their then laſt Meeting and the Day to which any ſubſequent Meeting ſhall have been then adjourned, ſo as that ſuch Meeting ſhall be required by Five or more of the ſaid Commiſſioners, and Notice of ſuch Special Meeting ſhall be left at the laſt Place of Meeting, and alſo be delivered at the uſual Places of Abode of ſuch of the ſaid Commiſſioners as ſhall be reſident within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, at leaſt Three Days before the Time to be appointed for the ſame; and ſo as that ſuch Notices ſhall ſpecify the Cauſe or Cauſes of ſuch Special Meeting. Special Meetings.

VI. And be it further enacted, That no Order made by the ſaid Commiſſioners appointed or to be appointed under or by virtue of this Act, ſhall be revoked or altered, unleſs at ſome Meeting to be required as aforeſaid, and to be held for that Purpoſe (of which Three Days Notice ſhall be given as aforeſaid, expreſſing the Occaſion of ſuch Meeting) and alſo unleſs a greater Number of Commiſſioners ſhall attend ſuch Meeting, or revoke or alter the ſame, than were preſent when ſuch Order was made. Reſtrictions on revoking Orders.

VII. And be it further enacted, That regular Entries ſhall be made in a Book to be provided for that Purpoſe, of all Acts, Orders, and Proceedings of the ſaid Commiſſioners, and of the Names of the Commiſſioners who ſhall be preſent at the reſpective Meetings; and One or more of the ſaid Commiſſioners who ſhall be preſent, or their Clerk, ſhall ſubſcribe his or their Name or Names at the End of the Proceedings of the reſpective Meetings; and all ſuch Entries ſo ſigned ſhall be deemed Originals, and the ſame, or true Copies thereof, ſhall be allowed to be read in Evidence in all Cauſes, Suits, Actions, Informations, Appeals, and other Proceedings, touching any Thing done in purſuance of this Act, or touching any Penalty or Forfeiture hereby made recoverable, or any other Matter relating to the Execution thereof; and that ſuch Books ſhall at all ſeaſonable Times be open to the Inſpection of the ſaid Commiſſioners, and of all and every Perſon and Perſons rated or aſſeſſed, or to be rated or aſſeſſed by or for the Purpoſes of this Act. Proceedings of the Commiſſioners to be entered.

Officers to be appointed, who ſhall give Security.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall from Time to Time by Writing under their Hands, appoint a Treaſurer, Clerk, Collector or Collectors, Surveyor or Surveyors, and ſuch other Officers and Perſons as they ſhall think neceſſary; and may remove any ſuch Officers and Perſons as they ſhall think proper, and appoint others in their ſtead; and ſhall pay ſuch Salaries, and make ſuch Allowances to all ſuch Officers or Perſons, as they the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think reaſonable; and the ſaid Commiſſioners are hereby required to take ſuch Security from every ſuch Treaſurer, Clerk, Collector or Collectors, Surveyor or Surveyors, for the due Execution of their reſpective Offices, as they the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think proper.

Treaſurer and Collectors to account.

IX. And be it further enacted, That all ſuch Officers and Perſons ſhall, under their Hands (at ſuch Time and Times, and in ſuch Manner as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall direct) deliver to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or to ſuch Perſon or Perſons as they ſhall appoint, true and perfect Accounts in Writing, of all ſuch Matters and Things as may be committed to their Charge; and alſo of all Monies received by them, by virtue and for the Purpoſes of this Act, and of all Sums of Money by them paid and diſburſed, and for what Purpoſes together with the proper Vouchers for ſuch Payments and Diſburſements; and ſhall pay all ſuch Money as ſhall remain in their Hands reſpectively to ſuch Banker or Bankers, or other Perſon or Perſons, as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall from Time to Time direct or appoint, the Receipts of which Banker or Bankers, Perſon or Perſons, ſhall be ſufficient Diſcharges for the ſame; and all and every ſuch Officer and Officers, Perſon and Perſons ſo accounting, ſhall, if thereunto required by the ſaid Commiſſioners, verify ſuch Accounts upon Oath (which Oath any One of the ſaid Commiſſioners is hereby empowered to adminiſter); and if any ſuch Officer or Officers, Perſon or Perſons, ſhall wilfully refuſe and neglect to make and render, or ſhall refuſe or neglect to verify upon Oath any ſuch Account, or to produce or deliver the Vouchers relating to the ſame, or to make Payment as aforeſaid, or ſhall not deliver to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or to ſuch Perſons as they ſhall appoint, within Fifteen Days next after being thereunto required, by Notice in Writing, to be ſigned by the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Five or more of them, and given to or left at the laſt or uſual Place of Abode of ſuch Officer or Officers, Perſon or Perſons, all Books, Papers, and Writings in his or their Cuſtody or Power, relating to the Execution of this Act, or Duplicates thereof reſpectively, or give Satisfaction to the ſaid Commiſſioners reſpecting the ſame, then and in any of the Caſes aforeſaid, the ſaid Commiſſioners may and are hereby authorized and empowered to bring, or cauſe to be brought, any Action or Actions againſt the Officer or Officers, Perſon or Perſons, ſo neglecting or refuſing as aforeſaid, for the Recovery of the Money which ſhall be in the Hands of ſuch Officer or Officers, Perſon or Perſons reſpectively, with Coſts of Suit; or if Complaint ſhall be made on Behalf of the ſaid Commiſſioners of any ſuch Refuſal or Neglect as aforeſaid, to any Juſtice of the Peace for the County or Place wherein ſuch Officer or Officers, Perſon or Perſons, ſo neglecting or refuſing, ſhall be or reſide, ſuch Juſtice is hereby authorized and required, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to cauſe ſuch Officer or Officers, Perſon or Perſons, to be brought before him, and upon his or their appearing, or refuſing to appear, or neglecting, upon Notice ſerved

or

or left at his or their laſt or uſual Place of Abode to appear, to hear and determine the Matter of ſuch Complaint, in a ſummary Way; and if upon the Confeſſion of the Party or Parties, or by the Teſtimony of any credible Witneſs upon Oath (which Oath ſuch Juſtice is hereby empowered to adminiſter), it ſhall appear to ſuch Juſtice that any Money which ſhall have been raiſed and collected by virtue of this Act ſhall be in the Hands of ſuch Officer or Officers, Perſon or Perſons, ſuch Juſtice is hereby authorized and required, upon Nonpayment thereof, to cauſe, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, ſuch Money to be levied by Diſtreſs and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of ſuch Officer or Officers, Perſon or Perſons; and if no ſuch Goods and Chattels can be found ſufficient to anſwer and ſatisfy the ſaid Money, and the Charges of diſtraining and ſelling the ſame, or if it ſhall in Manner aforeſaid appear to ſuch Juſtice that any ſuch Officer or Officers, Perſon or Perſons, had refuſed or wilfully neglected to render and give ſuch an Account, or to verify the ſame as aforeſaid, or to produce the Vouchers relating thereto, or that any Books, Papers, or Writings relating to the Execution of this Act, ſhall be in the Cuſtody or Power of ſuch Officer or Officers, Perſon or Perſons, and he or they ſhall have refuſed or neglected to deliver or give Satisfaction reſpecting the ſame as aforeſaid, then ſuch Juſtice ſhall commit him or them to the Common Gaol or Houſe of Correction for the County or Place where ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall be or reſide, there to remain, without Bail or Mainprize, until ſuch Officer or Officers, Perſon or Perſons, ſhall make and give a true and perfect Account, and have paid ſuch Money as aforeſaid, or ſhall have compounded for ſuch Money with the ſaid Commiſſioners, and have paid ſuch Compoſition in ſuch Manner as they ſhall appoint (which Compoſition the ſaid Commiſſioners are hereby empowered to make and receive), or until ſuch Officer or Officers, Perſon or Perſons, ſhall deliver up all ſuch Books, Papers, and Writings or Duplicates of the ſame as aforeſaid; but no Perſon who ſhall be committed on account of his not having ſufficient Goods and Chattels as aforeſaid, ſhall be detained in Priſon for a longer Term than Six Calendar Months.

When Officers die, or become Bankrupts, Executors, *etc.* to deliver Books, *etc.*

X. And be it further enacted, That in caſe of the Death of any ſuch Officer or other Perſon to be appointed as aforeſaid, or of his becoming bankrupt or inſolvent, the Executors or Adminiſtrators of ſuch reſpective Officer or other Perſon, or the Aſſignees of his Eſtate and Effects, or other Perſon or Perſons poſſeſſing the ſame, or in whom the ſame ſhall be or become veſted, ſhall in a due and legal Courſe of Adminiſtration and Diſtribution of the Eſtates and Effects of ſuch Officer or other Perſon ſo dying, or becoming bankrupt or inſolvent reſpectively, pay what may be due from ſuch Officer or other Perſon to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or to ſuch Perſon or Perſons as they ſhall appoint, and alſo ſhall deliver up all Books, Papers, Writings, and other Things concerning the Office of ſuch Officer or other Perſon, or otherwiſe, relating to the Execution of this Act, which ſhall come to the Hands or Poſſeſſion of ſuch Executors, Adminiſtrators, Aſſignees, or other Perſon or Perſons as aforeſaid; and every Executor or Adminiſtrator, Aſſignee, or other Perſon or Perſons poſſeſſed of ſuch Eſtate and Effects as aforeſaid may plead ſuch Payment in any Action or Suit that may be brought againſt him, her or them, on Account of what ſhall be ſo due as aforeſaid, and give the ſame in Evidence; and in caſe of Non-paymenr of ſuch Monies, or Non-delivery of ſuch Books, Papers, Writings, and Things, for the

Space

Space of Ten Days after the ſame ſhall be demanded by the ſaid Commiſſioners, or by ſome Perſon or Perſons appointed by them ſo to do, it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners to commence and proſecute any Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, in any of His Majeſty's Courts of Record at *Weſtminſter*, againſt ſuch Executor, Adminiſtrator, Aſſignee, or other Perſon or Perſons poſſeſſing the Eſtate and Effects which did belong to ſuch deceaſed Perſon, Bankrupt or Inſolvent, for the Recovery thereof, according to Law, or for the Recovery of Damages in lieu of ſuch Books, Papers, Writings, and Things, together with the Coſts of every ſuch Action or Suit.

Guildhall, Market Places, &c. veſted in the Commiſſioners.

XI. And be it further enacted, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, all that Building ſituate in the Pariſh of Saint *Paul*, in the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, called *The Guildhall*, with the Appurtenances thereunto belonging, and all that the Scite of Ground whereon the ſame ſtands, and alſo all that Building ſituate in the ſaid Pariſh of Saint *Paul*, called *The Butter Market Houſe*, and all that the Scite of Ground whereon the ſame ſtands, and all publick Market Places within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, and all ſuch Part and Parts of the publick Streets and Highways adjoining to the Premiſes above mentioned, or any of them, as ſhall be neceſſary for perfecting the Improvements reſpecting the ſame, by this Act intended to be made, ſhall belong to and is and are hereby veſted in the ſaid Commiſſioners.

Guildhall, Buildings, *etc.* to be pulled down, and Streets ſet out.

XII. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized, empowered, and required to cauſe the ſaid Guildhall and Butter Market Houſe, and all the Meſſuages, Tenements, Shops, Shambles, Buildings, and Erections, to be purchaſed by them by virtue and in purſuance of this Act, for the Purpoſes of a Guildhall and Market Places, or ſuch Part thereof as they the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall judge neceſſary to be pulled down, and to cauſe the Materials thereof to be ſold or diſpoſed of as they ſhall think proper, and to cauſe ſuch Streets or Communications leading to the intended Guildhall, and Market Place or Market Places, to be opened and made of ſuch Width and Dimenſions, and with ſuch convenient Footways on each Side thereof, as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think proper and neceſſary, which ſaid Streets and Footways ſhall for ever after remain ſubject to the Right of paſſing and repaſſing thereon for the publick Uſe, and ſhall be maintained and kept in Repair in like Manner as the publick Streets of the ſaid Town of *Bedford* are by this Act to be maintained and kept in Repair; and alſo that it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners to ſtop up, incloſe, and build upon any of the preſent Streets, Roads, Ways, or Paſſages adjoining or leading to the ſaid intended new Guildhall, and Market Place or Market Places, and which now are or heretofore have been uſed as Ways or Paſſages, or any Part or Parts thereof, which ſhall appear to the ſaid Commiſſioners proper to be ſtopped up, incloſed, or built upon, for the Purpoſes of carrying this Act into Execution, and to ſell, diſpoſe of, or let the Ground and Soil thereof to any Perſon or Perſons, for ſuch Uſes as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think proper, and to apply the Money ariſing by ſuch Sale or Sales, or letting, to the Purpoſes of this Act.

XIII. And

XIII. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized and required to erect and build, or cauſe to be erected and built within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, a new and more commodious Guildhall, and alſo ſuch new Market Houſe or Market Houſes, and proper and convenient Butchers Shops, Sheds, Shambles, Stalls, Standings, and other Shops, Buildings, and Conveniencies, and with ſuch Offices and Appurtenances as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall judge to be ſuitable or proper for the Uſe and Convenience of the Inhabitants of the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, and of the ſeveral Perſons attending the ſaid Markets; and the ſaid new Guildhall, when completed, ſhall be opened and uſed in like Manner and for the like Purpoſes as the preſent Guildhall. New Guildhall, Market Places, and other Buildings to be erected.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That during the Time of taking down the preſent Guildhall, and until the ſaid new Guildhall ſhall have been built, and opened for publick Buſineſs, the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty of the ſaid Borough of *Bedford* for the Time being, ſhall, and they are hereby directed and required, at the Expence of the ſaid Commiſſioners, to provide ſome other fit and convenient Place in the ſaid Borough of *Bedford* to be uſed in like Manner and for the like Purpoſes as the preſent Guildhall. During the Time of taking down and rebuilding Guildhall, Mayor to provide a Place for the publick Buſineſs.

XV. And be it further enacted, That, from and after the ſetting out and completing the ſaid intended Market Place or Market Places, Market Houſe or Market Houſes, all Markets to be held within the ſaid Town of *Bedford* (except the Markets for Horſes, Sheep, Hogs, and other Cattle, and except the Fairs holden there annually) ſhall, on the uſual and accuſtomed Days throughout the Year, be holden within the Limits of the ſaid new Market Place or Market Places, and all Corn, Grain, Butchers Meat, Poultry, Butter, Eggs, Cheeſe, Vegetables, and other maketable Commodities, Matters, and Things uſually expoſed to Sale in the Market Place or Market Places, Market Houſe or Market Houſes, Butchers Shops or Shambles, or Streets of the ſaid Town, ſhall be expoſed to Sale, and ſold within the Limits of ſuch new Market Place or Market Places only, and not elſewhere. Markets to be held in new Market Places.

XVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend to prevent or hinder any Perſon or Perſons from ſelling or expoſing to Sale any marketable Commodities, Matters, or Things whatſoever, in his, her, or their own private Dwelling Houſe or Dwelling Houſes, or in his, her, or their own Shop or Shops, Part of ſuch Dwelling Houſe or Dwelling Houſes, in any Part of the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, nor to ſubject, charge, or make liable any Corn or Grain, or any marketable Commodities, Matters, or Things whatſoever, expoſed to Sale in the ſaid new Market Place or Market Places, or the Perſon or Perſons ſelling or expoſing the ſame to Sale, to any Toll, or other Demand in the Nature of Toll other than what hath been hitherto paid or demanded, or of Right was due and payable within the Market or Markets of the ſaid Town, before the paſſing this Act. Not to hinder Perſons from ſelling in their own Houſes or Shops.

XVII. Provided alſo, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend to, or affect the Markets or Fairs Not to affect the Rights of the Corporation, or the

Duke of *Bedford.*

Fairs within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, for the Sale of Horſes, Sheep, or other Cattle, or Hogs, except the Fair called *April Fair*, herein-after mentioned; but that the ſame ſhall be held in the uſual Places in the ſaid Town, and the Rents, Tolls, Produce, and Profits thereof, ſhall be received and taken by ſuch Perſons, and for ſuch Purpoſes as the ſame have uſually been held, received, or taken before the paſſing this Act; nor ſhall this Act or any Thing herein contained, extend to affect, impeach, or prejudice the Right or Title of the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty of the ſaid Borough of *Bedford* for the Time being, or the Moſt Noble *John* Duke of *Bedford*, his Heirs or Aſſigns, or their or his Leſſee or Leſſees, to any Rents, Tolls, Dues, Produce, or Profits of the Markets or Fairs of the ſaid Town of *Bedford*; but that the ſame ſhall be as completely reſerved and excepted as if this Act had not been made, any Thing herein contained to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Slaughter Houſes to be built.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized to erect or cauſe to be erected and built in ſome convenient Situation within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, ſuch proper and neceſſary Slaughter Houſes, and other Buildings and Conveniencies thereto, of ſuch Dimenſions, and in ſuch Manner, as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think proper.

For conveying the Guildhall and Market Place to the Corporation of *Bedford.*

XIX. And be it further enacted, That ſo ſoon as the ſaid Guildhall, Market Houſe or Market Houſes, Butchers Shops, Sheds, Shambles, Stalls, Standings, Slaughter Houſes, and other Shops, Buildings, and Conveniencies, ſhall have been erected, built, and completed by the ſaid Commiſſioners as aforeſaid, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Eleven or more of them, and they are hereby required, in Conſideration of the Aſſignment and Conveyance of the Tolls now payable to the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty of the ſaid Town and Borough of *Bedford* for the Time being, for the Paſſage over *Bedford Bridge* herein-after mentioned, by Deed indented, to bargain, ſell, and convey to the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty of the ſaid Town and Borough of *Bedford* for the Time being, and their Heirs and Succeſſors, or to any Perſon or Perſons, and his and their Heirs, in Truſt for them, all and ſingular the ſaid Guildhall, Market Houſe and Market Houſes, Butchers Shops, Sheds, Shambles, Stalls, Standings, Slaughter Houſes, and other Shops, Buildings, and Conveniencies, and the Scite or Scites of Ground whereon the ſame ſhall be reſpectively erected, and alſo the Market Place or Market Places, and all other Ground thereto or to any Part thereof belonging; and from and after ſuch Bargain, Sale, and Conveyance as aforeſaid, the ſaid Guildhall, Market Houſe and Market Houſes, Butchers Shops, Sheds, Shambles, Stalls, Slaughter Houſes, and all and ſingular other the Shops, Buildings, and Conveniencies aforeſaid, and the Scite or Scites of Ground whereon the ſame ſhall be ſo erected, and the ſaid Market Place or Market Places, and all other Ground thereto, or to any Part thereof belonging, and all the Right and Property of and in the ſame, and all the Rents, Dues, Profits, and Produce thereof, ſhall be veſted in the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty of the ſaid Town and Borough of *Bedford* for the Time being, and their Heirs and Succeſſors, or ſuch Perſon or Perſons, and his and their Heirs, to whom the ſame ſhall be conveyed in Truſt for them; and the ſaid Guildhall, Market Houſe and Market Houſes, Shops,

and

and other Buildings, shall be for ever afterwards maintained, supported, and kept in Repair, by and at the Expence of the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty of the said Town and Borough of *Bedford* for the Time being.

For conveying the Bridge Tolls to the Commissioners.

XX. And be it further enacted, That in Consideration of the forming the said Market Place or Market Places, and erecting, building, and completing the said Guildhall, Market House or Market Houses, Shops, and other Buildings, and of the vesting the same in the said Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty of the said Town and Borough of *Bedford*, in Manner herein-before mentioned, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty of the said Town and Borough of *Bedford* for the Time being, and they are hereby required, upon the Completion and Conveyance of the said Guildhall and Buildings, Market Place or Market Places, in Manner aforesaid, by Deed indented under the Common Seal of the said Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty, to bargain, sell, assign, transfer, and convey to the said Commissioners for the Time being, all and every such Tolls and Duties as the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty of the said Town and Borough of *Bedford* for the Time being now are, or shall or may be entitled to take and receive for the Passage of Carriages, Horses, Beasts, Sheep, Swine, or other Cattle, upon or over a certain ancient Bridge over the River *Ouze*, in the said Town of *Bedford*, called *Bedford Bridge*; and from and after such Bargain, Sale, Assignment, Transfer, and Conveyance aforesaid, all and every the said Tolls and Duties, and all the Right and Interest, Profit and Property, of and in the same, and all and every the Powers and Authorities belonging to or vested in the said Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty, for receiving, taking, and recovering the same Tolls and Duties, shall be vested in the said Commissioners for the Time being, and the said Tolls and Duties shall from Time to Time be applied by the said Commissioners for the Purposes of this Act; and the said Bridge shall be for ever afterwards maintained, supported, and kept in Repair by and at the Expence of the said Commissioners for the Time being; any Law, Custom, Usage, or Prescription to the contrary notwithstanding.

