ANNO VICESIMO QUINTO & VICESIMO SEXTO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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C A P. XLIV.

An Act to amend the Law relating to the giving of Aid to discharged Prisoners.

[17th *July* 1862.]

WHEREAS by the Thirty-ninth Section of an Act passed in the Session holden in the Fourth Year of King *George* the Fourth, Chapter Sixty-four, intituled *An Act for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain Gaols and Houses of Correction in* England *and* Wales, and herein-after referred to as "the Gaol Act," it is provided that it should be lawful for any One or more of the Visiting Justices of any Prison to which that Act extended, from whence any Prisoner should be discharged, to direct that such moderate Sum of Money should be given and paid to any and every such Prisoner so discharged who should not have the Means of returning to his or her Family or Place of Settlement, or resorting to any Place of Employment or honest Occupation, as, in the Judgment of such Justice or Justices, should be requisite and necessary for such Purpose, under all the Circumstances attending the Case of any such Prisoner; and that such Sum of Money should be paid by the Keeper of such Prison, to or for the Use of such Prisoner for the Purpose aforesaid, and that all such Sums should be provided for, either out of such Bequests or Bene-

4 G. 4. c. 64. (1823.)

5 H factions

factions as therein mentioned, or in such Manner as is by the Gaol Act directed with respect to the Expense of the Support and Maintenance of the Prisoners in the Prisons to which such Act extends: And whereas divers Societies, herein-after referred to as "Discharged Prisoners Aid Societies," have been formed in divers Parts of *England*, by Persons subscribing voluntarily, for the Purpose of finding Employment for discharged Prisoners, and enabling them by Loans and Grants of Money to live by honest Labour: And whereas it is expedient that Power should be given to the Visiting Justices of Prisons to give Aid under the said Act to discharged Prisoners through the Medium of a Discharged Prisoners Aid Society, in Cases where such Society has been previously certified by the Justices having Jurisdiction over such Gaol or House of Correction, at some Court of General or Quarter Sessions, or at some Quarterly Sessions held by them, to be a Society approved of by them: Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, as follows:

Power to Justices to grant Certificates of Approval of Prisoners Aid Societies;

1. The Justices having Jurisdiction over any Gaol or House of Correction to which the Gaol Act extends may, at any Court of General or Quarter Sessions, or at any Quarterly Sessions, upon the Application of any One or more Member or Members of a Prisoners Aid Society, and after examining the Rules of such Society, and receiving such Evidence as they think fit as to the Condition of such Society, issue a Certificate under the Hand of their Chairman to the Effect that such Society is approved of by them for the Purposes of this Act; and they may, at any future Court of General or Quarter Sessions, or at any future Quarterly Sessions, upon due Cause shown, by a Writing under the Hand of their Chairman, revoke or suspend such Certificate; and any Society in respect of which such Certificate as aforesaid has been granted and remains in force shall be deemed to be a "Certified Prisoners Aid Society," and to be entitled to such Privileges as are herein-after mentioned.

and to revoke or suspend the same.

Relief may be afforded by "Certified Prisoners Aid Society."

2. Where a Prisoner is discharged from any Prison to which the said Gaol Act extends, the visiting Justices of such Prison, instead of directing that such moderate Sum of Money shall be paid by the Keeper of such Prison to or for the Use of such Prisoner for the Purpose aforesaid, may if they think fit direct that such Sum, not exceeding in any Case Two Pounds, shall be paid to the Treasurer of a certified Prisoners Aid Society on their receiving from such Society an Undertaking in Writing, signed by the Secretary thereof, that the same shall be applied for the Benefit of such Prisoner: Provided that if it shall not be possible for the Society so to apply such Sum for the Benefit

Benefit of such Prisoner, the same or so much thereof as shall not have been so applied shall be applied by such Society for the Benefit of such other Prisoner or Prisoners discharged from the said Gaol as the said Visiting Justices shall direct.

Funds out of which Repayments provided.

3. All Sums paid to a certified Prisoners Aid Society under this Act shall be provided for out of the same Funds and in the same Manner as is by the said Gaol Act directed with respect to the Sums therein authorized to be given or paid as herein-before recited to discharged Prisoners.

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