Commissioners to make Regulations in the Markets.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty of the said Town and Borough of *Bedford*, and their Successors from Time to Time, to direct and appoint what particular and respective Parts of the said new Market Place or Market Places shall be occupied and made Use of for exposing to Sale any Corn, Grain, or other Commodities, Matters, and Things therein, and also, from Time to Time, to make such reasonable Rules, Orders, Bye Laws, and Regulations, as the said Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty for the Time being, shall think proper and necessary for the better regulating, maintaining, and managing the said Markets, Market House or Market Houses, Shops, Slaughter Houses, and other Buildings, and all Works, Matters, and Things which shall belong thereto, or be a Part thereof, and for fixing and ascertaining the Time or Times at which all or any Corn, Grain, Goods, Wares, or Commodities shall respectively begin to be offered or exposed to Sale therein, and how long the same shall continue exposed to Sale; and also for the better regulating, maintaining,

taining, and managing the ſeveral Fairs yearly held within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, the Rents, Profits, or Tolls whereof, belong to, or are veſted in the ſaid Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty for the Time being, and the Sale, placing, and driving all Manner of Cattle within the ſaid Fairs, and alſo within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, and for the better collecting and enforcing the Payment of the Tolls and Duties of the ſaid Markets and Fairs; and alſo the Time or Times when any moveable Shed, Stall, Standing, or Bench, allowed to be uſed or ſet up in the ſaid Market Place or Market Places, and Fairs, ſhall be taken down and removed from the ſaid Market Place or Market Places, and Fairs, or depoſited or laid by therein; and alſo from Time to Time to repeal, amend, or alter ſuch Rules, Orders, Bye Laws, and Regulations, as ſhall be thought meet and requiſite, ſuch Bye Laws not to be repugnant to the Laws of that Part of the United Kingdom called *England*, and which Bye Laws ſhall be ſubject to Appeal in Manner herein-after mentioned; which Rules, Orders, Bye Laws, and Regulations, ſhall be from Time to Time printed in legible Characters, and affixed upon ſome conſpicuous Part or Parts of the ſaid Market Place or Market Places during ſuch Markets reſpectively, for Three ſucceſſive Market Days, before ſuch Rules, Orders, Bye Laws, and Regulations, ſhall be deemed to be in force; and the ſaid Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty, ſhall cauſe the Time or Times of beginning and concluding every Market to be announced by the ringing of a Bell, or otherwiſe, as they ſhall think proper.

Penalty on felling contrary to this Act.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That in caſe any Perſon ſhall vend, ſell, or expoſe to Sale, any Corn, Grain, Goods, Wares, Commodities, Matters, or Things, contrary to the Directions and true Intent and Meaning of this Act, or ſhall offend againſt and diſobey any of the Rules, Orders, Bye Laws, or Regulations hereby authorized to be made and publiſhed as aforeſaid, reſpecting the ſaid Markets and Fairs, every Perſon ſo offending, ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay to the ſaid Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty for the Time being, any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings nor leſs than Five Shillings, to be recovered in the ſame Manner as any Penalty is hereby directed to be recovered.

For removing the *April* Fair.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That, from and after the paſſing this Act, the Fair for Horſes, Sheep, and Cattle, called *April Fair*, held on the Twenty-firſt Day of *April* yearly, in the Streets and Square in the Pariſh of Saint *Mary*, in the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, ſhall be held in and upon the vacant Spaces, Pieces or Parcels of Ground in the ſaid Pariſh of Saint *Mary*, ſituate and being on each Side of the preſent Turnpike Road leading from the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, to the Town of *Hitchin*, in the County of *Hertford*, and forming Part of the ſaid Road, and in no other Part of the ſaid Pariſh of Saint *Mary*; and that it ſhall be lawful to and for the Perſon and Perſons for the Time being entitled to the Tolls and Duties ariſing from the ſaid Fair, to make and place proper Pens, Poſts, and Rails for Cattle, upon the ſaid Spaces, Pieces or Parcels of Ground, leaving ſufficient Space for the Paſſage of Travellers and Carriages, and to take and receive the like Tolls and Dues as they have heretofore been accuſtomed to take and receive.

XXIV. And

Property of Pavements vested in the Commissioners.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That the Property of and in all the present and future Pavements of the Carriage and Footways, and also all the Timber, Ballast, Gravel, Stones, and other Materials, to be brought or laid within or upon the several Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Passages and Places within the said Town of *Bedford*, and of and in all Lamps, Lamp Irons, Posts, Watch Houses, Watch Boxes, Pumps and Wells which shall be erected, fixed, sunk, or made, upon or in the same, and all Materials, Implements, and other Things which shall be purchased or gotten by virtue of or for any of the Purposes of this Act, shall be and the same are hereby vested in the said Commissioners appointed and to be appointed by or by virtue of this Act, and they are hereby empowered to cause any Action to be brought, or to cause to be preferred any Indictment or Information against any Person who shall take, steal, or carry away, injure, or destroy any Part or Parts thereof.

Commissioners to cause Highways, Streets, &c. to be repaired and paved.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, and they are hereby authorized, empowered, and required, from Time to Time, to cause the Highways within the said Town of *Bedford*, not being Turnpike Roads, to be repaired, amended, raised, lowered, widened, or altered, and the several Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Passages and Places within the said Town of *Bedford*, both in the Carriage and Foot Ways, to be paved, and such Pavements to be from Time to Time amended, and kept in good Repair, upon such Levels, and in such Manner, and with such Sorts and Kind of Materials as they shall judge necessary and proper; and also to cause the said Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Passages and Places, to be cleansed, lighted, watched, and watered, in such Manner as the said Commissioners shall think proper, and all Encroachments, Obstructions, Nuisances, and Annoyances therein, to be removed, and Drains, Sinks, Gutters, or Watercourses, to be made for conveying the Water off and from the said Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Passages and Places, in such Manner as they the said Commissioners shall think proper; and that no Person shall, without the Consent of the said Commissioners, alter the Form or break up the Ground or Pavement of the Carriage or Footways within any of the said Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Passages or Places, or make the same otherwise than as directed by the said Commissioners, upon Pain of forfeiting any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds nor less than Ten Shillings for every such Offence; and such Person so offending shall also pay all Expences of restoring such Ground or Pavement to its former State.

Commissioners may water the Highways, Streets, &c.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That the said Commissioners shall have full Power and Authority to cause all or any of the Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Passages or Places, within the said Town of *Bedford*, to be watered, when, where, and as often as Need or Occasion shall be or require, and for such Purpose to cause such Number of Wells and Pumps to be dug, sunk, and made in any of the said Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Passages and Places, as may be necessary, and from Time to Time to alter the same as there shall be Occasion; provided, that no such Well or Pump shall be sunk or made so as to injure any House or other Building, or any Vault or

Cellar under any of the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places.

For preventing Encroachments.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That all Signs, Sign Irons, Sign Poſts, Spouts, and Water Pipes, againſt or before any of the Houſes or other Buildings within the ſeveral Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages or Places aforeſaid, not fixed cloſe to the Fronts of the Houſes, Shops, Warehouſes, and Buildings, to which they reſpectively belong; and all Penthouſes, bow or projecting Windows, Cellar Windows, Porches, Bulks, Projections, Poſts, Pales, Rails, Steps, Doors, Walls, Screens, and Fences, as do or ſhall project more than Fourteen Inches from any Houſe or other Building into or upon any of the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, not of the Breadth of Thirty-five Feet, ſhall by and at the Charge of the reſpective Occupiers of ſuch Houſes or other Buildings, be taken down, removed, altered, or reformed within ſuch Time, and in ſuch Manner as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall from Time to Time order and direct, by Notice in Writing, under the Hands of any Five or more of them, to be delivered to ſuch reſpective Occupiers, or left at their reſpective Dwelling Houſes; and that all Pent-houſes, bow or projecting Windows, Cellar Windows, Porches, Bulks, Projections, Poſts, Pales, Rails, Steps, Doors, Walls, Screens, Fences, and Encroachments as do or ſhall project into or upon any of the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, of the Breadth of Thirty-five Feet, which they the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall deem to be an Obſtruction to the free Paſſage of the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, to be likewiſe taken down, removed, altered, or reformed in ſuch Manner as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall in Manner aforeſaid order and direct; and the reſpective Occupiers of every Houſe or other Building in or adjoining to any of the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, ſhall within ſuch Time as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall in Manner aforeſaid order and direct, cauſe the Water to be conveyed from the Roofs, Cornices, and Walls of every ſuch Houſe or other Building, by proper and ſufficient Pipes or Trunks to be affixed cloſe to the Side of every ſuch Houſe or other Building, and from thence by proper Drains into the common Sewers; and in caſe the Occupier or Occupiers of any ſuch Houſe or other Building, ſhall neglect or refuſe to comply with any ſuch Order and Direction of the ſaid Commiſſioners, it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby required to cauſe every ſuch Order and Direction to be executed by ſuch Perſon and Perſons as they the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall for that Purpoſe appoint, at the Coſts and Charges of the reſpective Occupier or Occupiers ſo refuſing or neglecting; and if any ſuch Occupier ſhall refuſe or neglect to pay the Coſts and Charges attending the ſame, the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall cauſe ſuch Coſts and Charges to be levied by Diſtreſs and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of ſuch Occupier, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any Juſtice of the Peace for the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, (which Warrant ſuch Juſtice is hereby authorized and required to grant) rendering on Demand the Overplus (if any ſhall remain after Payment of ſuch Coſts and Charges, and the Expence of ſuch

Diſtreſs

Diſtreſs and Sale), to the Perſon whoſe Goods and Chattels ſhall be ſo diſtrained and ſold; and it ſhall be lawful for the Occupier or Occupiers of any ſuch Houſe or other Building, holding the ſame at or by a Rack or improved Rent, to deduct and retain the Charges and Expences attending the Execution of any ſuch Order and Direction of the ſaid Commiſſioners, out of his or her Rent; and the Landlord or other Perſon or Perſons who ſhall be in the actual Receipt of the Rack or improved Rent of ſuch Houſe or Building, is and are hereby required to allow the ſame accordingly; in Proportion to their reſpective Rights and Intereſts; and if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall at any Time hereafter erect, build, or make any Penthouſe, bow or projecting Window, Cellar Window, Porch, Bulk, or any other Projection or Obſtruction whatſoever, projecting more than Fourteen Inches from any Houſe or other Building into or upon any of the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, or hang, place, ſet, build, or make any Sign, Sign Iron, Sign Poſt, Penthouſe, Screen, Spout, Shew Board, Shew Glaſs, bow or projecting Window, Porch, Bulk, or any other Projection, Obſtruction, or Annoyance whatſoever, or cauſe the ſame to be done contrary to the Directions of this Act, or of the ſaid Commiſſioners, every Perſon ſo offending ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Ten Pounds nor leſs than Forty Shillings; and it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners to cauſe the ſame to be taken down, carried away, removed, altered, or reformed in ſuch Manner as they ſhall think proper, and the Charges and Expences attending the ſame ſhall and may be recovered of the Owners or Occupiers of the Premiſes reſpectively, by Diſtreſs and Sale of their reſpective Goods and Chattels, in the Manner before directed by this Act: Provided always, that nothing herein contained ſhall extend to authorize the ſaid Commiſſioners to ſtop any Cellar Window where there ſhall be no other Way from the Street or other publick Paſſage or Place into ſuch Cellar, unleſs the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall make or provide ſome other commodious Way into ſuch Cellar.

Power for the Commiſſioners to permit Palliſadoes, &c. to be put up.

XXVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized, to permit and empower any Perſon or Perſons to ſet down and erect Palliſadoes, Pales, Poſts, and Rails or Chains, before their reſpective Houſes or Buildings, in ſuch Caſes where the ſame will not materially obſtruct the free Paſſage of any of the ſaid Foot and Carriage Ways; and ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo empowered ſhall not be deemed guilty of a Nuiſance for ſo doing, any Thing herein contained to the contrary thereof notwithſtanding.

Penalty on occaſioning Nuiſances.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon ſhall run, drive, or place, or cauſe to be run, driven, or placed any Coach, Cart, Waggon, Dray, Truck, Sledge, Wheelbarrow, Handbarrow, or any Carriage whatſoever, upon or over any of the Foot Pavements or Cauſeways within the ſaid Town, or ſhall wilfully ride, drive, or lead any Horſe or other Beaſt or Cattle, or ſhall roll any Caſk, or drag any Timber or Log of Wood along or upon any of the ſaid Foot Pavements or Cauſeways; or ſhall permit or ſuffer to run looſe and wander about any of the ſaid Streets, Squares, Lanes or other publick Paſſages or Places, any Horſe or other Beaſt, Swine, or Cattle; or ſhall kill, ſlaughter,

ſlaughter, ſinge, ſcald, dreſs, or cut up, or cauſe to be killed, ſlaughtered, ſinged, ſcalded, dreſſed, or cut up, any Beaſt or Swine, Calf, Sheep, Lamb, or other Cattle, or permit or ſuffer any Blood, Filth, or Annoyance whatſoever, to run or drain from any Slaughter Houſe, Stable Yard, or Premiſes, in or upon any of the ſaid Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places; or ſhall hoop, cleanſe, waſh, or ſcald any Caſk, or hew or ſaw, or cauſe to be hewn or ſawn, any Stone, Wood or Timber, or bind or make the Wheel of any Carriage, or ſhoe, bleed, dreſs, or farry any Horſe, Mare, Gelding, or other Beaſt; or ſet, place, or expoſe to Sale, any Goods, Wares, or Merchandizes either in the Foot Ways or Carriage Ways of any of the ſaid Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, or ſhall hang up, place, or expoſe to Sale any Goods, Wares, or Merchandizes whatſoever, or any Fruit, Vegetables, Garden Stuff, Butchers Meat, or other Matter or Thing, on or projecting over any of the ſaid Foot or Carriage Ways, ſo as to obſtruct or incommode the Paſſage of any Perſon or Carriage, or ſhall make or aſſiſt in making any Fire or Fires commonly called *Bonfires*, or ſhall ſet fire to, or let off or throw any Squib, Rocket, Serpent, or Firework whatſoever, in any Part or Parts of the ſaid Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, ſo as to obſtruct or incommode the Paſſage of any Foot Way or Carriage Way, or to prejudice, annoy, or inconvenience any Perſon or Perſons travelling or paſſing thereon; or ſhall ſift, ſcreen, or ſlack any Lime (except within the Hoard or Incloſure herein-after mentioned); or ſhall careleſsly or wilfully break or damage the Foot Pavement in any ſuch Street, Square, Lane, or other publick Paſſage or Place, or cauſe the ſame to be broken or damaged, every Perſon ſo offending in any of the Caſes aforeſaid, ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds nor leſs than Forty Shillings.

Penalty on leaving Carriages, *etc* in the Highways or Streets.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That if any Waggon, Cart, Dray, or Timber Carriage ſhall be left to ſtand or remain in any of the Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places within theſaid Town of *Bedford*, with or without Horſes, for any longer Time than ſhall be reaſonable and neceſſary for the loading or unloading thereof; or if any Stage Coach ſhall be left to ſtand or remain in any of ſuch Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, with or without Horſes, for any longer Time than ſhall be reaſonable and neceſſary for taking up or ſetting down Paſſengers, or for loading or unloading thereof; or if any Horſe ſhall be ſuffered to ſtand at the Door or Houſe of any Perſon, ſo as to obſtruct or incommode the Paſſage of any of the ſaid Footways; or if any Timber, Bricks, Stones, Wood, Goods, or other Things, ſhall be laid or placed, and left to remain in any of the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, for any longer Time than ſhall be neceſſary for removing or houſing the ſame; or if any Dung, Aſhes, Rubbiſh, Dirt, Duſt, or other Nuiſance or Annoyance, ſhall be thrown, caſt, or laid in any of the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, and ſuffered to remain for any longer Time than ſhall be neceſſary for removing the ſame, then and in every ſuch Caſe the Owner or Driver of every ſuch Carriage, and the Owner of ſuch Timber or other Things as aforeſaid, and the Perſon who ſhall throw, caſt, or lay any Dung, Aſhes, Rubbiſh, Dirt,

Dirt, Duſt, or other Nuiſance or Annoyance as aforeſaid, or otherwiſe offend in the Premiſes, ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Twenty Shillings, nor leſs than Five Shillings; and if any ſuch Timber or other Things, or ſuch Dung, Aſhes, Rubbiſh, Dirt, Duſt, or other Nuiſance or Annoyance, ſhall be ſuffered to remain in any of the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, longer than ſhall be neceſſary as aforeſaid, the Surveyor to be employed by the ſaid Commiſſioners is hereby authorized and empowered to cauſe the ſame to be removed to ſuch Place as he ſhall think proper, and the Expence thereof ſhall be paid by the Perſon liable to the Payment of the ſaid Penalty, and ſhall and may, in caſe of Nonpayment, on Demand, be recovered in like Manner as any Penalty is herein-after authorized and directed to be recovered.

Scavengers Duty.

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That the Scavenger or Perſon contracting to cleanſe the ſaid Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages or Places, or his, her, or their Servants, ſhall Once or oftener in every Week, and on ſuch Days as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall appoint or direct, bring or cauſe to be brought a proper Cart or other Carriage into all the ſaid Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages and Places, and ſhall on or before his Approach by ringing a Bell, give Notice to the Inhabitants of his coming, and give the like Notice in every Place in which ſuch Cart or Carriage cannot paſs; and ſuch Scavenger, or his Servant or Servants ſhall, upon the Requeſt of any of the Inhabitants, or their Servants or Lodgers, go into any of the Houſes or other Places where any Dirt, Duſt, Cinders, Aſhes, or Filth ſhall be depoſited, and take up and put the ſame into ſuch Cart or other Carriage, and carry away and lodge the ſaid Dirt, Duſt, Cinders, Aſhes, or Filth, in any ſuch vacant Places within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, as ſhall be thought proper by the ſaid Commiſſioners, the Scavenger or Perſon ſo contracting giving a reaſonable Satisfaction to the Owners or Occupiers of the ſaid vacant Places.

Inhabitants to ſweep Pavements oppoſite their own Houſes.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That, from and after the paſſing this Act, all Perſons occupying Houſes, Buildings, Tenements, Shops, Warehouſes, Yards, Gardens, or Stables, in or againſt any of the Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages and Places within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, ſhall cauſe to be ſwept and cleanſed the Footways, Paths, and Pavements, the whole Length of the Front of their reſpective Houſes, Buildings, Tenements, Shops, Warehouſes, Yards, Gardens, or Stables, to the full Extent of the Foot Pavement before the ſame, between the Hours of Seven and Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, Twice or oftener in every Week, as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall from Time to Time order and require, and alſo cauſe the Dirt and Soil to ariſe from ſuch ſweeping and cleanſing to be collected and put together (without obſtructing the Way or Road) that the ſame may be removed and carried away by the Scavenger or Perſon to be employed in cleanſing the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages or Places as aforeſaid, upon pain of forfeiting and paying any Sum of Money not exceeding Ten Shillings nor leſs than Five Shillings for every Neglect therein.

Dirt not to be ſwept into any Drain or Gutter.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That no Scavenger or other Perſon to be employed in cleanſing any of the Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places within the ſaid Town of *Bed-*

ford, ſhall ſweep, rake, or place any of the Slop, Mud, Dirt, Duſt, Rubbiſh, Aſhes, Filth, or Soil, to be found in any of ſuch Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, or brought therein, into any Common Sewer, Drain, Tunnel, or Channel thereunto belonging, or cauſe the ſame to be done, but every Perſon ſhall place, ſweep, or rake the ſame together, ſo as to lie at the Diſtance of Three Feet from the Gutter or Channel, where the Width of the Highway, Street, Square, Lane, or other publick Paſſage or Place, will admit of, and carry and convey the ſame (except the Soil of Privies or Neceſſary Houſes) to ſuch proper Place as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think convenient to depoſit the ſame; and no Perſon other than the Scavenger to be employed by or under the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall collect, gather, take, or carry away, or cauſe to be collected, gathered, taken, or carried away, any Dirt, Duſt, Cinders, Aſhes, Soil, or Manure out of any ſuch Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages and Places aforeſaid; and any Perſon ſo offending ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Twenty Shillings, One Moiety whereof ſhall go to the Informer: Provided nevertheleſs, that nothing in this Act contained ſhall extend to prevent or hinder the Owners of any ſuch Dirt, Duſt, Cinders, Aſhes, Soil, or Manure which ſhall actually be made on the Premiſes in their Occupations reſpectively, from ſelling, diſpoſing of, or carrying away the ſame, or to prevent or hinder any Purchaſer or Purchaſers thereof from carrying away the ſame.

No Perſon to carry away the Duſt but the Scavenger employed by the Commiſſioners.

Beaſts wandering in the Streets may be impounded.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That if any Beaſt or Swine ſhall at any Time be found wandering about any of the Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, it ſhall be lawful for any Perſon or Perſons to be appointed by the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Inhabitant of the ſaid Town, to ſeize and impound ſuch Beaſt or Swine in the Common Pound of the ſaid Town, or in ſuch other Place as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall appoint, and the ſame there to detain until the Owner or Owners thereof ſhall for each Beaſt or Swine ſo impounded, pay a Sum of Money not exceeding Twenty Shillings to the Treaſurer for the Time being to the ſaid Commiſſioners, to be applied for the Purpoſes of this Act, and alſo the Sum of One Shilling to the Perſon impounding the ſame, beſides the reaſonable Charges and Expences of impounding and keeping the ſame; and in caſe the ſaid Sums, Charges, and Expences, ſhall not be paid within Seven Days after ſuch impounding, it ſhall be lawful for the Pound Keeper, or ſuch other Perſon as ſhall be appointed by the ſaid Commiſſioners for that Purpoſe, to ſell the Beaſt or Swine ſo impounded, or cauſe the ſame to be ſold, giving Seven Days previous Notice of the intended Sale to the Owner or Owners of ſuch Beaſt or Swine; or if the Owner thereof cannot be found, cauſing Three Days publick Notice of ſuch intended Sale to be given by the publick Town Cryer of the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, by Proclamation; and the Money ariſing by ſuch Sale after deducting the ſaid Sums, and the Charges and Expences aforeſaid, and of ſuch Notice and Sale, ſhall be paid to the ſaid Treaſurer, to be by him paid to the Perſon whoſe Property the Beaſt or Swine ſo ſold ſhall appear to have been, upon his or her claiming the ſame.

Sewers, *etc.* to be made by Commiſſioners.

XXXV. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to cauſe ſuch Sewers, Drains, and Watercourſes, as they ſhall think ſufficient

ſufficient and neceſſary for conveying and carrying off Water and Soil from the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages or Places, to be cut, dug, ſunk, and made through or acroſs any Street, Lane, Yard, Garden, Court, Paſſage, or Ground, within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, belonging to any Perſon or Perſons whomſoever, although the ſame may not be Part of the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages or Places; and alſo to cauſe a certain publick Drain or Ditch, called *King's Ditch*, in the Pariſh of Saint *Mary* in the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, running from the River *Ouze* through ſundry Incloſures in the ſaid Pariſh, and emptying itſelf into another Part of the ſame River, and all other publick Drains, Sewers, and Watercourſes within the ſaid Town to be enlarged, widened, raiſed, lowered, altered, repaired, cleanſed, or ſcoured, in ſuch Manner as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think neceſſary, and to cauſe ſuch of the ſaid Drains, Sewers, and Watercourſes, as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think proper, to be filled up, arched, or covered over, when and as often as to them the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall ſeem meet; and the ſaid Commiſſioners are hereby authorized, empowered, and required to make ſuch Recompence and Satisfaction to the Owner or Owners, Occupier or Occupiers of any Yard, Garden, Court, Paſſage, or Ground, through, acroſs, or in which any Drain, Ditch, Sewer, or Watercourſe ſhall be cut, dug, ſunk, made, enlarged, or widened, as between him, her, or them, and the ſaid Commiſſioners, ſhall be agreed upon; and in caſe of any Difference concerning ſuch Recompence and Satisfaction, the Juſtices of the Peace for the ſaid County of *Bedford* at the then next General or Quarter Seſſions of the Peace, to be holden in and for the ſaid County ſhall hear, ſettle, and determine the ſame, Ten Days Notice being given in Writing by ſuch Owner or Owners, Occupier or Occupiers, or by the Treaſurer, Clerk, or Surveyor appointed by the ſaid Commiſſioners, to the other of them, of the intended Application to the ſaid Juſtices for that Purpoſe; and the Judgement and Order of the ſaid Juſtices therein ſhall be final and concluſive to all Parties.

Commiſſioners Power to repair, cleanſe, &c. Lanes, &c. not publick Highways.

XXXVI. And whereas there are ſeveral Lanes, Courts, Paſſages, and Places in the Town of *Bedford* aforeſaid, which are not publick Highways, or repaired by virtue of the Publick Highway Act, and the Occupiers of the adjoining Premiſes may neglect or refuſe to comply with the Requiſition of this Act, and which by reaſon of the Narrowneſs and bad State of Repairs of ſuch Lanes, Courts, Paſſages, and Places, are Nuiſances and Offences to the Inhabitants of the ſaid Town, and may contribute much to produce contagious Diſeaſes; be it therefore further enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall and may, and they are hereby empowered (in caſe of ſuch Neglect or Refuſal) to repair, cleanſe, ſcour, and drain ſuch Lanes, Courts, Paſſages, and Places, and to charge the ſeveral Occupiers of ſuch Premiſes reſpectively with the Expences thereof, in ſuch Proportions as to the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall ſeem reaſonable; and on their Refuſal to pay or reimburſe the ſaid Commiſſioners all ſuch Charges and Expences which ſhall or may be occaſioned thereby, the ſame ſhall and may be recovered in like Manner as any Penalty or Forfeiture is by this Act authorized to be recovered.

General Highway Act to remain in force.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall from and after the paſſing this Act, be within the ſeveral Pariſhes of

of *Saint Paul*, *Saint Peter*, *Saint Cuthbert*, *Saint Mary*, and *Saint John*, in the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, inveſted with all and ſingular the Powers, Proviſions, and Authorities, and in the Receipt and Poſſeſſion of all Compoſitions, Rates, Aſſeſſments, Fines, and Penalties given and granted in and by an Act of Parliament, paſſed in the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act to explain, amend, and reduce into One Act of Parliament, the Statutes now in being for the Amendment and Preſervation of the publick Highways within that Part of Great Britain called* England, *and for other Purpoſes*, or any Act of Parliament paſſed for explaining, amending, or altering the ſaid Act; and the Surveyor or Surveyors to be by the ſaid Commiſſioners appointed by virtue of this Act, ſhall have the ſame Powers of demanding, collecting, and recovering the Payment of ſuch Compoſitions, Rates, Aſſeſſments, Fines, and Penalties, as by the ſaid Acts are in that reſpect given to Surveyors of Highways appointed by virtue thereof, which Compoſitions, Rates, Aſſeſſments, Fines, and Penalties, ſhall be applied to the ſeveral Purpoſes to which the ſame are applicable under the ſaid Acts, and not otherwiſe.

Where the Inhabitants are indicted, the fine to be paid by the Commiſſioners.

XXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That when the Inhabitants of any Pariſh within the ſaid Town of *Bedford* ſhall be indicted or preſented for not repairing any Highway, Street, Square, Lane, or other publick Paſſage or Place, and the Court before which ſuch Indictment or Preſentment ſhall be preferred ſhall impoſe a Fine, Iſſue, Penalty, or Forfeiture on the Inhabitants, for not repairing ſuch Highway, Street, Square, Lane, or other publick Paſſage or Place, or not appearing to any ſuch Indictment or Preſentment, it ſhall be lawful for ſuch Court to order the Treaſurer of the ſaid Commiſſioners to pay the ſaid Fine, Iſſue, Penalty, or Forfeiture, together with the Coſts and Charges attending the ſame, out of the Money then in his Hands, or next to be received by him, which Order ſhall be binding upon ſuch Treaſurer, and he is hereby authorized and required to obey the ſame.

Surveyors of the Highways to produce their Accounts to the Commiſſioners.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That the preſent Surveyors of the Highways of the ſaid ſeveral Pariſhes of *Saint Paul*, *Saint Peter*, *Saint Cuthbert*, *Saint Mary*, and *Saint John*, ſhall, on a Day to be appointed by the ſaid Commiſſioners, reſpectively meet the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Five or more of them, at ſuch Place within the ſaid Town as they the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall direct, and produce their reſpective Accounts for the Highways from the Time of their entering into the Office of Surveyor to the Day of Meeting, for the Inſpection of the ſaid Commiſſioners; and the ſaid Commiſſioners are hereby authorized and directed to examine and audit ſuch Accounts; and the ſaid Surveyors are hereby reſpectively directed and required to pay into the Hands of the Treaſurer of the ſaid Commiſſioners, or ſuch Perſon or Perſons as they ſhall appoint, all ſuch Sum and Sums of Money (if any) as ſhall appear upon the Examination of ſuch Accounts reſpectively to be the Balance or Balances thereof remaining in the Hands of the ſaid Surveyors reſpectively, to be applied for the Purpoſes of this Act; and from and after the Examination and ſettling of the ſaid Accounts, and Payment of ſuch Monies (if any) that ſhall be the Balance or Balances of the ſaid Accounts, the Office of Surveyor of the Highways for the ſaid ſeveral Pariſhes of *Saint Paul*, *Saint Peter*, *Saint Cuthbert*,

bert, Saint Mary, and *Saint John*, ſhall be determined; and all Rates and Aſſeſſments then made and aſſeſſed upon the Occupiers or Poſſeſſors of any Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, within the ſaid Pariſhes reſpectively, for or in reſpect of defraying the Expences attending the repairing and amending the Highways within the ſaid Pariſhes reſpectively, ſhall be collected by ſuch Perſon or Perſons as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall appoint, to be applied for the Purpoſes of this Act, any Thing contained in any former Act or Acts to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

For regulating Statute Duty on Turnpike Roads.

XL. And be it further enacted, That, from and after the paſſing this Act, the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall and they are hereby required to maintain and keep in Repair all ſuch Parts of the Streets within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, as now are maintained by the Truſtees of any Turnpike Road leading through the ſame Town, in like Manner as the Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages and Places within the ſaid Town, not being Turnpike Roads, are hereby required to be repaired by them, any Law, Statute, Cuſtom, or Uſage to the contrary notwithſtanding: Provided always, that the Proportion of Statute Duty to be performed upon the ſeveral Turnpike Roads within the ſaid reſpective Pariſhes, ſhall be regulated and aſcertained according to the Extent of ſuch Turnpike Roads within the ſame Pariſhes excluſively, or of ſuch Parts thereof as are required to be repaired by the ſaid Commiſſioners.

Footpath through *St. Mary's* Church Yard to be altered.

XLI. And whereas ſo much of the *High Street* in the Pariſh of *Saint Mary*, in the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, as is ſituate between the Churchyard of the ſaid Pariſh Eaſt, and *Saint Mary's Square*, and *Cauldwell Street* Weſt, and alſo ſo much of a Street called *Potter Street*, in the ſame Pariſh as is ſituate between the ſaid Churchyard North, and a Yard belonging to *The Fountain Inn*, in which the Swine Market is held South, is narrow and inconvenient to Paſſengers, and a publick Footpath leads from the *High Street* aforeſaid through the ſaid Churchyard into *Potter Street* aforeſaid, and the ſaid Churchyard is elevated above the ſaid Streets, and in conſequence of the ſaid Footpath leading through the ſaid Churchyard, Swine and Cattle frequently ſtray therein, and if the ſaid Foothpath, inſtead of paſſing through the ſaid Churchyard, were to be ſet out ſeparate and apart therefrom, and laid into the *High Street* and *Potter Street* aforeſaid, it would not only be of conſiderable publick Advantage by widening the ſaid Streets, but would alſo tend to keep the ſaid Churchyard private; be it therefore further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful to and for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to ſet out apart from the ſaid Churchyard, and to lay into the *High Street* and *Potter Street* aforeſaid, a Footpath on the South and Weſt Sides of the ſaid Churchyard, not exceeding the Width of Eight Feet, and to level the ſame with the ſaid Streets, they the ſaid Commiſſioners erecting a good and ſufficient Wall of Brick or Stone, ſeparating the ſame from the ſaid Churchyard; and from and after the ſetting out of the ſaid Footpath, and laying the ſame into the ſaid Streets as aforeſaid, the ſaid preſent Footpath through the ſaid Churchyard ſhall be wholly ſhut up and diſcontinued, and be no longer uſed as a Footway or Paſſage, any Law, Statute, Cuſtom, Uſage, or Preſcription, to the contrary notwithſtanding.

No Night Soil to be taken away but at certain Times.

XLII. And be it further enacted, That no Perſon ſhall begin to empty any Bog Houſe, Privy, or Neceſſary Houſe, or take away any Night Soil, or bring or place any Cart or Carts for removing the ſame from any Houſe, Place, or Building, within any of the Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places in the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, before the Hour of Eleven of the Clock in the Night, or ſhall continue to take away the ſame after the Hour of Six of the Clock in the Morning between *Michaelmas* and *Lady-Day*, or after the Hour of Four in the Morning between *Lady Day* and *Michaelmas*; and no Perſon ſhall wilfully or negligently ſpill, put, or caſt any ſuch Night Soil out of any Cart or Tub in any of the Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places aforeſaid, or depoſit or convey the ſame into any of the Drains or Sewers by this Act directed to be made as aforeſaid; and if any Perſon ſhall offend herein, he ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings.

Commiſſioners may order offenſive Things to be removed.

XLIII. And be it further enacted, That in caſe any Slaughter Houſe, Hogſtye, or other noiſome Building, Carrion, Blood, Offal, Soil, or Dung, being in or near any of the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, or other publick Paſſages or Places, ſhall annoy or be offenſive to the Inhabitants of the ſaid Town, or ſhall be a Nuiſance in the legal Acceptation of that Term, it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners upon Complaint being made thereof to them by any Perſon or Perſons, by Notice in Writing under their Hands, or the Hand of their Clerk or Surveyor, to order any ſuch Nuiſance to be removed; and in caſe the ſame ſhall not be removed (within Five Days after ſuch Notice ſhall be given to the Perſon or Perſons who ought to remove the ſame), ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſhall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Ten Shillings for every Day that the ſame ſhall remain unremoved after the Expiration of the ſaid Term, the ſame to be recovered in like Manner as any Penalty or Forfeiture is by this Act authorized to be recovered.

Hoards may erected.

XLIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein-before contained ſhall hinder or prevent any Perſon from erecting or building any Hoard or other Thing by way of Incloſure, for the Purpoſe of making Mortar, or depoſiting Bricks or Stones, or making or working up any Lime, Sand, or other Materials uſed in building, or for the Purpoſe of building or repairing any Building, or to ſubject him to any Penalty on account thereof, provided that there be convenient Room for Carriages and Paſſengers to paſs and repaſs, and that a Light be placed thereto in the Night Time, but ſo nevertheleſs as every ſuch Perſon ſhall previouſly have and obtain a Licence for that Purpoſe, under the Hand of the Surveyor, or the ſaid Commiſſioners; which Licence ſuch Surveyor is hereby forthwith required to grant to any Perſon applying for the ſame, and for wnich he ſhall receive the Sum of One Shilling, and no more, and which Licence ſhall ſpecify the Length and Breadth of every ſuch Hoard, and the Time it is to continue for ſuch Purpoſes as aforeſaid; and if any ſuch Perſon ſhall erect any ſuch Hoard or Incloſure of greater Dimenſions than ſhall be ſpecified in, or ſhall ſuffer any ſuch Hoard or Incloſure to remain for any longer Time than ſhall be allowed by ſuch Licence every Perſon ſo offending, ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay any

any Sum not exceeding Ten Shillings for every Day of Twenty-four Hours that such Hoard or Inclosure, or any Part thereof, shall be continued after Notice shall have been given by the Surveyor to take down and remove the same; and it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to cause the same to be taken down and removed, and the Materials thereof to be deposited in some proper Place, there to be kept and detained until the Owner or Owners thereof, or his, her, or their known Servant or Servants, shall and do pay to the Treasurer for the Time being to the said Commissioners, the said Penalty together with the Costs and Charges of removing, detaining, and keeping the same; and in case the same shall not be claimed, and the said Penalty and Charges paid within the Space of Five Days next after such taking down and removing thereof, then it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners to order the same to be sold and disposed of, and the Money arising therefrom to be applied for such of the Purposes of this Act as the said Commissioners shall think proper.

All Buildings in future to be covered with Slate or Tile.

XLV. And, for preventing future Damages by Fire, and for the greater Safety and Security of the Inhabitants of the said Town of *Bedford*; be it further enacted, That all Houses, Outhouses, and other Buildings, which, after the passing this Act, shall be built, erected, rebuilt, or new covered, within the Distance of Three Quarters of a Mile from the Parish Church of *Saint Paul*, in the said Town of *Bedford*, shall be covered with Lead, Copper, or other Metal, Slate, or Tile, and not otherwise; and if any Person or Persons shall at any Time or Times, after the passing this Act, cover or cause to be covered any House, Outhouse, Building, or Erection, or any Part thereof, within the Distance of Three Quarters of a Mile from the Parish Church of *Saint Paul* aforesaid, with any other Covering than Lead, Copper, or other Metal, Slate, or Tile, every Person so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Ten Pounds, and any further Sum not exceeding Ten Shillings for every Day such Offence shall continue; and the Master and Workmen employed to cover the same, shall each respectively forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds nor less than Forty Shillings; and it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to order the same to be taken down and removed in such Manner as to them shall seem meet, and the Person or Persons so ordered by the said Commissioners, shall and may take down and remove the same accordingly, upon giving Notice or Warning to the Owner or Occupier of such House, Outhouse, or other Building or Erection, to take down the same; and One Moiety of the said respective Penalties shall be paid to the Informer.

Bricks, Tiles, or Lime, not to be made within the Town.

XLVI. And be it further enacted, That no Kiln or other Building, for the Purpose of making or burning any Bricks, Tiles, or Lime, shall be erected or built, nor shall any Bricks, Tiles, or Lime, be made or burnt within the said Town of *Bedford*, except as herein-after is mentioned; and if any Person or Persons shall at any Time or Times after the passing this Act, erect or build, or be employed or concerned in erecting or building any Kiln, or other Building, for the Purpose of making or burning any Bricks, Tiles, or Lime, or shall make or burn, or cause to be made

made or burnt, or be employed or concerned in making or burning any Bricks, Tiles, or Lime, within the Diſtance of Three Quarters of a Mile from the Pariſh Church of *Saint Paul* aforeſaid, except as herein after is mentioned, every Perſon ſo offending ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Ten Pounds, and any further Sum not exceeding Ten Shillings for every Day ſuch Offence ſhall continue; and it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to order ſuch Kiln or other Building to be taken down and removed, and the Fire for burning ſuch Bricks, Tiles, or Lime, to be extinguiſhed, in ſuch Manner as to them ſhall ſeem meet; and the Perſon or Perſons ſo ordered by the ſaid Commiſſioners, ſhall and may take down and remove ſuch Kiln or other Building, and extinguiſh ſuch Fire, upon giving Notice or Warning to the Owner or Occupier of ſuch Kiln or other Building to take down the ſame, or to the Owner or other Perſon having the Care of ſuch Bricks, Tiles, or Lime, to extinguiſh ſuch Fire; and One Moiety of the ſaid reſpective Penalties ſhall be paid to the Informer: Provided always, that nothing herein contained ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend to prevent any Perſon or Perſons from making or burning Bricks, Tiles, or Lime, in ſuch Kilns or other Buildings already erected and built, as are ſituate at the Diſtance of Three Furlongs or upwards from the Pariſh Church of *Saint Paul* aforeſaid, or from repairing or rebuilding the ſaid Kilns or other Buildings.

When Houſes or other Buildings projecting into any Street are taken down to be rebuilt, the Commiſſioners may order the ſame to be ſet back.

XLVII. And be it further enacted, That whenever any Houſe or other Building ſtanding in any Street, Square, Lane, or other publick Paſſage or Place within the ſaid Town, and projecting beyond the regular Line of ſuch Street, Square, Lane, or other publick Paſſage or Place, or of the Range of Buildings adjoining thereto, ſhall be taken down and rebuilt, it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, if they think proper, to require and compel the Owner or Owners thereof, when the ſame ſhall be rebuilt, to cauſe ſuch Houſe or other Building to be ſet back in and according to ſuch regular Line as aforeſaid, and to give ſuch Directions, and make ſuch Orders in Writing under their Hands for that Purpoſe, as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think proper, and to cauſe the ſame to be delivered to or left at the Houſe or laſt or uſual Place of Abode of ſuch Owner or Owners, ſome or One of them; and if any Houſe or other Building ſhall be built, erected, or rebuilt, contrary to ſuch Directions and Orders, the ſame ſhall be and be deemed to be an Encroachment, Nuiſance, and Annoyance, within the Intent and Meaning of this Act, and be removed or removeable as ſuch: Provided always nevertheleſs, that full Recompence and Satisfaction ſhall be made to the Owner or Owners of and all Perſons intereſted in the Premiſes, for any Loſs or Damage he, ſhe, or they may ſuſtain by ſuch Houſe or other Building being ſo ſet back; and all the Powers, Proviſions, and Clauſes contained in this Act with reſpect to the Houſes or other Buildings hereby particularly authorized to be taken down, ſhall extend and apply, and be applicable to any Houſe or other Building ſo to be ſet back as aforeſaid, and to making Compenſation and Satisfaction to the Owner or Owners thereof and Perſons intereſted therein, as fully and effectually to all Intents and Purpoſes, as if the ſame were now repeated.

XLVIII. And

Watchmen to be appointed.

XLVIII. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized and empowered from Time to Time, to appoint ſuch Number of Watchmen and Patroles to be employed within the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages and Places, for ſo long Time in the Night, under ſuch Regulations, and for ſuch Wages, as they ſhall think proper, and to provide them with proper Arms, Ammunition, Weapons, and Cloathing, for the Diſcharge of their Duty, and alſo to erect Watch Houſes and Watch Boxes in ſuch Place or Places as they may think proper; and if any Watchman or Patrole appointed as aforeſaid, ſhall neglect to perform his Duty, or ſhall in any wiſe miſbehave himſelf in the Execution of his Office, he ſhall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Ten Shillings for every ſuch Offence.

Lamps to be ſet up and Houſes numbered.

XLIX. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby empowered from Time to Time, to cauſe ſuch Lamp Irons and Lamp Poſts to be put up or affixed upon or againſt the Walls or Palliſadoes of any of the Houſes, Tenements, or Buildings, or in any ſuch other Manner, in the ſeveral Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages and Places, within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, as they ſhall think proper, and alſo to cauſe ſuch Number of Lamps of ſuch Sizes and Sorts to be provided and affixed, or put upon ſuch Lamp Irons and Lamp Poſts, as they ſhall think neceſſary for lighting all or any of the ſaid Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages and Places, and alſo to cauſe the ſaid Lamps, and alſo the ſeveral Houſes within the ſaid reſpective Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages and Places, to be numbered, and alſo to cauſe to be painted, engraved, or deſcribed in Wood, Stone, or otherwiſe, and to be fixed in a conſpicuous Part of One or more Houſe or Houſes, Building or Buildings, at or near each End, Corner, or Entrance of each of ſuch Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages and Places, the Name by which each reſpective Street, Square, Lane, Court, Alley, Paſſage, and Place, is to be properly called or known, in ſuch Manner as they ſhall think moſt proper for diſtinguiſhing the ſame; and if any Perſon ſhall wilfully break, throw down, take away, ſpoil, or damage any Watch Houſe or Watch Box, or Lamp, or any of the Irons, Poſts, or other Furniture thereof, or wilfully extinguiſh the Light of any ſuch Lamp, or deface or obliterate any ſuch Name or Number, or any Part thereof, every Perſon ſo offending, and not being otherwiſe ſued or proſecuted for the ſame, ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Twenty Shillings, whereof One Moiety ſhall go to the Informer, and the other to the Commiſſioners acting under, and to be applied for the Purpoſes of this Act; and ſuch Offender ſhall alſo pay to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or to ſuch Perſon as they ſhall appoint to receive the ſame, ſuch Sum of Money as ſhall be a full Satisfaction for the Damage ſo done; and in caſe any Perſon ſhall careleſsly, negligently, or accidentally break, throw down, or otherwiſe ſpoil or damage any of the ſaid Lamps, or the Irons, Poſts, or other Furniture thereof, and ſhall not, upon Demand, make Satisfaction for the Damage done thereto, it ſhall be lawful for any Juſtice of the Peace for the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, upon Proof thereof made by the Oath of any credible Witneſs, or on the Confeſſion of the Party, to award ſuch Sum of Money by way of Satisfaction for ſuch Damage, as ſuch Juſtice ſhall think reaſonable,

Penalty for accidentally breaking, *etc.*

ſonable, not exceeding the Sum of Twenty Shillings, and in Default of Payment thereof upon Demand, to cauſe the ſame to be levied by Diſtreſs and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Perſon who ſhall have done ſuch Damage, rendering the Overplus (if any) after deducting the Charges of proſecuting ſuch Complaint, and of ſuch Diſtreſs and Sale, to the Owners of ſuch Goods and Chattels, upon Demand.

Rates to be laid on Houſes, *etc.*

L. And, for raiſing Money to enable the ſaid Commiſſioners appointed and to be appointed by or by virtue of this Act, to carry the ſeveral Purpoſes aforeſaid, or any of them, into Execution; be it further enacted, That One or more Rate or Rates, Aſſeſſment or Aſſeſſments, ſhall be laid and aſſeſſed by the ſaid Commiſſioners Once in every Year or oftener, if they ſhall judge it needful, upon all Meſſuages, Houſes, Shops, Warehouſes, Buildings, Yards, and Gardens, ſituate within the ſaid ſeveral Pariſhes of *Saint Paul*, *Saint Peter*, *Saint Cuthbert*, *Saint Mary*, and *Saint John*, in the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, in ſuch Sum or Sums of Money as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall order and direct, but ſo nevertheleſs, as that ſuch Rate or Rates, Aſſeſſment or Aſſeſſments, do not exceed in the Whole, in any One Year, the Sum of Eight-pence in the Pound, according to the yearly Rent or Value of ſuch Meſſuages, Houſes, Shops, Warehouſes, Buildings, Yards, and Gardens.

How the yearly Value of Houſes, *etc.* to be aſcertained.

LI. And be it further enacted, That the annual Value of all ſuch Meſſuages, Houſes, Shops, Warehouſes, Buildings, Yards, and Gardens, ſo to be reſpectively rated and aſſeſſed as aforeſaid, ſhall be ſettled and aſcertained according to the annual Value at which the Occupiers of ſuch Meſſuages, Houſes, Shops, Warehouſes, Buildings, Yards, and Gardens reſpectively, ſhall be rated or aſſeſſed in the Aſſeſſment made for the Relief of the Poor of the Pariſh in which ſuch Meſſuages, Houſes, Shops, Warehouſes, and Buildings reſpectively ſhall ſtand or be ſituate, previous to the making any ſuch Rate or Aſſeſſment by the ſaid Commiſſioners; and the Firſt Year for which ſuch Rates or Aſſeſſments as aforeſaid ſhall be made, ſhall commence from the Twenty-fourth Day of *June* One thouſand eight hundred and three, and the Money ſo rated and aſſeſſed under or in purſuance of this Act, ſhall from Time to Time be paid to the Collectors to be appointed as aforeſaid, at ſuch Time and Times in every Year, and in ſuch Manner, as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall order or direct, and ſhall be paid over by ſuch Collectors into the Hands of the Treaſurer to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or ſuch Banker or Bankers, or other Perſon or Perſons, as they ſhall order or direct for that Purpoſe.

Commencement of Rates.

Leſſees, *etc.* ſubject to Rates of Houſes let to Lodgers.

LII. And be it further enacted, That the Leſſee, Landlord, or Owner of every Houſe within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, which is or ſhall or may be let out Ready-furniſhed to a Lodger or Lodgers, ſhall be deemed and taken to be the Occupier thereof, and ſhall be liable or ſubject to the Rates or Aſſeſſments directed by this Act to be made, raiſed, and levied, according to the yearly Value of the Premiſes; and that every Perſon renting or occupying any ſuch Ready-furniſhed Houſe as aforeſaid, ſhall be liable and compellable to the Payment of the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments, to be recovered in Manner herein-after mentioned; and that every ſuch reſpective Occupier or Occupiers who ſhall pay any ſuch Rate or Aſſeſſment, or from whom the ſame ſhall be recovered in purſuance of

of this Act, shall and may deduct the same from and out of his or her next Rent; and the Lessee, Landlord, or other Person or Persons who shall be in the actual Receipt of the Rack or improved Rent of such House, is and are hereby required to allow the same accordingly; and the Receipt for such Payment shall be a sufficient Discharge for such Tenant or Tenants, Occupier or Occupiers, for so much Money as he, she, or they shall pay, or as shall be levied on him, her, or them by virtue of this Act.

Poor Persons not to be assessed.

LIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Person or Persons who by reason of his, her, or their Poverty or Inability only, is, are, or shall be excused from the Payment of or shall be left out of the Rates or Assessments made for the Relief of the Poor of the Parish in which he, she, or they shall reside, shall be subject or liable to be rated or assessed in any Rate or Assessment to be made by virtue of this Act.

Empty Houses to be charged with Half Rates.

LIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That when any of the said Messuages, Houses, or other Buildings, shall at the Time of making any of the said Rates or Assessments, be empty or unoccupied, then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners to rate and assess such Premises respectively at One Half of such Rates or Assessments, and no more, during the Time only such Premises shall be empty and unoccupied; and also, in case any such Premises after the making of any such Rate or Assessment, shall become empty or unoccupied, One Half only of such Rates or Assessments shall be charged on such Premises respectively, for and during so long Time as the same shall continue empty or unoccupied; and then and in every such Case the said Rates or Assessments, and all Arrears due thereon, shall be paid by the Person or Persons for the Time being entitled to such Premises, or by the first or any other Tenant or Occupier thereof; and every such Tenant or Occupier shall and may, and is hereby authorized to deduct and retain the same out of his or her Rent, and the Person or Persons for the Time being entitled to such Premises is and are hereby required to allow such Deductions; and that where any Messuage, House, Building, or Tenement, in respect whereof any Rate or Assessment shall be made as aforesaid, shall be let to more than One Tenant, any One or more of such Tenants shall be deemed the Occupier or Occupiers thereof for the Purposes of this Act.

Poor Rates may be inspected.

LV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Person or Persons, having an Order under the Hands of any Five or more of the said Commissioners, to inspect or take Copies or Extracts of all or any Rates made for raising Money for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor within the several Parishes in the said Town of *Bedford*; which Inspections, Copies, and Extracts, the Person or Persons having the Custody of such Rates respectively are hereby required to permit and suffer to be made, without Fee or Reward, upon the producing of such Order; and in case any Person having the Custody of any such Rates shall neglect or refuse so to do within Three Days after such Order shall have been produced and shewn to him, or a Copy thereof left at his usual Place of Abode,

Abode, he shall for every such Neglect or Refusal forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings.

Rate Books to be admitted Evidence.

LVI. And be it further enacted and declared, That the Book of Rates to be delivered by the Collectors or other Officers to the said Commissioners, and all Entries afterwards made therein, or examined Copies thereof respectively, shall be received as Evidence of the Rates imposed by virtue of this Act, and of the Payment of such of them, or any Part thereof, as shall by such Entries appear to have been paid to such Collectors.

Arrears of Rates how to be recovered.

LVII. And, for the better enforcing the Payment of the Rates or Assessments to be made by virtue of this Act, be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons liable to pay any of the Rates or Assessments to be made by virtue of this Act, shall refuse or neglect to pay the Money rated or assessed upon him, her, or them, and all Arrears due thereon, or if any Person or Persons liable to pay any of the said Rates or Assessments, shall at any Time begin to remove his, her, or their Goods, Chattels, Furniture, Cattle, or other Effects, from the Messuage, Building, Land, Tenement, Hereditaments, or Premises in his, her, or their Occupation, within the said Town of *Bedford*, or to sell, and dispose of such Goods, Chattels, Furniture, Cattle, or other Effects therein by publick Auction, or sell, dispose of, or carry away his, her, or their Goods, Chattels, Furniture, Cattle, or other Effects as aforesaid, without paying all Arrears then due or rated in respect of such Messuage, House, Building, Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, or Premises (in which the current Quarter shall be considered as due), that then and in any of the said Cases, it shall be lawful for the Collector or Collectors for the Time being to the said Commissioners, to collect and levy such Rates or Assessments, and all Arrears due thereon, and the Rate or Assessment for such Quarter wherein such Removal or Sale shall begin to be made as aforesaid (although previous to the Time for Payment of the Rate or Assessment for such Quarter) by Warrant under the Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals of any One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the said Town of *Bedford*, by Distress and Sale of the Goods, Chattels, Furniture, Cattle, and other Effects then remaining and being in or upon any such Messuage, Building, Land, Tenement, Hereditaments, or other Premises; and if within Five Days next after such Distress shall be made, the said Rates or Assessments, and all Arrears due thereon, together with the reasonable Costs and Charges of taking and keeping the said Distress, shall not be paid, the said Collector shall cause the said Goods, Chattels, Furniture, Cattle, and other Effects, to be appraised and sold, or such Part thereof as shall be sufficient to pay such Rates or Assessments, together with all Arrears due thereon, and the reasonable Costs and Charges of making such Distress, and of keeping and selling the same, returning the Overplus (if any) to the Owner or Owners of such Goods, Chattels, Furniture, Cattle, and other Effects respectively.

Commissioners may bring Actions for Rates.

LVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, if they shall think it more expedient

pedient to bring or cauſe to be brought any Action or Actions of Debt, or Special Action on the Caſe, in any of His Majeſty's Courts of Record at *Weſtminſter*, for all or any of the Rates or Aſſeſſments to be made by virtue of this Act, in which Action or Actions it ſhall be ſufficient for the ſaid Commiſſioners to declare that the Defendant is indebted to them in the Sum of Money they ſhall ſuppoſe to be due for Rates or Aſſeſſments under this Act; and if the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall recover ſuch Sum ſo declared for, or any Part thereof, they ſhall have full Coſts, to be levied and recovered as other Monies upon Judgements are now by Law levied and recovered, in which Action or Actions no Eſſoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance ſhall be allowed.

How publick Buildings, *etc.* ſhall be rated.

LIX. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Sum of One Shilling and no more, ſhall yearly be rated and aſſeſſed upon all Halls, Gaols, Chapels, Meeting Houſes, Schools, Alms Houſes (except the Alms Houſes founded by *Chriſtie Skinner* deceaſed) and other publick Buildings, Churchyards, Chapelyards, and Meetinghouſe-yards within the ſaid Town, for every Yard running Meaſure of the Length in Front of ſuch Halls, Gaols, Chapels, Meeting Houſes, Schools, Alms Houſes, and other publick Buildings, Churchyards, Chapelyards, and Meeting-houſe-yards; and the Sum of One Shilling and no more yearly, for every Yard running Meaſure of the Length of ſuch Parts of the ſaid Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages or Places as have been heretofore repaired at the Expence of the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty of the ſaid Town and Borough of *Bedford*, the Rates or Aſſeſſments ſo to be made and laid on ſuch Parts of the ſaid Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages or Places as aforeſaid, and upon any Hall, Gaol, or other publick Building belonging to the ſaid Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty, ſhall be paid to the Collector or Collectors for the Time being appointed by the ſaid Commiſſioners, by the Chamberlains of the ſaid Town and Borough of *Bedford* for the Time being; and the Rates or Aſſeſſments ſo to be made and laid upon the County Hall, County Gaol, or any other publick County Building, ſhall be paid by the Treaſurer of the County of *Bedford* for the Time being; and the Rates or Aſſeſſments ſo to be made and laid upon any School, Hoſpital, Alms Houſes, or other publick Buildings belonging to the Maſters, Governors, and Truſtees of the *Bedford* Charity, ſhall be paid by the Clerk to the ſaid Maſters, Governors, and Truſtees for the Time being; and the Rates or Aſſeſſments ſo to be made and laid upon any Pariſh Church or Churchyard, ſhall be paid by the Churchwardens of the reſpective Pariſh Churches; and the Rates or Aſſeſſments ſo to be made and laid upon any Chapel, Meeting Houſe, Chapel-yard, or Meetinghouſe-yard, ſhall be paid by the reſpective Miniſters, Deacons, Truſtees, or other Perſons uſually officiating therein, or having the Management thereof reſpectively; and the Rates or Aſſeſſments ſo to be made and laid upon any School, Alms Houſe, or other publick Building, not herein-before mentioned, ſhall be paid by the reſpective Maſters, Truſtees, or Managers thereof; and if ſuch reſpective Chamberlain, Treaſurer, Clerk, Churchwardens, Miniſter, Deacon, Maſter, Truſtee, Manager or other Perſon or Perſons, ſhall refuſe or neglect to pay the ſame within Fourteen Days after the ſame ſhall become due, and Demand be made thereof, then and

in every ſuch Caſe it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners to bring or cauſe to be brought, any Action or Actions of Debt, or Special Action on the Caſe, in any of His Majeſty's Courts of Record at *Weſtminſter*, for all or any of the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments in which Action or Actions it ſhall be ſufficient for the ſaid Commiſſioners to declare that the Defendant is indebted to them in ſuch Sum of Money as they ſhall ſuppoſe to be due for Rates or Aſſeſſments under this Act; and if the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall recover ſuch Sum ſo declared for, or any Part thereof, they ſhall have full Coſts, to be levied and recovered as other Monies upon Judgements are now by Law levied and recovered; in which Action or Actions no Eſſoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance, ſhall be allowed.

Application of the Money.

LX. And be it further enacted, That all the Money to ariſe by or from the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments, or to be borrowed, advanced, or received for the Purchaſe of any Annuity on the Credit or Security thereof, by virtue of this Act, ſhall be applied from Time to Time in paying the Intereſt of the Principal Money ſo to be borrowed, and the Annuities ſo to be granted, and in defraying the Expences of erecting and building the ſaid Guildhall, Market Houſe or Market Houſes, Shops, and other Buildings, and of paving, repairing, cleanſing, lighting, watching, watering, and improving the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, and the ſaid Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages and Places, and of carrying this Act into Execution, for all or any of the Purpoſes aforeſaid, and in paying off the ſaid Principal Money in ſuch Manner as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think proper; which ſaid Monies ſo to be raiſed ſhall become and be One Conſolidated Aggregate Fund, and veſted in the ſaid Commiſſioners for ſuch Purpoſes.

Commiſſioners annually to make out an Account, to be open for Inſpection.

LXI. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall, between the Twenty-fourth Day of *June* and the Twenty-ninth Day of *September* in every Year order and direct a fair and juſt Account to be made and written out of all Monies received and paid by virtue or in purſuance of this Act, for the Purpoſes aforeſaid, and how, and to whom, and for what Purpoſes the ſame ſhall have been laid out and expended, and a Copy or Duplicate of ſuch Account, ſigned by the ſaid Commiſſioners, ſhall be depoſited with the Clerk to the ſaid Commiſſioners, who ſhall permit any Perſon or Perſons ſo rated or charged as aforeſaid, or any Perſon or Perſons on his or her Behalf, to inſpect the ſame at ſeaſonable Times, paying the Clerk to the ſaid Commiſſioners the Sum of One Shilling for every ſuch Inſpection; and ſhall, upon Demand, forthwith give Copies of the ſame, or any Part thereof, to any ſuch Perſon, who ſhall pay at and after the Rate of Three-pence for every Ninety Words, and ſo in Proportion for any leſs Number of Words.

Property of Bridge, &c. veſted in Commiſſioners.

LXII. And be it further enacted, That, from and after the paſſing this Act, all that the Bridge over the River *Ouze*, in the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, called *Bedford Bridge*, and the Scite and Situation whereon the ſame ſtands, and the Materials thereof, and ſuch Part or Parts of the ſaid publick Streets, Highways, and Paſſages within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, as adjoin to the ſaid Bridge, and which the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall conſider neceſſary for the Erection of the ſaid intended Bridge, and making proper

per Avenues thereto, shall belong to, and the same are hereby vested in the said Commissioners.

To take down the present Bridge, and to build a new one.

LXIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to take down, remove, carry away, sell, and dispose of the present Bridge, and the Materials thereof, in such Manner as they shall think proper, and to construct and build a new Bridge of Stone or Iron of sufficient Width for the Passage of Carriages, with a proper uniform Ballustrade on each Side thereof, over the said River *Ouze*, upon or near the Scite, and instead of the said Bridge so intended to be taken down, and to dig, and make proper Foundations in the said River, and on the Lands on each Side thereof, for the Piers and Abutments of the said Bridge, and to cut and level the Banks of the said River in such Manner as the said Commissioners shall think necessary and proper for building the said Bridge, and to cut, remove, take, and carry away any Trees, Roots of Trees, Gravel, Sand, Mud, or any other Impediment whatsoever, which may in any wise hinder the erecting, building, or completing the said Bridge, and also to widen the Streets, Roads, or Ways to and from such Bridge, in such Manner as may facilitate the Approach to and Passage over the same, and also to do, perform, and execute all other Matters and Things requisite and necessary, useful or convenient, for taking down, selling, and disposing of the present Bridge, and for constructing, building, completing, repairing, maintaining, and supporting, the said intended Bridge, according to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act; and the said Commissioners shall from Time to Time have full Power and Authority to land on either Side of the said River all Materials and other Things to be used in and about the said intended new Bridge, and there to work and use such Materials and Things accordingly, they the said Commissioners, and the Persons to be appointed by them as aforesaid, doing as little Damage as may be, and making such Satisfaction as is herein-after mentioned to the respective Owners and Occupiers of all such Lands and Grounds as shall be altered, damaged, spoiled, taken, or made use of for the Purposes aforesaid.

During the Time of taking down and rebuilding the Bridge, the Commissioners to build a temporary Bridge.

LXIV. And be it further enacted, That before the said Commissioners shall begin to take down and remove the present Bridge, they the said Commissioners shall and may, and they are hereby authorized, empowered, and required, to erect and build a Timber Bridge from the Coal Yard and Wharf belonging to and in the Occupation of *Eleanor Green* Widow, and *Francis Green*, situate in the Parish of *Saint Mary* aforesaid, across the said River to a Court Yard or Space of Ground belonging to the Most Noble *John* Duke of *Bedford*, situate in front of *The Swan Inn* in the said Parish of *Saint Paul*, and occupied by *John Rawlyns* with the said Inn, and to make proper Roads and Avenues leading thereto, and at each End thereof, upon, through and over the said Coal Yard, Wharf, and Court Yard, or Space of Ground respectively, for the temporary Passage of Carriages, Horses, and other Beasts, and Foot Passengers, during the taking down and removing of the present Bridge, and erecting the said intended Bridge, and until the said intended Bridge shall be finished and opened for publick Use; and the said Timber Bridge, and the Roads and Avenues thereto, shall be subject to the Right of passing and repassing thereon for the publick Use, and shall be kept in Repair by the said Commissioners, until the said intended new Bridge shall be finished and opened for publick Use.

LXV. And

Power to hire Lands, Buildings, *etc.*

LXV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners to contract and agree with the Owners and Occupiers and all other Persons interested in any Messuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, Ground, or Hereditaments, which they the said Commissioners may think necessary and proper to hire for constructing, building, and repairing the said intended new Bridge, and for erecting the said temporary Wooden Bridge, and making proper Roads and Avenues thereto and at each End thereof; and also to settle, adjust, and agree with the said several Owners, Occupiers, and Persons interested, or any of them, what Recompence or Satisfaction ought reasonably to be made for any Losses, Damages, or Expences, they respectively shall or may sustain, or be put unto, for or by reason or on account of the taking down and removing of the present Bridge, or the constructing, building, completing, or repairing, the said intended new Bridge, and temporary Bridge, or the Execution of any of the Powers of this Act respecting the same.

No Houses, *etc.* to be erected upon the Bridge.

LXVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no House or Building whatsoever, except the Toll House and Turnpike Gate hereinafter mentioned, shall be erected upon the Bridge to be built by virtue of this Act, but that the same shall lie quite open, except as aforesaid, and be deemed and used as a common and publick Highway for ever; and that the said Commissioners shall from Time to Time, and at all Times hereafter, when and so often as Occasion shall require, well and effectually repair such Bridge, and be subject and liable to the Repairs thereof.

Power to erect a Turnpike Gate.

LXVII. And be it further enacted, That the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, shall and may, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to erect or cause to be erected such Toll House and Turnpike Gate, Posts, Pales, Rails, Chains, Bars, and Fences, upon or across the said Bridge, or at or near the Ends thereof, as they shall think proper; and that the several Tolls following shall and may be demanded and taken by such Person or Persons as the said Commissioners shall from Time to Time appoint for that Purpose, at the said Toll House or Turnpike Gate, before any Passage over the said Bridge shall be permitted; (that is to say),

Tolls.

For every Coach, Chariot, Landau, Berlin, Hearse, Chaise, Curricle, Clash, or Chair, drawn by Six Horses, Mares, Geldings, or other Beasts of Draught, the Sum of Three Shillings; and drawn by Four Horses, Mares, Geldings, or other Beasts of Draught, the Sum of Two Shillings; and drawn by Three Horses, Mares, Geldings, or other Beasts of Draught, the Sum of One Shilling and Sixpence; and drawn by Two Horses, Mares, Geldings, or other Beasts of Draught, the Sum of One Shilling; and drawn by One Horse, Mare, Gelding, or other Beast of Draught, the Sum of Sixpence:

For every Waggon, Wain, or other such Carriage with Four Wheels, drawn by Five Horses, Mares, Geldings, Oxen, or Beasts of Draught, the Sum of Two Shillings; and drawn by Three or Four Horses, Mares, Geldings, Oxen, or Beasts of Draught, the Sum of One Shilling and Sixpence:

For every Cart, or other such Carriage, with Two or Three Wheels, drawn by Three Horses, Mares, Geldings, Oxen, or Beasts of Draught, the Sum of One Shilling; and drawn by Two Horses, Mares, Geldings, Oxen, or Beasts of Draught, the Sum of Nine-pence; and drawn by One Horse, Mare, Gelding, Ox, or other Beast of Draught, the Sum of Sixpence:

For every Horse, Mare, Gelding, Mule, or Ass, laden or unladen, and not drawing, the Sum of One Penny Halfpenny:

For every Drove of Oxen, or other Neat Cattle, the Sum of Ten-pence *per* Score; and so in Proportion for any greater or less Number: And,

For every Drove of Calves, Hogs, Swine, Sheep, or Lambs, the Sum of Five-pence *per* Score; and so in Proportion for any greater or less Number:

Recovery of the Tolls.

Which said several Tolls shall be and the same are hereby vested in the said Commissioners; and in case any Person or Persons subject or liable to the Payment of any of the Tolls aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to pay the same, or any Part thereof, on Demand, as aforesaid, then it shall be lawful for the Person or Persons appointed to collect the said Tolls, by himself or themselves, or taking such Assistance as he or they shall think necessary, to stop and prevent the Passage of the Horse, Beast, Cattle, or Carriage, for or in respect of which such Tolls ought to be paid, until full Payment thereof, or to seize and distrain for the same any Horse or other Cattle, or the Loading or Gears thereof, or any Carriage, with its Loading, for or in respect whereof any such Toll is by this Act imposed or made payable, or any Part thereof, or any of the Goods and Chattels of the Person liable to the Payment of such Tolls, and to detain and keep the same until such Tolls, with the reasonable Charge of such Distress, and of detaining and keeping the same, shall be fully paid; and if such Tolls, together with the Costs and Charges of making and keeping such Distress, shall not be paid within Four Days after the making or taking such Distress, it shall be lawful to and for the Person or Persons making such Distress, to sell, or cause to be sold the same, or so much thereof as he shall think needful, returning the Overplus to arise from such Sale, and what shall remain unsold, upon Demand, to the Owner thereof, after such Toll, and all the Expences of such Distress, and of the keeping and selling the same, shall be deducted,

Tolls payable but Once a Day.

LXVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Person shall be subject or liable to the Payment of the respective Tolls by this Act granted more than Once in any One Day, to be computed from Twelve of the Clock at Night to Twelve of the Clock in the succeeding Night, for passing and repassing any Time or Times, with the same Carriage, Beasts, or Cattle, over the said Bridge, the Person attending or having the Care of any such Carriage, Beasts, or Cattle, producing a Ticket denoting such Payment, which Ticket the Collectors of the Tolls are hereby required to give *gratis* upon the Receipt of the Toll.

Exemptions from Toll.

LXIX. Provided also, That nothing in this Act shall extend to charge any Person with any of the Tolls hereby granted for or in respect of any Horses belonging to Officers or Soldiers on their March, or upon Duty, or any Horses or other Beasts or Cattle employed in carrying or conveying

ing the Arms or Baggage of any such Officers or Soldiers, or in carrying any sick, wounded, or disabled Officers or Soldiers; or any Horse, Mare, or Gelding furnished by or for any Person belonging to any Corps or Troop of Volunteer Cavalry, and rode by him in going to or returning from the Place appointed for and on the Days of Exercise, provided always that such Person shall be dressed in the Uniform of his Corps or Troop, and have his Arms, Furniture, and Accoutrements, according to the Regulations provided for such Corps or Troop; or any Horses or Carriages travelling with Vagrants sent by legal Passes; or any Horses or Cariages, of whatsoever Description, employed or to be employed in conveying the Mails of Letters and Expresses under the Authority of His Majesty's Postmaster General, either when employed in conveying, fetching, or guarding such Mails or Expresses, or in returning back from conveying the same; or any Coach, Chariot, Chaise, or other Carriage, or any Passengers on Horseback, on the Day or Days on which there shall be an Election of a Knight or Knights of the Shire to serve in Parliament for the County or Town of *Bedford*; or for or in respect of any Waggon, Cart, or other Carriage, employed only in the Conveyance or Carriage of any Dung, Soil, or Compost of any Kind, or any Lime or Ashes for Manure only, or in the Carriage of any Stones, Bricks, Timber, Lime, Sand, Gravel, or other Materials for repairing the said Bridge, or making or repairing any of the Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, Passages, or Footways, within the said Town of *Bedford*, or any Arches or Bridges thereon; or in the Carriage of any Implements of Husbandry, or other Things to be used in the ploughing, sowing, tilling, cultivating, or stocking of any Land or Ground situate within the said Town of *Bedford*; or in the Carriage or Conveyance of any Hay or Straw not bound up, or Corn in the Straw not sold or disposed of, but passing to be laid up in the Houses, Outhouses, or Grounds of the Owner or Grower thereof, situate within the said Town of *Bedford*, or returning empty after having been so employed; nor shall any of the said Tolls be demanded or taken of or from any Clergyman or Minister going to officiate, or returning after having been officiating at any Church, Chapel, or other Place of religious Worship; nor for or in respect of any Horse or Cattle belonging to any Inhabitant of the said Town going to any Blacksmith's Shop in order to be shoed or farried, or returning after having been so shoed or farried; and if any Person shall take or claim the Benefit of any of such Exemptions, not being entitled to the same, such Person shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds nor less than Forty Shillings.

Commissioners may lower the Tolls.

LXX. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners from Time to Time, as often as they shall think fit, to reduce the Tolls hereby granted or made payable, or any Part thereof, for such Time as they shall think fit; and afterwards, from Time to Time, to advance the Tolls so reduced to any Sum or Sums of Money not exceeding the several Tolls or Sums hereby granted or made payable: Provided always, that no such Alterations in the said Tolls shall be made unless Notice of the Intention to make such Alteration, and of the Time and Place of Meeting for that Purpose, shall have been affixed upon the Toll House or Turnpike Gate then erected in pursuance of this Act, at least One Calendar Month before such Meeting, or unless Two-Thirds in Value of

of the Persons who shall be entitled to the Money then due on the Credit of the said Tolls, shall consent thereto.

Power to let the Tolls.

LXXI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any Seven or more of them, from Time to Time, to let to farm the Tolls by this Act granted, or any Part thereof, for the highest Rent that can be got for the same, not being less than the like Tolls amounted to or produced in the preceding Year; and by Deed in Writing, under their Hands and Seals, to demise and let the same, with Liberty to collect and receive the same for any Term not exceeding Three Years, at and under such Rent payable to the Treasurer to the said Commissioners, by even and equal Monthly or shorter Payments, at such Times, and under such Covenants, as the said Commissioners, or any Seven or more of them, shall think fit, taking such Security from the Person or Persons to whom the same shall be let as they shall think adviseable; and such Person or Persons shall execute a Counterpart of every such Lease or Demise; the said Commissioners first causing Notice of the Time and Place of Meeting for letting such Tolls to be affixed upon the said Toll House or Turnpike Gate, and also to be given in some One Newspaper circulated within the County of *Bedford*, at least One Calendar Month before such Meeting, which Notice shall also specify the particular Tolls intended to be let, and the Amount that the like Tolls produced in the preceding Year, clear of the Salary to the Collectors for receiving the same.

On Breach of Covenants, Commissioners may vacate the Lease.

LXXII. Provided always, That in case any Default shall be made of or in Payment of any of the said Monthly or other Payments, or in case of any Non-performance of the Covenants to be contained in the said Lease or Demise, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any Seven or more of them, to declare the said Lease or Demise void, and to enter into any Turnpike or Toll House in the Possession of the Lessee under such Lease or Demise, and remove the Collector appointed by such Lessee therefrom, in the same Manner as is herein directed for removing any other Collector, or his or their Family therefrom; and if any Lessee of such Tolls, or the Person or Persons appointed by him to collect the same, shall take a greater or less Toll from any Person than authorized or directed by this Act, he or they shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, and shall also, if the said Commissioners shall think fit, forfeit the Lease or Demise of such Tolls; and every other Collector of the said Tolls who shall take a greater or less Toll than is by this Act granted, shall for every such Offence forfeit any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings.

Penalty on Collectors taking false Tolls.

To prevent evading the Tolls.

LXXIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall pass with or drive any Carriage, or Horse, or other Cattle, through the said Turnpike, without paying the Toll which by virtue of this Act shall be payable for the same, or shall unload or cause to be unloaden any Grain, Goods, Wares, Merchandizes, or other Things whatsoever, or take off any Horse or Beast of Draught from any Coach, Waggon, Cart, or other Wheel Carriage, within Three hundred Yards from either End of the said intended Bridge, and carry or cause to be carried such Grain, Goods, Wares, Merchandizes, or other Things so to be taken off and unloaden, over the said Bridge, either on Foot or on Horseback, or on any Waggon, Cart, or other Carriage, or across the said River *Ouze* in

any Boat or other Veſſel whatſoever, with an Intent to avoid the Payment of any of the ſaid Toll; or if any Perſon ſhall forge, counterfeit, or alter, or ſhall deliver or receive of any Perſon any Note or Ticket with Intent to avoid the Payment of any of the ſaid Tolls, or ſhall do any other Act in order or with Intent to avoid or evade the Payment of any of the ſaid Tolls, or whereby the Payment of the ſaid Tolls ſhall be avoided or evaded; or ſhall aſſault, interrupt, or hinder any Collector, Surveyor, or other Officer appointed by the ſaid Commiſſioners, in the Execution of his Duty, every ſuch Perſon ſo offending in any of the Caſes aforeſaid, ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds nor leſs than Forty Shillings; or if any Perſon or Perſons (except the ſaid Commiſſioners, or others acting under the Authority and for the Purpoſes of this Act) ſhall after the building and completing of the ſaid intended Bridge, uſe any Boat, Barge, or other Veſſel, in ferrying, or carrying any Oxen or other Cattle, Swine, Grain, Goods, Wares, Merchandizes, or other Things, acroſs the ſaid River *Ouze*, within the Diſtance of Three hundred Yards from either Side of the ſaid Bridge, in order or with Intent that the Payment of any of the ſaid Tolls ſhall be avoided or evaded, the Owner or Owners of every ſuch Boat, Barge, or other Veſſel, or the Perſon or Perſons employing or uſing the ſame ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds nor leſs than Forty Shillings.

Commiſſioners may compound with Travellers.

LXXIV. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, if they ſhall think fit, to compound and agree, by the Year or otherwiſe, with any Perſon or Perſons travelling over the ſaid Bridge, or through the ſaid Turnpike, for the Paſſage of his, her, or their Carriages, Beaſts, Cattle, and Swine, for any Sum or Sums of Money, to be paid Quarterly, or otherwiſe, to the Treaſurer to the ſaid Commiſſioners, as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall from Time to Time think reaſonable, for and in lieu of the Tolls payable for the ſame by virtue of this Act.

Agreements and Compoſitions to be entered in Books.

LXXV. And be it further enacted, That all Agreements and Compoſitions made by the ſaid Commiſſioners reſpecting the ſaid Tolls with any Perſon or Perſons whomſoever, ſhall be entered at Length in a Book or Books to be kept for that Purpoſe by the Clerk or Treaſurer appointed by the ſaid Commiſſioners, which Books ſhall and may be ſeen by any Perſon whomſoever, having Intereſt therein, without Fee or Reward.

Recovery of Compoſition Money.

LXXVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in caſe any Compoſition Money agreed to be paid as aforeſaid, ſhall not be paid within Fifteen Days next after the ſame ſhall become payable, according to ſuch Compoſition or Agreement, that then it ſhall be lawful for any Juſtice of the Peace acting for the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to empower the Perſon or Perſons authorized by the ſaid Commiſſioners to receive ſuch Compoſition Money (Oath being firſt made that the ſame has been demanded, and remains unpaid, which Oath the ſaid Juſtice is hereby empowered and required to adminiſter), to levy ſuch Compoſition Money by Diſtreſs and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Perſon or Perſons having ſo compounded, returning the Overplus (if any) upon Demand, after Deduction of the Charges occaſioned by ſuch Diſtreſs and Sale.

LXXVII. And

Commissioners may appoint Collectors.

LXXVII. And be it further enacted, That the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, shall and may from Time to Time choose and appoint One or more fit Person or Persons to be Collector or Collectors of the Tolls aforesaid, and such other Officer or Officers as the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, shall think necessary, and from Time to Time to remove such Collector or Collectors, or other Officers, or any of them, as they shall see Occasion, and to appoint new ones in case of Death or Removal; and every Person hereby made liable to pay such Tolls as aforesaid, shall pay the same after the Rates aforesaid, to such Collector or Collectors, or other Officers, as shall from Time to Time be appointed for that Purpose; and the Person or Persons so appointed to collect and receive the said Tolls as aforesaid, shall upon Oath, if thereunto required, before One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the said Town of *Bedford*, on the First *Friday* in every Month, or oftener, if required, give in to the said Commissioners, or their Treasurer or Treasurers for the Time being, a true, exact, and perfect Account in Writing, under his, her, or their respective Hands, with the Vouchers thereof, of all Monies which he, she, or they shall to such Time have received, paid, and disbursed, by virtue of this Act, or by reason of his, her, or their respective Offices; and in case any Money shall remain in his, her, or their Hands, the same shall be paid to the said Commissioners, or to the said Treasurer or Treasurers for the Time being, and shall be laid out, disbursed, and applied, according to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, and not otherwise; and in case the said Collector or Collectors of the said Tolls, shall not give and make such Account and Payment as aforesaid, that then any One Justice of the Peace for the said Town of *Bedford* shall and may make Enquiry of and concerning such Default in a summary Way, as well by Confession of the Party or Parties themselves as by the Testimony of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses upon Oath (which Oath the said Justice is hereby authorized and empowered to administer); and if any Person or Persons shall be thereof convicted by such Justice, he shall, upon Conviction, commit the Party or Parties to the Common Gaol of the said Town of *Bedford*, therein to remain until he, she, or they have made a perfect Account and Payment as aforesaid, or until he, she, or they have compounded and agreed with the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, and have paid such Composition to the said Treasurer or Treasurers for the Time being, which Composition the said Commissioners are hereby authorized and empowered to make; and the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, shall and may, out of the Money arising from the said Tolls, make such Allowance to the said Collector or Collectors, or other Officer or Officers appointed as aforesaid, for and in Consideration of his or their Care and Pains respectively, taken in the Execution of his or their respective Office or Offices, and to such other Person or Persons as have been or shall be assisting in and about the said Bridge to be made, built, or repaired, or in making and preparing, Surveys, Drafts, and Plans for the said Bridge, or otherwise, as to the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, shall seem reasonable.

Collectors of Tolls being discharged, and refusing

LXXVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Collector or other Officer appointed to collect the said Tolls, who shall be

to deliver up Poſſeſſion of the Toll Houſe, *etc.* Juſtices may order ſuch Removal.

be diſcharged from his Office by the ſaid Commiſſioners, ſhall refuſe to deliver up the Poſſeſſion of the Toll Houſe, Buildings, and Appurtenances, which he enjoyed in Right of his Appointment to that Office, within Two Days after Notice of his Diſcharge ſhall be given to him, or left at his Houſe, or if the Wife and Family of any ſuch Collector or other Officer who ſhall die, ſhall refuſe to deliver up the Poſſeſſion of ſuch Houſe, Buildings, and Appurtenances, within Four Days after the Death of ſuch Collector or other Officer, and a new Appointment made, then and in either of the ſaid Caſes it ſhall be lawful for any Juſtice of the Peace for the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to order any Conſtable or other Peace Officer, with ſuch Aſſiſtance as ſhall be neceſſary, to enter ſuch Houſe and Premiſes in the Day-time, and to remove the Perſons who ſhall be found therein, together with their Goods, out of ſuch Houſe, and to put the new appointed Collector or other Officer into the Poſſeſſion thereof.

No Collector or Renter of Tolls to gain a Settlement, nor be aſſeſſed for the Tolls or Toll Houſe.

LXXIX. And be it further enacted, That no Collector or other Officer appointed by the ſaid Commiſſioners to collect the ſaid Tolls, or Perſon renting ſuch Tolls, and reſiding in any Toll Houſe belonging to the ſaid Commiſſioners, ſhall thereby gain a Settlement in any Pariſh within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*; and that no Tolls to be taken by virtue of this Act, nor any Toll Houſe to be erected for the Purpoſe of collecting the ſame, nor any Perſon in reſpect of ſuch Tolls or Toll Houſe, ſhall be rated or aſſeſſed, towards the Payment of any Poors Rate, or any other publick or parochial Levy, Rate, Charge, or Aſſeſſment whatſoever.

Toll Houſe and Gate veſted in the Commiſſioners.

LXXX. And be it further enacted, That the Toll Houſe, Buildings, Toll Gates, Poſts, Pales, Rails, Chains, Bars, Fences, and other Things to be erected, made, or provided by virtue of this Act, ſhall be and are hereby veſted in the ſaid Commiſſioners.

Puniſhing of Perſons damaging the Bridge, *etc.*

LXXXI. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall wilfully or maliciouſly burn, blow up, pull down, or otherwiſe damage or deſtroy the ſaid intended Bridge, or the ſaid temporary Bridge, or the Centres thereof, or any of them, or any Part thereof, or attempt ſo to do, or ſhall wilfully or maliciouſly, or without Authority from the ſaid Commiſſioners, remove, deſtroy, damage, or take away any Materials or Works thereunto belonging, or in anywiſe direct or procure the ſame to be done, whereby the ſaid intended new Bridge, or the ſaid temporary Bridge, or the Centres or Works thereof may be damaged, or the Lives of Paſſengers or Workmen endangered, ſuch Offender or Offenders, being lawfully convicted thereof, ſhall be adjudged guilty of Felony.

Or the Toll Gate or Toll Houſe.

LXXXII. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall wilfully or maliciouſly break down, deſtroy, or damage the ſaid Toll Gate ſo to be erected, or any Poſts, Pales, Rails, Chains, Bars, Fences. or other Parts thereof, or adjoining thereto, or wilfully or maliciouſly damage the ſaid Toll Houſe, every Perſon ſo offending, and being thereof convicted by the Oath of One or more credible Witneſs or Witneſſes, or on his own Confeſſion, before any Juſtice of the Peace acting for the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, ſhall pay the whole Damages and Expences occaſioned thereby, and ſhall alſo for every ſuch Offence forfeit

feit and pay any Sum not exceeding Ten Pounds nor leſs than Five Pounds.

For purchaſing and determining the Tolls and Duties now payable for the Paſſage over the Bridge.

LXXXIII. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized, empowered, and required after the Tolls and Duties payable to the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty of the ſaid Town and Borough of *Bedford*, for the Paſſage over *Bedford Bridge* aforeſaid, ſhall have been bargained, ſold, aſſigned, transferred, and conveyed to and veſted in the ſaid Commiſſioners in Manner herein-before mentioned, and before any of the Tolls hereby granted ſhall become payable, to pay and transfer out of any Monies to be received by them by virtue of this Act for the Purpoſes of *Bedford Bridge*, to the Account of them the ſaid Commiſſioners, for the Purpoſe of paving, repairing, cleanſing, lighting, watching, watering, and improving the Highways, Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other publick Paſſages and Places within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, the Sum of Nine hundred Pounds, as the full Conſideration and Compenſation for the ſaid Tolls and Duties which ſhall have been ſo conveyed as aforeſaid; and from and immediately after the Payment and Transfer by the ſaid Commiſſioners of the ſaid Sum of Nine hundred Pounds to the Account and in Manner aforeſaid, all and every the ſeveral Tolls and Duties ſo to be bargained, ſold, aſſigned, transferred, and conveyed to and veſted in the ſaid Commiſſioners by virtue of this Act in Manner aforeſaid, and every Part thereof, ſhall ceaſe, determine, and be no longer paid or payable by any Perſon or Perſons whomſoever, any Law, Statute, Uſage, Cuſtom, or Preſcription to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Application of the Money.

LXXXIV. And be it further enacted, That all the Money which ſhall come into the Hands of the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Perſon acting under their Authority, for or on account of or with reſpect to the ſaid intended Bridge, ſhall, after Payment of the ſaid Sum of Nine hundred Pounds in Manner and for the Purpoſes aforeſaid, be from Time to Time applied in paying the Intereſt of the Principal Money to be borrowed on the Credit of the ſaid Tolls, in defraying the Expences of taking down and removing the preſent Bridge, and conſtructing, building, repairing, upholding, and keeping in Repair, the Bridge intended to be built inſtead thereof, and alſo the ſaid temporary Bridge; in building and repairing the ſaid Toll Houſe and Turnpike Gate, in widening, making, and repairing proper Avenues, Highways, and Approaches at each End of the ſaid intended Bridge, and in carrying ſo much of this Act into Execution as concerns the ſaid Bridge, and in paying off the ſaid Principal Money, in ſuch Manner as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think proper; which ſaid Monies ſo to be raiſed on Account of the ſaid Bridge, ſhall become and be One Aggregate Fund, and be veſted in the ſaid Commiſſioners for ſuch Purpoſes.

Commiſſioners annually to make out an Account to be open for Inſpection.

LXXXV. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall between the Twenty-fourth Day of *June* and the Twenty-ninth Day of *September* in every Year, order and direct a fair, juſt, and diſtinct Account to be made and written out of all Monies received and paid by virtue or in purſuance of this Act, for the Purpoſes of the ſaid Bridge, and how, and to whom, and for what Purpoſes the ſame ſhall have been laid out and expended; and a Copy or Duplicate of ſuch Account, ſigned by the ſaid Com-

Commiſſioners, ſhall be depoſited with the Clerk to the ſaid Commiſſioners, who ſhall permit any Perſon or Perſons, being a Creditor of the ſaid Tolls, or any Inhabitant of the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, or any Perſon or Perſons on his, her, or their Behalf, to inſpect the ſame at ſeaſon ble Times, paying the Clerk to the ſaid Commiſſioners the Sum of One Shilling for ſuch Inſpection, and ſhall, upon Demand, forthwith give Copies of the ſame, or any Part thereof, to any ſuch Perſon who ſhall pay at and after the Rate of Three-pence for every Ninety Words, and ſo in Proportion for any leſs Number of Words.

Commiſſioners may borrow Money.

LXXXVI. And, for the more ſpeedy and effectual raiſing of Money for the reſpective Purpoſes of this Act, be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby empowered from Time to Time, to borrow and take up at Intereſt any Sum or Sums of Money, upon the Credit of the Rates or Aſſeſſments herein-before granted; and by Writing under their Hands and Seals, to mortgage or aſſign over the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments, or any Part thereof, to the Perſon or Perſons who ſhall advance or lend ſuch Money, or his or their Truſtee or Truſtees, as a Security for the Money ſo to be borrowed, together with Intereſt for the ſame; and alſo to borrow and take up at Intereſt any Sum or Sums of Money upon the Credit of the ſaid Tolls by this Act granted and made payable; and by Writing under their Hands and Seals, to mortgage or aſſign over the ſaid Tolls, or any Part thereof, to the Perſon or Perſons who ſhall advance or lend ſuch laſt mentioned Money on the Credit thereof, or his or their Truſtee or Truſtees, as a Security for the Money ſo to be borrowed, together with Intereſt for the ſame; and every ſuch Mortgage or Aſſignment may be according to the Form following; (that is to ſay),

Form of the Mortgage,

'BY virtue of an Act, paſſed in the Forty-third Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, intituled, *An Act, &c.* [*ſet forth the Title of this Act*] We
'being Eleven of the Commiſſioners appointed by virtue of the ſaid
'Act, in Conſideration of the Sum of
'advanced and lent to us by *A. B.* for the Purpoſes of the ſaid Act, do
'grant and aſſign unto the ſaid *A. B.* his Executors, Adminiſtrators,
'and Aſſigns, ſuch Proportion of the Rates or Aſſeſſments [*or*, Tolls,
'*as the Caſe may be*] ariſing by virtue of the ſaid Act, as the ſaid Sum
'of doth or ſhall bear to the whole Sum
'which is or ſhall be borrowed upon the Credit of the ſaid Rates or
'Aſſeſſments, [*or* Tolls, *as the Caſe may be*] to be had and holden from
'this Day, until the ſaid Sum of
'with Intereſt, at the Rate of *per Centum per*
'*Annum* for the ſame, to be paid Half-yearly, ſhall be fully repaid and
'ſatisfied. In Witneſs whereof we have hereunto ſet our Hands and
'Seals, this Day of .'

And every ſuch Mortgage or Aſſignment ſhall be good, valid, and effectual in the Law; provided that the whole Sum to be charged on the Credit of the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments ſhall not at any Time exceed the Sum of Three thouſand Pounds; and the whole Sum to be charged on the Credit of the ſaid Tolls ſhall not at any Time exceed the Sum of Eight thouſand Pounds.

Money to be raised by Annuities.

LXXXVII. Provided always, That in case the said Commissioners shall think it adviseable to raise all or any Part of the Money necessary for the Purposes aforesaid, by the granting of Annuities for the Life or Lives of any Person or Persons, then it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, by any Writing or Writings under their Hands and Seals, to grant any Annuity or Annuities to any Person or Persons who shall contribute, advance, and pay into the Hands of the Treasurer to the said Commissioners, any Sum or Sums of Money for the absolute Purchase of any such Annuity or Annuities to be paid and payable during the natural Life of every such Contributor, or the natural Life of every such Person as shall be nominated by or on the Behalf of such Contributor at the Time of the Payment of his or her Contribution or Purchase Money, so as that no such separate Annuity do exceed the Rate of Ten Pounds for every One hundred Pounds for a Year; and the Grant of every such Annuity may be according to the Form following; (that is to say),

Form of Grant of Annuity.

'BY virtue of an Act, passed in the Forty-third Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, entituled, *An Act, &c.* [*here set forth the Title of this Act*] We being Eleven of the Commissioners appointed by virtue of the said Act, in Consideration of the Sum of paid to us by *A. B.* do hereby grant unto the said *A. B.* his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, an Annuity or yearly Sum of out of the Rates or Assessments [*or*, Tolls, *as the Case may be*] arising by virtue of the said Act, which Annuity or yearly Sum of shall be paid to the said *A. B.* his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, at in the said Town of *Bedford*, Quarterly, upon the Day of the Day of the Day of and the Day of in every Year, during the natural Life of the First Payment thereof to be made upon the now next ensuing the Date hereof. In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our Hands and Seals, this Day of

'

Annuities charged upon Rates, &c.

And every such Grant shall be a good, valid, and effectual Security in Law for Payment of such Annuity; which said several Annuities so to be purchased, shall be made payable and be paid Quarterly during the natural Lives of such Contributors respectively, or the natural Life or Lives of such other Person or Persons as shall be nominated by such respective Contributors; and a proportionate Part of each Annuity shall be paid from the last Quarter Day of Payment, to the Day of the Death of the Annuitant, or his or her *Cestuique Vie*; and the said Commissioners shall pay the said Annuities freed and discharged from every Tax and Deduction whatsoever.

Mode of transferring Securities.

LXXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Persons entitled to any of the Securities for the Money borrowed, or for the Annuities granted as aforesaid, by Writing under their Hands, indorsed thereon, to transfer the same respectively to any Person or Persons according to the Form following; (*videlicet*),

'I, *A. B.*,

'I, *A. B.* do hereby aſſign the within Mortgage [*or*, Grant of the with-
'in mentioned Annuity] and all my Right and Title in and to the
'Principal Money and Intereſt [*or*, Annuity] and all Arrears now due
'thereon, thereby ſecured unto *C. D.* his Executors, Adminiſtrators, and
'Aſſigns. Dated this Day of .'

Entries to be made of Securities.

And Entries or Memorials of all ſuch Mortgages or Aſſignments, and Grants of Annuities, which ſhall be made in purſuance of this Act, and of all Transfers thereof, expreſſing in Words at Length the Names, Additions, Places of Abode, and other Deſcriptions of all ſuch Perſons as ſhall from Time to Time be entitled to the Principal Money and Intereſt, or the Annuities thereby reſpectively ſecured, ſhall be entered in a Book to be kept for that Purpoſe by the Clerk to the ſaid Commiſſioners, to which Book any Perſon intereſted ſhall at all ſeaſonable Times have Acceſs, and ſhall have free Liberty to inſpect the ſame, without Fee or Reward; and for the Entry of every ſuch Transfer or Aſſignment, the ſaid Clerk ſhall be paid Two Shillings and Sixpence, and no more; and every ſuch Tranſfer or Aſſignment, after ſuch Entry thereof as aforeſaid, ſhall entitle the Perſon or Perſons to whom the ſame ſhall be made, and his, her, or their Executors, Adminiſtrators, or Aſſigns, to the Benefit of the Security or Grant thereby transferred; and all Perſons to whom ſuch Mortgages, Aſſignments, or Grants of Annuities, ſhall be made, or who ſhall be entitled to the Monies or Annuities thereby ſecured, ſhall be in Proportion to the Sums therein reſpectively mentioned, Creditors on the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments equally, One with another, without any Preference in reſpect to the Priority of advancing ſuch Money, or the Dates of any ſuch Mortgages, Aſſignments, or Grants reſpectively.

Creditors to be paid by Ballot.

LXXXIX. And, in order that no undue Preference may be given to any of the Perſons entitled to the Principal Money which ſhall be borrowed and ſecured in Manner aforeſaid, in diſcharging the ſame; be it further enacted, That when and ſo often as the Money to be raiſed by the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments or by the ſaid Tolls reſpectively, ſhall amount to the Sum of One hundred Pounds (over and above what ſhall be neceſſary to pay the growing Intereſt upon the ſaid Principal Money, and the Expences provided for), the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall cauſe the Number of all the Mortgages, Aſſignments, or Securities to be made, and then in force for ſecuring the Principal Money borrowed on the Credit of the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments and Tolls reſpectively, of which Part ſhall be then intended to be paid off, to be written upon diſtinct Pieces of Paper, of an equal Size, and all ſuch Papers ſhall be rolled up in the ſame Manner, as near as may be, and put into a Box or Glaſs, and One Number of the ſaid Mortgages, Aſſignments, or Securities, ſhall be drawn out of the ſaid Box or Glaſs by the Clerk to the ſaid Commiſſioners, in the Preſence of Five or more of the ſaid Commiſſioners: Provided always, that if it ſhall happen that any Mortgage, Aſſignment, or Security, the Number whereof ſhall be drawn out as aforeſaid, ſhall be for a greater Sum than One hundred Pounds, no more than One hundred Pounds ſhall be diſcharged in conſequence of ſuch Number being ſo drawn.

Notice to be given to the Creditors who are to be paid off.

XC. And be it further enacted, That after any Ballot ſhall be had as aforeſaid, the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall cauſe a Notice, ſigned by their Clerk,

Clerk, to be given or left at the uſual Place of Abode of the Perſon or Perſons who ſhall be entitled to the Money to be paid off purſuant to ſuch Ballot, which Notice ſhall expreſs the Sum to be paid, together with the Intereſt due thereon, and that the ſame will be paid at the Place to be mentioned in ſuch Notice at the Expiration of Six Calendar Months from the Day of giving or leaving ſuch Notice as aforeſaid, and the Intereſt of the Principal Money ſo to be paid off, ſhall, from and after the End of the ſaid Six Calendar Months, ceaſe, and be no longer paid or payable, unleſs ſuch Principal Money ſhall be demanded purſuant to ſuch Notice, and not paid; but the Principal Money in reſpect whereof ſuch Notice ſhall be given, and alſo the Intereſt thereof, to the End of the ſaid Six Calendar Months, ſhall be payable nevertheleſs on Demand.

Power to borrow Money at lower Intereſt to diſcharge Securities at higher,

XCI. And be it further enacted, That in caſe the ſaid Commiſſioners can at any Time borrow or take up any Sum or Sums of Money at a lower Rate of Intereſt than the Mortgages, Aſſignments, or Securities which ſhall be then in force ſhall bear, it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, from Time to Time, to charge the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments, and Tolls reſpectively, in Manner aforeſaid, with ſuch Sum or Sums of Money as they ſhall think fit and proper, and the Intereſt thereof, at ſuch lower Rate aforeſaid, and to pay off and diſcharge the Mortgages, Aſſignments, and Securities bearing a higher Rate of Intereſt, according to the Directions and Regulations herein-before preſcribed for paying off the Mortgages, Aſſignments, or Securities.

When Money repaid, Tolls to ceaſe, except, *etc.*

XCII. And be it further enacted, That when the Monies to be borrowed upon the Credit of the aforeſaid Tolls, together with the Intereſt thereof, ſhall be fully paid and ſatisfied, and the Annuities to be charged on the ſame Tolls ſhall become extinct, then and from thenceforth the Tolls granted and made payable by this Act ſhall ceaſe and determine, and the Paſſage of the ſaid Bridge ſo intended to be built ſhall become free for ever after: Provided always, that in caſe the ſaid Bridge ſhall require Repairs, and no effectual Funds for defraying the Expence thereof ſhall be eſtabliſhed other than the Tolls granted and made payable by this Act, then ſuch Proportion of the ſaid Tolls hereby granted ſhall and may continue to be demanded and received from Time to Time, as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall judge ſufficient for keeping the ſaid Bridge in Repair; and in caſe any ſudden or extraordinary Damage ſhall at any Time happen to the ſaid Bridge ſo intended to be erected, or the ſame ſhall become ſo much out of Repair as to be impaſſable, or in Danger of becoming ſo, it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, from Time to Time, to repair ſuch Damages, and in order to defray the Expence attending the ſame, to demand, receive, and take the Whole, or ſo much and ſuch Parts of the ſeveral Tolls hereby granted and made payable, as they the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think neceſſary for that Purpoſe, until the Expences of repairing the ſaid Bridge, and all Coſts and Charges attending the ſame, ſhall be fully paid and ſatisfied.

Power to purchaſe Lands and Buildings, *etc.*

XCIII. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Seven or more of them, to contract and agree with the Owners and Occupiers, and all other Perſons intereſted in any Meſſuages,

Meſſuages, Shops, Shambles, Buildings, Erections, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, within the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, which the Commiſſioners for the Time being may think neceſſary and proper to purchaſe for the reſpective Purpoſes of this Act; and to and for all Perſons whatſoever, Bodies Politick, Corporate or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Feoffees in Truſt, Executors, Adminiſtrators, Guardians, Committees for Lunaticks and Idiots, or other Truſtees, not only for and on Behalf of themſelves, their Heirs and Succeſſors, but alſo for and on Behalf of their *Ceſtuique* Truſts, whether Infants or Iſſue unborn, Lunaticks or Idiots, and for all Femes Covert, and all and every other Perſon or Perſons under any legal Diſability or Incapacity whatſoever, and to and for all and every other Perſon or Perſons who are or ſhall be ſeiſed, poſſeſſed of, or intereſted in any Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, which the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think neceſſary to be purchaſed for the reſpective Purpoſes of this Act, to contract for, ſell, and convey to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or to ſuch Perſon or Perſons, and his or their Heirs, as the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Seven or more of them, ſhall direct or appoint, in Truſt, to be made uſe of for the Purpoſes aforeſaid, or any of them, all or any ſuch Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or any Part thereof, and the Fee Simple and Inheritance thereof, or any Term of Years, or any Eſtate or Intereſt therein; and every ſuch Contract, Agreement, Bargain, Sale, Aſſignment, or other Conveyance, ſhall, without any Fine or Common Recovery, be good, valid, and effectual in Law to all Intents and Purpoſes whatſoever, any Law, Statute, or Uſage to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding; and all ſuch Bodies Politick, Corporate, and Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Feoffees in Truſt, Executors, Adminiſtrators, Guardians, Committees for Lunaticks and Idiots, and all other Perſons, ſhall be and are hereby indemnified for what they ſhall do by virtue and in purſuance of this Act.

Bodies Politick, or other Perſons refuſing to treat, Jury to aſcertain the Value, &c.

XCIV. And be it further enacted, That if the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall be deſirous of purchaſing for the Purpoſes of this Act, any of the Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, mentioned and deſcribed in the Schedule to this Act annexed; and the Perſon or Perſons, Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, or other Perſon or Perſons ſeiſed or poſſeſſed thereof, or intereſted therein, or any of them, ſhall refuſe to treat, contract, and agree with the ſaid Commiſſioners, or ſhall be abſent beyond the Seas, or ſhall not be known, or if the Place of Reſidence of any ſuch Perſon or Perſons cannot by reaſonable Enquiry be diſcovered, or in caſe the ſaid Commiſſioners, and any Perſon or Perſons with whom they may contract and agree for the Sale of any ſuch Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, ſhall chooſe to have the Value thereof aſcertained by a Jury, then and in every ſuch Caſe happening, the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Seven or more of them, ſhall give or cauſe to be given to ſuch Owner or Owners, Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, or other Perſons, or leave or cauſe to be left at the Houſe of the Tenant or Occupier of ſuch Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments Ten Days Notice in Writing, particularizing and deſcribing the ſame, and that the Value thereof is intended to be aſcertained and ſettled by a Jury of indifferent Men of the Town or County of *Bedford*; or in caſe ſuch Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments,

ditaments shall be unoccupied, shall affix the like Notice on some conspicuous Part thereof, and upon the Expiration of such Notice or Warning so to be given, left, or affixed as aforesaid, the said Commissioners, or any Seven or more of them, are hereby empowered and required to cause a Jury to be summoned by the Sheriff of the County of *Bedford*, or his Deputy in Manner herein-after mentioned, who is hereby empowered to call and summon before such Jury, and examine upon Oath any Person or Persons whomsoever (which Oath the said Sheriff or his Deputy is and are hereby empowered to administer); and the said Sheriff or his Deputy shall, by ordering a View or otherwise, use all Ways and Means for the Information of the Jury in the Premises; and after the said Jury shall have enquired of, and by their Verdict have ascertained the Value, and assessed the Sum to be paid for the Purchase of such Messuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, the said Commissioners, or any Seven or more of them, shall thereupon order the Sum or Sums of Money so ascertained and assessed by the Jury to be the Value thereof, to be paid to the said Owners, Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, or other Persons interested in such Messuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, according to the Inquisition and Verdict of the said Jury; which said Inquisition and Verdict shall be final, binding, and conclusive to all Intents and Purposes, as well against all Parties and Persons whomsoever claiming or to claim in Possession, Remainder, Reversion, or otherwise, their Heirs and Successors, Infants, Femes Covert, Lunaticks, Idiots, or Persons under any Disability whatsoever, Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, as all other Persons whomsoever; and for summoning and returning such Juries the said Commissioners, or any Seven or more of them, are hereby empowered to issue their Warrant to the Sheriff of the County of *Bedford*, requiring him or his Deputy to impannel, summon, and return Twenty-four indifferent Persons to appear before the said Sheriff or his Deputy, at such Time and Place as such Sheriff or his Deputy shall appoint; and such Sheriff or his Deputy is and are hereby empowered and required to impannel, summon, and return such Number of Persons accordingly, and out of the Persons so summoned, impannelled, and returned, or out of such of them as shall appear upon Summons as aforesaid, to draw by Ballot, and to swear or cause to be sworn Twelve Men, who shall be the Jury for the Purposes aforesaid; and in Default of a sufficient Number of Jurymen, the said Sheriff or his Deputy shall return other indifferent Men of the Standers-by, or that can be speedily procured, to attend that Service, to make up the Number of Twelve; and in case the Jury so to be sworn as aforesaid shall return to the said Sheriff or his Deputy that they cannot agree in their Verdict, then it shall be lawful for the said Sheriff or his Deputy, and he and they is and are hereby required to summon, impannel, and swear another Jury in Manner and for the Purposes aforesaid, and all Persons concerned shall have their lawful Challenges against any of the said Jurymen when they come to be sworn; and the said Commissioners, or any Seven or more of them, acting in the Premises, shall have full Power from Time to Time to impose any reasonable Fine or Fines upon such Sheriff, his Deputy, Bailiff, or Officer, making Default in the Premises; and on any of the Persons that shall be summoned and returned on such Jury, who shall not appear, or appearing shall refuse to be sworn on the said Jury, or being so sworn, shall refuse to give, or shall not give a Verdict, or shall in any

Witnesses to be examined upon Oath.

Verdict of the Jury, *etc.* to be final.

Jurors may be challenged.

other Manner wilfully neglect his or their Duty therein, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act; and on any of the Persons who shall be required to give Evidence before the said Jury, and shall refuse or neglect to appear, or appearing shall refuse to be sworn and examined, or to give Evidence, so that no such Fine be more than Ten Pounds nor less than Forty Shillings, on any One Person for One Offence.

Expences of Jury, how to be borne.

XCV. And be it further enacted, That if the Sum or Sums of Money so to be ascertained and assessed by any such Jury, for the Purchase of any such Messuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or any Part thereof, shall exceed the Sum or Sums of Money which shall have been agreed to and offered by the said Commissioners, or any Seven or more of them for the same, before the summoning and returning of the Jury, that then and in such Case the Costs and Charges of summoning the said Jury and Witnesses shall be borne and paid by the said Commissioners, out of the Rates or Assessments, and Tolls respectively hereby imposed and granted, or out of any Money to be borrowed upon the Credit thereof respectively; but if the Sum or Sums of Money so to be ascertained and assessed by any such Jury shall not exceed the Sum or Sums of Money which shall have been agreed to and offered by the said Commissioners, or any Seven or more of them, before the summoning and returning the said Jury, that then and in such Case the Costs and Charges of summoning the said Jury and Witnesses shall be borne and paid by the Person or Persons with whom the said Commissioners, or their Successors, shall have had the Dispute, or who shall have refused to treat as aforesaid, or requested such Jury to be summoned: Provided always, that in Cases where any Person or Persons shall by reason of Absence have been prevented from treating, the Whole of such Costs and Expences shall be borne and paid by the said Commissioners, in Manner aforesaid.

Money allowed for Lands, *etc.* purchased, how to be charged and tendered.

In case of not making out Titles; or Refusal to execute Conveyances; or if Persons cannot be found; Purchase Money to be invested in the publick Funds.

Court to order the Purchase Money to be paid into the Bank, subject to the Order

XCVI. And be it further enacted, That upon Payment of any such Sum or Sums so agreed or assessed to the Party or Parties to whom the same shall be so ordered to be paid, or on Tender thereof made at his, her, or their Dwelling House, or if he, she, or they shall have no Dwelling House, then at the House of some Tenant or Occupier of some Messuages, Lands, or Tenements of such Party or Parties near the said intended Works, he, she, or they shall execute a Conveyance or Conveyances of the Premises which shall be so purchased to the said Commissioners for the Purposes of this Act; and in case such Person or Persons to whom such Sum or Sums of Money shall be so ordered to be paid as aforesaid, shall not be able to make a good Title to the Premises, to the Satisfaction of the said Commissioners, or shall refuse to execute such Conveyance or Conveyances, or in case such Person or Persons to whom such Sum or Sums of Money shall be so ordered to be paid as aforesaid cannot be found, or if the Person or Persons entitled to such Messuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, be not known or discovered, then and in every such Case as aforesaid, it shall be lawful to and for the said Commissioners to order the said Sum and Sums ascertained and assessed for any Purchase Money, or in Recompence for any Damage as aforesaid, to be paid into the Bank of *England*, in the Name and with the Privity of the Accountant General of the Court of Chancery, to be placed to his Account to the Credit of the Parties interested in the said Messuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments (describing them), subject

subject to the Order, Controul, and Disposition of the said Court of Chancery, which said Court of Chancery, on the Application of any Person or Persons making Claim to such Sum or Sums of Money, or any Part thereof, by Motion or Petition, shall be and is hereby empowered, in a summary Way of Proceeding, or otherwise, as to the same Court shall seem meet, to order the same to be laid out and invested in the publick Funds, and to order Distribution thereof, or Payment of the Dividends thereof, according to the respective Estate or Estates, Title, or Interest, of the Person or Persons making Claim thereunto, and to make such other Order in the Premises as to the said Court shall seem just and reasonable; and the Cashier or Cashiers of the Bank of *England* who shall receive such Sum and Sums of Money, is and are hereby required to give a Receipt or Receipts for such Sum or Sums, mentioning and specifying for what and for whose Use the same is or are received, to such Person or Persons as shall pay any such Sum or Sums of Money into the Bank as aforesaid.

of the Court of Chancery, on Motion or Petition.

XCVII. And be it further enacted, That immediately after paying such Purchase Money as aforesaid into the Bank, the said Messuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, in respect whereof the same shall have been so paid, shall vest in the said Commissioners in Manner and for the Purposes aforesaid, who shall be deemed in Law to be in the actual Possession thereof, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, freed and discharged from all former and other Estates, Rights, Titles, Interests, Claims, and Demands whatsoever.

Estates purchased to vest absolutely in the Commissioners.

XCVIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any Seven or more of them, to sell so much or such Part of any Messuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, to be purchased by or vested in them by virtue of the Powers herein contained, as shall not be necessary for the Purposes of this Act; and the said Commissioners, or any Seven or more of them, are hereby empowered to execute any Conveyance or Conveyances thereof to a Purchaser, and all and every such Conveyance or Conveyances shall be adjudged sufficient to vest such Part or Parts of any Messuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, in the Purchaser, as shall have been agreed for, or shall be expressed or meant and intended to be granted or conveyed by such Conveyance; and the Purchase Money, or other Monies arising under any such Conveyance, shall be applied by the said Commissioners for the respective Purposes of this Act: Provided nevertheless, that the former Proprietor or Proprietors of such Part or Parts of the said Messuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, as may not be necessary to be made use of for the Purposes of this Act, shall have the Preference of taking, renting, or purchasing the same; and in case any such Person or Persons shall not then and thereupon agree, or shall refuse to re-purchase the same, any Affidavit to be made and sworn before a Master Extraordinary in the High Court of Chancery, or before One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said Town of *Bedford* by some Person or Persons no way interested in the said Piece or Pieces of Ground, stating that such Offer was made by or on the Behalf of the said Commissioners, and that such Offer was not then and thereupon agreed to, or was refused by the Person or Persons to whom the same was so offered, shall in all Courts whatsoever be sufficient Evidence

Commissioners may sell such Part of Lands, *etc.* purchased, as are not necessary for the Purposes of this Act.

and

and Proof that such Offer was made and not agreed to, or was refused by the Person or Persons to whom it was made (as the Case may be); and in case such Person or Persons shall be desirous of repurchasing the same, and he, she, or they, and the said Commissioners, shall differ and not agree with respect to the Price thereof, in such Case the Price or Prices thereof shall be ascertained by a Jury in Manner herein-before directed with respect to disputed Value of Premises to be purchased by the said Commissioners, in pursuance of this Act; and the Expence of hearing and determining such Difference shall be borne and paid in like Manner as herein-before directed with respect to such Purchase made by the said Commissioners, *mutatis mutandis*; and the Money to arise by the Sale or Sales which may be made by the said Commissioners of such Piece or Parcel of Ground as aforesaid, shall be applied to the respective Purposes of this Act; but the Purchaser or Purchasers thereof shall not be answerable or accountable for any Misapplication or Non-application of such Money.

Application of Compensation Money when exceeding 200 *l.*

XCIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Money shall be agreed or assessed to be paid for any Messuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, purchased, taken, or used by virtue of the Powers of this Act, for any of the Purposes thereof, which shall belong to any Body Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporation Aggregate or Sole, Feme Covert, Infant, Lunatick, or Person or Persons under any Disability or Incapacity as aforesaid, such Money shall in case the same shall amount to the Sum of Two hundred Pounds, with all convenient Speed be paid into the Bank of *England*, in the Name and with the Privity of the Accountant General of the High Court of Chancery, to be placed to his Account *ex parte* the said Commissioners; and that all Money directed by this Act to be so paid, shall, under the Direction and with the Approbation of the said Court, signified by an Order made upon a Petition to be preferred in a summary Way by any Person or Persons, Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, interested therein, be paid to the Person or Persons who shall appear to the Court to be entitled thereto, or to be applied in the Purchase of the Land Tax, or towards the Discharge of any Debt or Debts, or such other Incumbrance, or Part thereof, as the said Court shall authorize to be paid, affecting the same Messuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or affecting other Hereditaments standing settled therewith, to the same or the like Uses, Intents, or Purposes; or where such Money shall not be so applied, then the same shall be laid out and invested under the like Direction and Approbation of the said Court, in the Purchase of other Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, which shall be conveyed and settled to, for, and upon such and the like Uses, Trusts, Intents, and Putposes, and in the same Manner, as the same Messuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, which shall be so purchased, taken, or used as aforesaid, stood settled, or limited, or such of them as at the Time of making such Conveyance and Settlement shall be existing undetermined and capable of taking Effect; and in the mean Time, and until such Purchase shall be made, the said Money shall by order of the Court of Chancery, upon Application thereto, be invested by the said Accountant General in his Name, in the Purchase of Three Pounds *per Centum* Consolidated or Three Pounds *per Centum* Reduced Bank Annuities; and in the mean Time, and until

the

the ſaid Annuities ſhall be ordered by the ſaid Court to be ſold for the Purpoſes aforeſaid, the Dividends and annual Produce of the ſaid Conſolidated or Reduced Bank Annuities ſhall from Time to Time, be paid by Order of the ſaid Court, to the Perſon or Perſons who would for the Time being have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, ſo hereby directed to be purchaſed, in caſe ſuch Purchaſe or Settlement were made.

Application where the Compenſation Money does not exceed 200 *l.* and above 20 *l.*

C. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Money ſo agreed or aſſeſſed to be paid for any Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, purchaſed, taken, or uſed for any of the Purpoſes aforeſaid, and which ſhall belong to any Body Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporation Aggregate or Sole, Feme Covert, Infant, Lunatick, or Perſon or Perſons under any Diſability or Incapacity as aforeſaid, ſhall be leſs than the Sum of Two hundred Pounds, and ſhall exceed the Sum of Twenty Pounds, then and in all ſuch Caſes the ſame ſhall, at the Option of the Perſon or Perſons, Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate intereſted therein, to be ſignified in Writing under their reſpective Hands, be paid into the Bank of *England* in the Name and with the Privity of the Accountant General of the High Court of Chancery, to be placed to his Account as aforeſaid, in order to be applied in Manner herein-before directed, or otherwiſe the ſame ſhall be paid, at the like Option, to Two Truſtees, to be nominated by the Perſon or Perſons making ſuch Option, and approved of by Seven or more of the ſaid reſpective Commiſſioners (ſuch Nomination and Approbation to be ſignified in Writing under the Hands of the nominating and approving Parties), in order that ſuch Principal Money, and Dividends ariſing thereon, may be applied in any Manner herein-before directed, ſo far as the Caſe be applicable, without obtaining or being required to obtain the Direction or Approbation of the Court of Chancery.

Application where the Money is leſs than 20 *l.*

CI. Provided alſo, and be it further enacted, That where ſuch Money ſo agreed or aſſeſſed to be paid as next before mentioned ſhall be leſs than Twenty Pounds, then and in all ſuch Caſes the ſame ſhall be applied to the Uſe of the Perſon or Perſons who for the Time being is or ſhall be entitled to the Rents and Profits of the ſaid Hereditaments ſo purchaſed, taken, or uſed, for any of the Purpoſes of this Act, in ſuch Manner as the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Seven or more of them, ſhall think fit, or in caſe of Infancy or Lunacy, then to his, her, or their Guardian or Guardians, Committee or Committees, to and for the Uſe and Benefit of ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo entitled reſpectively.

Where any Queſtion ſhall ariſe touching the Title to Money to be paid, the Perſon who ſhall be in Poſſeſſion of the Lands, *etc.* at the Time of ſuch Purchaſe, ſhall be deemed entitled thereto, according to ſuch Poſſeſſion, unleſs, *etc.*

CII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That where any Queſtion ſhall ariſe touching the Title of any Perſon to any Money to be paid into the Bank of *England*, in the Name and with the Privity of the Accountant General of the Court of Chancery, in purſuance of this Act, for the Purchaſe of any Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or of any Eſtate, Right, or Intereſt in any Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to be purchaſed in purſuance of this Act, or to any Bank Annuities to be purchaſed with any ſuch Money, or to the Dividends or Intereſt of any ſuch Bank Annuities, the Perſon or Perſons who ſhall have been in Poſſeſſion of ſuch Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments,

ditaments, at the Time of ſuch Purchaſe, and all Perſons claiming under ſuch Perſon or Perſons, or under the Poſſeſſion of ſuch Perſon or Perſons, ſhall be deemed and taken to have been lawfully entitled to ſuch Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, according to ſuch Poſſeſſion, until the contrary ſhall be ſhewn to the Satisfaction of the ſaid Court of Chancery, and the Dividends or Intereſts of the Bank Annuities to be purchaſed with ſuch Money, and alſo the Capital of ſuch Bank Annuities, ſhall be paid, applied, and diſpoſed of accordingly, unleſs it ſhall be made appear to the ſaid Court that ſuch Poſſeſſion was a wrongful Poſſeſſion, and that ſome other Perſon or Perſons was or were lawfully entitled to ſuch Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or to ſome Eſtate or Intereſt therein.

The Court of Chancery may order reaſonable Expences of Purchaſes to be paid by the Commiſſioners.

CIII. Provided alſo, and be it further enacted, That where by reaſon of any Diſability or Incapacity of the Perſon or Perſons, or Corporation, entitled to any Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, to be purchaſed under the Authority of this Act, the Purchaſe Money for the ſame ſhall be required to be paid into the Court of Chancery, and to be applied in the Purchaſe of other Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, to be ſettled to the like Uſes in purſuance of this Act, it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Court of Chancery to order the Expences of all Purchaſes from Time to Time to be made in purſuance of this Act, or ſo much of ſuch Expences as the ſaid Court ſhall deem reaſonable, to be paid by the ſaid Commiſſioners, who ſhall from Time to Time pay ſuch Sums of Money for ſuch Purpoſes as the ſaid Court ſhall direct.

Tenants to quit the reſpective Premiſes on Notice.

CIV. And be it further enacted, That all Perſons in Poſſeſſion of any Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, which by Authority of this Act, ſhall or may be purchaſed by the ſaid Commiſſioners, or veſted in them to be made uſe of for any of the Purpoſes aforeſaid, who ſhall have no greater or better Eſtate in the Premiſes than as Tenants at Will, or Leſſees for a Year, or from Year to Year, or for a Term of Years at a Rack Rent, ſhall at the End of Six Calendar Months, after Notice in Writing for that Purpoſe ſhall have been given to any of them reſpectively, or left at any of their reſpective Places of Abode, or at the Premiſes which ſuch Notice ſhall concern, and all other Perſons in Poſſeſſion of any ſuch Meſſuages, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, who ſhall have any greater or better Eſtate in the Premiſes than as Tenants at Will, or Leſſees for a Year, or from Year to Year, or for a Term of Years, at Rack Rent, or who by reaſon of any Erections or laſting Improvements made, ſhall have any equitable Claim or Intereſt in the ſame Premiſes, ſhall alſo at the End of Six Calendar Months after ſuch Notice given or left as aforeſaid, and upon Payment or Tender of ſuch Recompence or Satisfaction for their Term, Eſtate, or Intereſt in the ſaid Premiſes, as ſhall be agreed upon, and awarded or adjudged as aforeſaid, quit and relinquiſh the Ground, Meſſuages, Tenements, or Hereditaments, ſo in their reſpective Poſſeſſions, together with all ſuch Fixtures as ſhall be deemed the Property of the Landlord or Landlords; and that all Leaſes, Demiſes, Contracts, or Agreements, under or by virtue whereof any ſuch Tenants or Leſſees ſhall hold the ſaid Premiſes, ſhall at and from the End of the ſaid Six Calendar Months be abſolutely void, and of none Effect; and if any ſuch Tenant

or

or Leſſee as aforeſaid ſhall refuſe or neglect to deliver up the Premiſes in his or her Poſſeſſion as aforeſaid, it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Seven or more of them, to iſſue their Precept or Warrant to the Sheriff of the County of *Bedford*, or his Deputy, to take and deliver ſuch Poſſeſſion to the Perſon or Perſons to be named in ſuch Precept or Warrant; and the ſaid Sheriff, or his Deputy, is hereby required to take and deliver, or cauſe to be taken and delivered, ſuch Poſſeſſion accordingly, and to levy ſuch Coſts as ſhall accrue from the iſſuing and executing of ſuch Precept or Warrant on the Perſon ſo refuſing to deliver ſuch Poſſeſſion, by Diſtreſs and Sale of his or her Goods and Chattels, returning the Overplus (if any) to the Owner of ſuch Goods and Chattels.

No Perſon compellable to ſell Part of his Property, if willing to ſell the Whole.

CV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons, Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Feoffees in Truſt, Executors, Adminiſtrators, Guardians, Committees for Lunaticks and Idiots, or other Truſtees, Femes Covert, or other Perſon or Perſons under Diſability or Incapacity as aforeſaid, ſhall be applied to by or on Behalf of the ſaid Commiſſioners, to treat for, ſell, diſpoſe of, or convey, for any of the Purpoſes of this Act, any Part or Parts of any Meſſuage, Building, Land, Tenement, or Hereditament, in the actual Occupation of One Perſon, or of ſeveral Perſons jointly, and ſhall by Notice in Writing, to be left with the Clerk to the ſaid Commiſſioners within Thirty Days next after ſuch Application, ſignify his, her, or their Inclination or Deſire to treat for, ſell, diſpoſe of, and convey the Whole of ſuch Meſſuage, Building, Land, Tenement, or Hereditament, ſome Part whereof ſhall be deemed neceſſary to be purchaſed for any of the Purpoſes of this Act, and if it ſhall happen that the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall not think proper or be willing to purchaſe the Whole of ſuch Meſſuage, Building, Land, Tenement, or Hereditament, then and in every ſuch Caſe, nothing in this Act contained ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend to compel the ſeveral Perſons intereſted therein to treat for, ſell, diſpoſe of, or convey Part only, or leſs than the Whole of ſuch Meſſuage, Building, Land, Tenement, or Hereditament; any Thing herein-before contained to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

Commiſſioners may contract for performing Works.

CVI. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall and may, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to contract and agree with any fit Perſon or Perſons, Artificers, Workmen, and others, for the making and doing of all and every, or any Part of the Works by this Act authorized or directed to be done and performed, or for ſupplying any of the Materials for the ſame, which Contract or Contracts ſhall ſpecify the ſeveral Works to be done, and the Prices to be paid for the ſame, and the Time or Times when the ſaid Works ſhall be completed, and the Penalties to be ſuffered in caſe of the Non-performance thereof, and ſhall be ſigned by Seven or more of the ſaid Commiſſioners, and alſo by the Perſon or Perſons contracting to perform ſuch Works reſpectively, which Contract or Contracts, or a Copy or Copies thereof, ſhall be entered in a Book to be kept for that Purpoſe by the Clerk to the ſaid Commiſſioners; but previous to the making any ſuch Contract, Ten Days Notice at the leaſt ſhall be given in each of the Pariſh Churches in the ſaid Town of *Bedford*, upon a *Sunday*, during or immediately after Divine Service, expreſſing the Intention of entering into ſuch Contract,

tract, in order that any Perſon or Perſons willing to undertake the ſame, may make Propoſals for that Purpoſe, to be offered and preſented to the ſaid Commiſſioners, at a certain Time and Place in ſuch Notice to be mentioned.

Commiſſioners may employ Surveyors, and ſue and compound for Breach of Contracts.

CVII. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall cauſe all and every the Works to be done in purſuance of this Act to be inſpected by their Surveyor or Surveyors, or by ſuch other Perſon or Perſons as they ſhall for that Purpoſe appoint; and in caſe the ſame ſhall not be well and ſufficiently performed according to the Terms, Intent, or Meaning of ſuch Contract or Contracts, or ſhall not be finiſhed and completed at or within the Time or Times ſpecified in ſuch Contract or Contracts, then the ſaid Commiſſioners may bring or cauſe to be brought an Action in any of His Majeſty's Courts of Law at *Weſtminſter*, againſt any ſuch Contractor, for any Penalty contained in his Contract; and on Proof of the ſigning of the ſaid Contract or Contracts, and Non-performance thereof at the Time or Times for that Purpoſe to be therein mentioned, the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall be entitled to and ſhall recover the full Penalty contained in any ſuch Contract, which, when recovered, ſhall be applied for ſuch of the Purpoſes of this Act as the ſaid Contract or Contracts ſhall relate to: Provided always, that it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners (if they think fit) to compound and agree with any Contractor for any Penalty incurred by him for the Breach or Non-performance of any ſuch Contract, for ſuch Sum of Money as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think proper, not being leſs than the Injury or Damage ſuſtained by the Breach or Non-performance of ſuch Contract, and all Coſts, Charges, and Expences that ſhall be occaſioned thereby.

Commiſſioners may purchaſe or hire Ground for getting Materials.

CVIII. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to purchaſe, take, or hire any Piece or Pieces of Land or Ground for the Purpoſe of digging, cutting, gathering, and taking away any Gravel, Stones, Ballaſt, Sand, Chalk, Flint, or Materials, for any of the Purpoſes of this Act, or for the Purpoſe of depoſiting ſuch Materials on the ſame, as ſhall appear to them to be neceſſary for ſuch Sum or Sums of Money, yearly Rent or Rents, or for ſuch Time as to them ſhall appear reaſonable, which Sum or Sums of Money, yearly Rent or Rents, ſhall be reſpectively paid out of the Monies to ariſe by virtue of this Act; and likewiſe to buy or hire ſuch Horſes, Carts, Teams, or Carriages, as may be neceſſary for the Purpoſes of carting or conveying ſuch Gravel, Stones, Ballaſt, Sand, Chalk, Flint, or Materials, or for any other Purpoſe directed by this Act; and alſo to hire ſuch Perſons, buy ſuch Materials, and make ſuch Regulations for the better Execution of any of the Purpoſes of this Act, as they the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall in their Diſcretion think proper.

Penalty for obſtructing Surveyor or other Officers.

CIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall at any Time obſtruct, hinder, or moleſt any Surveyor or other Officer, or any Perſon or Perſons whomſoever who ſhall or may be employed by virtue of this Act, in the Performance of his or their Duty, every Perſon ſo offending ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds nor leſs than Forty Shillings.

CX. And

Recoverg of Penalties.

CX. And be it further enacted, That all Penalties and Forfeitures by this Act impoſed, and all Damages, Coſts, and Charges which may be demanded or become due by the Authority of this Act (the Manner of recovering whereof is not otherwiſe hereby directed), ſhall be levied and recovered by Diſtreſs and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Offender or Offenders, or Perſon liable or ordered to pay the ſame reſpectively, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any Juſtice of the Peace for the County or Place wherein the Offender or Offenders ſhall be or reſide, which Warrant ſuch Juſtice is hereby empowered to grant upon the Confeſſion of the Party, or upon the Information of any credible Witneſs upon Oath, or upon Order made by ſuch Juſtice for Payment of the ſaid Damages, Coſts, or Charges, and Proof of Non-payment thereof; and ſuch Penalties and Forfeitures, Damages, Coſts, and Charges, when recovered, ſhall (if not directed to be otherwiſe applied by this Act) be paid to the Treaſurer to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or ſuch other Perſon as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall appoint, and be applied for ſuch of the Purpoſes of this Act as ſuch Penalties, Forfeitures, Damages, Coſts, and Charges reſpectively, ſhall from Time to Time relate to or concern; and in caſe ſufficient Diſtreſs ſhall not be found, or ſuch Penalties or Forfeitures, Damages, Coſts, and Charges, ſhall not be forthwith paid, ſuch Juſtice is hereby authorized and required, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to cauſe the Offender or Offenders to be committed to the Gaol or Houſe of Correction of the County or Place wherein ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall be or reſide, there to remain, without Bail or Mainprize, for any Time not exceeding Six Calendar Months, unleſs ſuch Penalties or Forfeitures, Damages, Coſts, and Charges, and all reaſonable Charges attending the Recovery thereof, ſhall be ſooner paid and ſatisfied.

Diſtreſs not unlawful for Want of Form.

CXI. And be it further enacted, That when any Diſtreſs ſhall be made for Money to be levied by virtue of this Act, the Diſtreſs itſelf ſhall not be deemed unlawful, nor the Party or Parties making the ſame be deemed a Treſpaſſer or Treſpaſſers on Account of any Defect or Want of Form in the Warrant of Diſtreſs, or in any Proceedings relating thereto; nor ſhall the Party or Parties be deemed a Treſpaſſer *ab initio*, on Account of any Irregularity which ſhall afterwards be done by the Party or Parties diſtraining; but the Perſon or Perſons aggrieved by ſuch Irregularity may recover full Satisfaction for the Special Damage only, in an Action on the Caſe.

For rewarding Informers.

CXII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners from Time to Time, if they ſhall ſee Cauſe, to pay and apply ſuch Part of the ſaid Penalties and Forfeitures hereby made payable, or any of them, as they ſhall think proper, not exceeding One Moiety thereof reſpectively, to and for the Uſe of the Informer or Informers, of any Offence or Offences againſt this Act; any Thing herein contained to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Inhabitants may give Evidence.

CXIII. And be it further enacted, That in all Actions, Proſecutions, Informations, Cauſes, and Proceedings whatſoever, relating to or concerning the Execution of this Act, any Inhabitant reſiding within the ſaid Town of *Bedford* ſhall be admitted and allowed to give Evi-

dence, notwithstanding such Inhabitant shall be charged with and liable to pay any Rate or Assessment, or any Toll or Duty, by virtue of this Act.

Form of Conviction.

CXIV. And, for the more speedy and easy Conviction of Offenders against this Act, be it further enacted, That all and every Justice or Justices of the Peace before whom any Person or Persons shall be convicted of any Offence against this Act, shall and may cause the Conviction to be drawn up in the following Form of Words, or in any other Form of Words to the like Effect, as the Case shall happen; that is to say,

'Town of *Bedford*, *or* County of [*as the Case may be*]. BE it remembered, That on the Day of in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and *A. B.* is convicted before me *C. D.* One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said Town [*or*, County] of of [*specifying the Offence, and the Time and Place, when and where the same was committed, as the Case may be.*] Given under my Hand and Seal, the Day and Year first above mentioned.'

Limitation of Actions.

CXV. And be it further enacted, That no Action or Suit shall be commenced against any Person for any Thing to be done in pursuance of this Act, until Thirty Days Notice thereof shall be given to the Clerk to the said Commissioners, or after sufficient Satisfaction or Tender thereof hath been made to the Party aggrieved, or after Three Calendar Months next after the Fact committed; and every such Action or Suit shall be brought and tried in the County of *Bedford*, and not elsewhere; and the Defendant in every such Action or Suit shall and may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the Special Matter in Evidence at any Trial to be had thereupon, and that the same was done in pursuance and by the Authority of this Act; and if the same shall appear to be so done, or if such Action shall be brought before Thirty Days Notice thereof shall be given as aforesaid, or after sufficient Satisfaction made or tendered as aforesaid, or after the Time herein-before limited for bringing the same, or shall be brought in any other County than as aforesaid, then the Jury shall find for the Defendant; and upon such Verdict, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall become nonsuited or discontinue his, her, or their Action or Suit after the Defendant shall appear, or if upon Demurrer Judgement shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, then the Defendant shall recover Treble Costs, and have such Remedy for the same as any Defendant hath for the Costs of Suit in other Cases of Law.

Plaintiff shall not recover after Tender of sufficient Amends.

CXVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall recover in any Action for any Irregularity, Trespass, or wrongful Proceeding, if sufficient Tender of Amends shall be made by or on the Behalf of the Party or Parties who shall have committed or caused to be committed any such Irregularity, Trespass, or wrongful Proceeding, before such Action brought; and in case no such Tender shall have been made, it shall be lawful for the Defendant or Defendants in any Action, by Leave of the Court where such Action shall depend, at any Time before Issue joined, to pay into Court such Sum of Money as

as he or they ſhall ſee fit, whereupon ſuch Proceedings or Order and Judgement ſhall be had, made, or given by ſuch Court, as in other Actions where the Defendant is allowed to pay Money into Court.

Appeal.

CXVII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Perſon ſhall think himſelf or herſelf aggrieved by any Rate or Aſſeſſment which ſhall be made in purſuance of this Act, he or ſhe (having firſt paid the ſaid Rate or Aſſeſſment) may apply to the ſaid Commiſſioners at their firſt Meeting to be holden after the Expiration of Five Days after the demanding of ſuch Rate or Aſſeſſment, and the ſaid Commiſſioners are hereby authorized and empowered, if they ſhall think ſuch Perſon aggrieved, to give ſuch Relief in the Premiſes as to them ſhall ſeem reaſonable; and if any Perſon ſhall be diſſatisfied with the Determination of the ſaid Commiſſioners therein, or if any Perſon ſhall think himſelf or herſelf aggrieved by any other Matter or Thing to be done, or by any Rule, Order, Bye Law, or Regulation to be made in purſuance of this Act, every ſuch Perſon may appeal to the Juſtices at any General or Quarter Seſſions of the Peace to be holden for the County of *Bedford*, within Three Calendar Months next after the Cauſe of Complaint ſhall have ariſen, ſuch Appellant firſt giving Fourteen Days Notice at the leaſt in Writing of his or her Intention to bring ſuch Appeal, and of the Matter thereof, to the Clerk to the ſaid Commiſſioners, and within Five Days after ſuch Notice entering into a Recognizance before ſome Juſtice of the Peace of the ſaid County, with Two ſufficient Sureties, conditioned to try ſuch Appeal, and abide the Order of, and to pay ſuch Coſts as ſhall be awarded by the Juſtices at ſuch Seſſions; and the Juſtices at ſuch Seſſions ſhall hear and finally determine the Cauſe and Matter of ſuch Appeal in a ſummary Way, and award ſuch Coſts to the Party appealing or appealed againſt as they ſhall think proper; and their Determination thereon ſhall be final, binding, and concluſive to all Parties and to all Intents and Purpoſes.

Juſtices to amend Rates appealed againſt without altering the other Rates.

CXVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That, upon all Appeals from any of the Rates or Aſſeſſments to be made or impoſed by the Authority of this Act, the Juſtices of the Peace (where they ſhall ſee juſt Cauſe of Relief) ſhall and are hereby empowered to amend the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments in ſuch Manner only as ſhall be neceſſary for giving Relief to the Perſon or Perſons ſo appealing, without altering ſuch Rates or Aſſeſſments with reſpect to any other Perſon or Perſons mentioned in the ſame.

Rates and Proceedings not to be quaſhed for Want of Form, or removed by *Certiorari*.

CXIX. And be it further enacted, That no Rate or Aſſeſſment, or any Proceeding to be had touching any Order made, or other Matter or Thing to be done or tranſacted in or relating to any Complaint or Appeal, or any Order or Determination thereon in purſuance of this Act, ſhall be quaſhed or vacated for Want of Form only, or be removed or removeable into any of His Majeſty's Courts of Record at *Weſtminſter* by *Certiorari*, or by any other Writ or Proceſs whatſoever; any Law, Statute, or Uſage to the contrary in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

Directing the Manner of ſerving Notices.

CXX. And be it further enacted, That in all Caſes where Notices or Summonſes are directed or required to be given by this Act, or where the ſame ſhall or may be neceſſary for carrying into Execution any of the Powers

Powers aforeſaid (the Manner of ſerving whereof is not particularly directed by this Act), the Delivery of any ſuch Notice or Summons, or a true Copy thereof, to the Perſon or Perſons to whom the ſame ſhall be directed, or to whom Notice ought to be given, or the leaving the ſame, or a true Copy thereof, at his, her, or their Dwelling Houſe or Dwelling Houſes, uſual or laſt Place or Places of Abode, ſhall be good and ſufficient Service of every ſuch Notice or Summons; and where any ſuch Notice or Summons ſhall be directed to or ought to be given to Two or more Perſons, for or in reſpect of any Offence or Offences againſt this Act, or the joint Act, Omiſſion, Offence, or Default of any Perſons who ſhall be in Partnerſhip or jointly concerned in ſuch Act, Omiſſion, Offence, or Default, the like Delivery of any ſuch Notice or Summons, or a Copy thereof, to, or leaving the ſame at the Dwelling Houſe or uſual or laſt Place of Abode of any One of ſuch Perſons or Partners, ſhall be a good and ſufficient Service thereof.

For compelling the Attendance of Witneſſes.

CXXI. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall be ſummoned as a Witneſs or Witneſſes to give Evidence before the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace in and for any County, Riding, Diſtrict, Liberty, Diviſion, or Place whatſoever, touching any Matter of Fact contained in any Information or Complaint for any Offence againſt this Act, whether on the Part of the Proſecutors or of the Perſon or Perſons complained of, and which Summons the ſaid Commiſſioners and ſuch Juſtices as aforeſaid are hereby authorized to iſſue, where and in ſuch Caſes only as ſuch Commiſſioners or ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices as aforeſaid, as the Caſe may be, are made competent by this Act to hear and determine the ſame; or if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall be ſummoned as a Witneſs or Witneſſes to give Evidence at any General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace for the County of *Bedford* or Adjournment thereof, upon any Appeal by virtue of this Act, whether upon the Part of the Appellant or of the Reſpondent, and any ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo ſummoned as aforeſaid ſhall refuſe or neglect to appear at the Time and Place to be for that Purpoſe appointed, without a reaſonable Excuſe for ſuch his, her, or their Refuſal or Neglect, to be approved of by ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices, or Commiſſioners reſpectively, or appearing ſhall refuſe to be examined on Oath, and to give Evidence before ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace, or Commiſſioners as aforeſaid, or at any ſuch Seſſions or Adjournment thereof, then and in either of the ſaid Caſes every ſuch Perſon ſhall forfeit for every ſuch Offence any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds.

Penalty on taking falſe Oaths.

CXXII. And be it further enacted, That any Perſon or Perſons who ſhall be convicted of wilfully taking a falſe Oath in any of the Caſes in which an Oath is by this Act directed or required to be taken, ſhall be liable to the Pains and Penalties to which Perſons are liable for wilful and corrupt Perjury.

Publick Act.

CXXIII. And be it further enacted, That this Act ſhall be deemed, adjudged, and taken to be a publick Act, and ſhall be judicially taken Notice of as ſuch by all Judges, Juſtices, and other Perſons, without ſpecially pleading the ſame.

The

The SCHEDULE referred to by the ACT.

In the High Street in the Parish of Saint Paul:

THREE Messuages or Tenements, with sundry Outbuildings thereto belonging, now or late the Property of *John Langley*, and in the respective Occupations of the said *John Langley*, *John Wildman*, and *Charles Woolston*.

So much of the said Messuage in the Occupation of the said *John Langley* as now is or late was the Property of the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty of the said Town of *Bedford*.

Two Messuages or Tenements, Three Barns, Sheds, or Buildings, and Part of the Yard or Coal Wharf, now or late the Property of *Joseph Barnard*, and in the respective Occupations of the said *Joseph Barnard*, *Nathaniel Denton*, and *Jonathan James*.

Two Messuages or Tenements, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *Charles Farnell*, and in the respective Occupations of the said *Charles Farnell* and *Mercer Skevington*.

One Messuage or Tenement, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *John Mingay*, and in his own Occupation.

One Messuage, now or late the Property of *John Costin* Esquire, and in the Occupation of *Samuel Wiles*.

One Messuage or Tenement, now or late the Property of *Mary Palmer* Widow, in the respective Occupations of the said *Mary Palmer* and *Mary Kaye* Widow.

One Messuage or Tenement, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *William Bettles*, and in his Occupation.

One Messuage or Tenement, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *Richard Lane*, and in the Occupation of *Robert Burt*.

One Messuage or Tenement, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *Sarah Theed*, Spinster, and in the Occupation of *John Kilpin*.

One Messuage or Tenement, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *William Eastwell Woodroffe*, and in the Occupation of *Edward Jones* the younger.

One Messuage or Tenement, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *Peregrine Nash*, and in the Occupation of *John Swepson*.

Two Messuages or Tenements, with the Outbuildings thereto belonging, now or late the Property of the Most Noble *John* Duke of *Bedford*, and in the respective Occupations of *Paradine Hodgkins* and *Robert Thompson*.

One Messuage or Tenement, with the Outbuildings thereto belonging, and a Yard or Piece of Ground on the West Side thereof, now or late the Property of *Richard Smith* and *John Smith*, and in their Occupations.

One Meſſuage or Tenement, with the Butcher's Shop and Outbuildings thereto belonging, now or late the Property of *John Leach*, Part thereof being unoccupied, and the Remainder thereof in the Occupation of *William Smith*.

Part of a Court Yard ſituate in the Front of the *Swann Inn*, the Property of the ſaid Duke of *Bedford*.

In Stone Houſe Lane:

One Meſſuage or Tenement, with Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *William Smith* the younger, and in the reſpective Occupations of the ſaid *William Smith* and *Richard Rickets*.

Three Stables, One Brewhouſe, One other Building, and Part of a Yard, now or late the Property of *Elizabeth Small* Widow, and in her Occupation.

Three Meſſuages or Tenements, with the Yards, and Outbuildings thereto belonging, now or late the Property of *James Whittingſtall* and *William Long*, and in the reſpective Occupations of *John Woodcock*, *Ann York* Widow, and *Thomas Coles*.

One Meſſuage or Tenement, with the Yard and Outbuildings thereto belonging, now or late the Property of the Churchwardens of the Pariſh of *Saint Paul Bedford*, and in the Occupation of *William Smith*.

One Meſſuage or Tenement, with the Yard and Outbuildings thereto belonging, now or late the Property of *Levi Lavender*, and in the Occupation of *George Bailey*.

One Meſſuage or Tenement, with the Yard and Outbuildings thereto belonging, now or late the Property of *Peregrine Naſh*, and in the Occupation of *William Wright*.

One Meſſuage or Tenement, with the Yard and Outbuildings thereto belonging, now or late the Property of *Joſeph Green*, and in the Occupation of *Mary Woodward* Widow.

A ſmall Piece of Ground, now or late the Property of *Alexander Maitland* Eſquire, now unoccupied.

Five Meſſuages or Tenements, with the Yard and Outbuildings thereunto belonging, now or late the Property of *Alexander Maitland* Eſquire, *John Jordan*, *Dingley Garrat*, and *Ann* his Wife, *Sarah Theed* Spinſter, and *Edward Pincord*, and in the ſeveral Occupations of the ſaid *John Jordan*, *Dingley Garrat*, *Ann Hull*, *Ann Howard*, and *Ann Smith*.

In the Butcher Row:

Two Tenements and Butchers Shops, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *John Leach*, and in the reſpective Occupations of *John Taylor* and *William Smith*.

Three Tenements or Butchers Shops, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *James Whittingſtall* and *William Long*, and in the reſpective Occupations of *Richard Taylor*, *John Woodcock*, and *John Smith*.

One Tenement or Butcher's Shop, now or late the Property of *Richard Smith* and *John Smith*, or One of them, and in the Occupation of *Richard Henſman*.

Seven Tenements and Butchers Shops, with the Outbuildings thereto belonging, now or late the Property of the ſaid Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty, and in the reſpective Occupations of *John Shelton*, *Humphrey*

Humphrey Colſon, *Philip Thompſon*, *William Shelton*, *John Smith* alias *Lyon*, and *John Smith*.

One Tenement or Shop, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *Thomas Button*, and in his Occupation.

One Tenement or Shop, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *Thomas Eyels*, and in his Occupation.

Two Tenements and Shops, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *William Smith*, and in his Occupation.

One Tenement or Shop, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *John Moore Howard*, and now unoccupied.

One Tenement or Shop, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of the Churchwardens of the ſaid Pariſh of *Saint Paul*, and now in the Occupation of *Philip Thompſon*.

One Tenement or Shop, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *John Shelton*, and in his Occupation.

In Church Alley:

One Tenement, now or late the Property of the ſaid Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty, and in the Occupation of *John Lowe*.

One Tenement, now or late the Property of *John Ames* and *Elizabeth Hornbuckle* his Wife, and in the Occupation of *John Oſborn*.

One Tenement, now or late the Property of *Thomas Webb*, and in the Occupation of *Stephen Jakins*.

Two Hovels and a Yard, now or late the Property of *Philip Thompſon*, and in his Occupation.

One Space of Ground, now or late the Property of the ſaid Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty, and in the Occupation of *Philip Thompſon*.

In the Fiſh Market:

Seven Meſſuages or Tenements, with the Outbuildings thereto belonging, now or late the Property of the ſaid Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty, and now in the reſpective Occupations of *Philip Thompſon*, *Robert Thompſon*, *John Swepſon*, *William Eaſtwell Woodroffe*, *John Jones* the younger, and *John Kilpin*.

Two Meſſuages or Tenements, with the Outbuildings thereunto belonging, now or late the Property of *Samuel Atterbury*, and in the reſpective Occupations of *James Nicholls* and *George Fitzhugh*.

One Meſſuage or Tenement, Stable, and Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *Richard Taylor*, and in his Occupation.

Three Meſſuages or Tenements, with the Outbuildings thereto belonging, now or late the Property of the Churchwardens of the ſaid Pariſh of *Saint Paul*, and in the reſpective Occupations of *Mary Kaye* Widow, *John Heartwell*, and *Charles Tingay*,

One Meſſuage or Tenement, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *William Eaſtwell Woodroffe*, and in the Occupation of *Elizabeth Knighton* Widow.

Two Meſſuages or Tenements, with their Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *Richard Lane*, and in the reſpective Occupations of *Thomas Langham* and *Thomas Hine*.

In Vines Corner, otherwiſe Vines Street:

One Meſſuage or Tenement, now or late the Property of *Mary Palmer* Widow, and in her Occupation,

Two

Two Meſſuages or Tenements, with their Outbuildings, now or late the Property of the ſaid *John* Duke of *Bedford*, and in the reſpective Occupations of *Thomas Gammon* and *John Taylor*.

One Meſſuage or Tenement, and Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *John Parker*, and in the Occupation of *Stephen Irons*.

Three Meſſuages or Tenements, Smith's Shop, and Outbuildings thereto belonging, now or late the Property of the ſaid Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgeſſes, and Commonalty, and in the reſpective Occupations of *John Chamberlain*, *Thomas Pierſon*, *William Peach*, and *John Kilpin*.

One Meſſuage or Tenement, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of the ſaid *John Coſtin*, and in the Occupation of *Samuel Wiles*.

One Meſſuage or Tenement, with the Outbuildings, now or late the Property of *William Eaſtwell Woodroffe*, and in the Occupation of *Martha Hayworth*.

Two Meſſuages or Tenements, with the Outbuildings thereto belonging, now or late the Property of *Thomas Barker*, and in the reſpective Occupations of the ſaid *Thomas Barker* and *John Davis*.

In the High Street in the Pariſh of Saint Mary:

Part of a Malting and Buildings, now or late the Property of *Peregrine Naſh*, and in his Occupation.

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