ANNO DUODECIMO & DECIMO TERTIO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

****

Cap. xxiv.

An Act to amend an Act of the Twelfth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, for embanking, draining, and preserving certain Fen Lands and Low Grounds in the Parish of *Ramsey* in the County of *Huntingdon*, and in the Parishes of *Doddington*, *March*, *Benwick*, *Wimblington*, and *Chatteris*, within the *Isle of Ely* and County of *Cambridge*, so far as relates to the Lower or Fifth District, and to annex other Lands thereto.

[26th *June* 1849.]

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of His Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An* 12 G.3. c.26.
Act for embanking, draining, and preserving certain Fen Lands and Low Grounds in the Parish of Ramsey *in the County of* Huntingdon, *and in the Parishes of* Doddington, March, Benwick, Wimblington, *and* Chatteris, *within the* Isle of Ely *in the County of* Cambridge, *and for amending the Road from a certain Bridge in the Parish of* Chatteris *aforesaid, called* Carter's Bridge, *by a Drain called* Vermuyden's *or the* Forty Feet Drain, *to a Bridge called the* Forty Feet Bridge, *in the said Parish of* Ramsey; and by the said Act the

said

said Fen Lands and Low Grounds are divided into Two separate Districts for embanking the River *Nene*, called respectively the "Upper District or Division" and the "Lower District or Division;" and by the said Act the said Fen Lands and Low Grounds are further divided into Five Districts for draining, called respectively the First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Districts or Divisions; and by the said Act separate Commissioners are appointed, so far as relates to embanking the said Upper District or Division, and also separate Commissioners for each of the said First, Second, Third, and Fourth Districts or Divisions, so far as relates to the draining of the same Districts or Divisions respectively, and also separate Commissioners so far as regards as well the embanking as the draining of the said Lower District or Division and the said Fifth District or Division, which are in fact one and the same District: And whereas the Commissioners of the said Lower or Fifth District or Division are by the said Act empowered to assess, rate, tax, and charge the several Owners and Occupiers of all and singular the Fen Lands and Low Grounds within the said District or Division by and with an equal and proportional Tax or Assessment not exceeding One Shilling *per* Acre for embanking, and also by and with an equal and proportional Tax or Assessment not exceeding Two Shillings *per* Acre for draining the same District or Division: And whereas the Funds and Monies authorized to be levied by the said recited Act by the Commissioners of the said Lower or Fifth District or Division for draining the same are insufficient to provide for the erecting and upholding of Engines and other Works of Drainage proper and sufficient for that Purpose, and for the due Execution of the said Act, so far as the same relates to the draining of the same District or Division; and it is expedient that the Commissioners should be empowered to levy and raise further Funds for that Purpose, and that the Fen Lands and Low Grounds mentioned and described in the Schedule to this Act annexed, which adjoin and abut immediately upon the said District or Division, or some Part or Parts thereof, and which are not otherwise drained than as the Waters therefrom run or soak away into the said District or Division, should be included in the same District or Division, and the Owners and Occupiers thereof made liable to be taxed and charged by the Commissioners of the said Lower or Fifth District or Division, and that some of the Provisions of the said Act, so far as the same relate to the said District or Division, should be altered, amended, and enlarged; but the Purposes aforesaid cannot be effected without the Authority of Parliament: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and 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 same, That so much of the said recited Act as enacts that certain Parts of the Lands and Grounds therein described shall be called "The Lower District or Division," and also so much thereof as enacts that certain Parts of the Lands and Grounds therein described shall be called "The Fifth District or Division;" and also so much of the said recited Act as empowers the Commissioners of the said Lower or Fifth District or Division, or any Five or more of them assembled at any of their Meetings, to divide the same District or Division into Three or more Subdivisions for draining the same, and for that Purpose to make and

Certain Parts of recited Act repealed.

and erect Dams, Banks, Engines, and other Works for the Benefit of such Subdivisions; and also so much of the said Act as authorizes the Commissioners of the said Lower or Fifth District or Division to levy and assess a Tax not exceeding One Shilling *per* Acre on the several Owners and Occupiers of the Fen Lands and Low Grounds within the same District or Division, for embanking the said River *Nene* against the said Lower or Fifth District or Division; and also so much of the said Act as authorizes the Commissioners of the said Lower or Fifth District or Division, or any Seven or more of them, to borrow, take up, and receive any Sum or Sums of Money not exceeding the Sum of Four thousand Pounds on the Credit of the said Tax of One Shilling *per* Acre; and also so much and such Parts of the said Act as relate to Meetings of the Commissioners of the said Lower or Fifth District or Division, or to the Time and Place of holding the same, or to the Mode of calling or convening the same; and also so much and such Parts of the said Act as require Notices of the Days of Payment of the Rates, Taxes, and Assessments to be rated, taxed, or assessed upon the several Owners and Occupiers of the Fen Lands and Low Grounds within the said Lower or Fifth District or Division to be affixed on the Church Door of *Ramsey;* and also so much of the said Act as imposes a Penalty of Two-pence for every Shilling of the Taxes authorized to be assessed and levied by the said recited Act in case of Default in Payment thereof within Two Calendar Months after a personal Demand made thereof by the Collector; and also such Parts of the said Act as provide that the Plaintiff, in any Action for any Irregularity, shall not recover if Tender of Amends shall have been made as therein mentioned, and which renders the Plaintiff in case of a Nonsuit liable to Double Costs; and also so much of the said Act as exempts Mortgages, Assignments, or other Securities for borrowing Money, and Contracts and Agreements under the Hands or under the Hands and Seals of the said Commissioners, and Transfers of Mortgages, Assignments, or other Securities and Bonds taken from any Officer or his Sureties in pursuance of the said recited Act for the due Execution of his Office, and any other Writing whatever concerning the Execution of the said recited Act, (except the Nomination or Appointment of Commissioners or Deputy Commissioners,) from Stamp Duty; and also so much of the said Act as directs that the Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, Receiver, or other Officers should account upon Oath; and also so much of the said recited Act as enacts that if any Person or Persons should wilfully and maliciously burn, cut, break down, destroy, or advise with, counsel, or employ any Person to burn, cut, break down, or otherwise destroy, any Bank, Mill, Engine, Floodgate, or Sluice, made or to be made for the Purpose of draining and preserving the said Fen Lands and Low Grounds, and being thereof convicted, should be guilty of Felony, and be transported for Seven Years; and also all such Part and Parts of the said recited Act as relate to the Recovery of any Penalty or Penalties by the said Act imposed, and to which any Person or Persons were thereby made liable; and also such Part of the said recited Act as limits the Time within which any Action, Suit, or Information may be commenced or prosecuted for anything done or to be done in pursuance of the said Act, and as concerns the Pleadings and Costs in any such Action, Suit, or Information, shall be and the same several

Parts

Parts of the said recited Act, so far as the same relate to or concern the said Lower or Fifth District or Division, are hereby repealed.

Provisions of recited Act to remain in force, except as altered by this Act.

II. And be it enacted, That the said recited Act, and all and every the Clauses, Enactments, Powers, Authorities, Provisions, Penalties, Matters, and Things therein contained, so far as they respectively relate to the said Lower or Fifth District or Division, or the Qualification or Appointment of Commissioners or Deputy Commissioners thereof, and so far as the same respectively stood in force at or immediately before the passing of this Act, shall henceforth remain and continue in force, and shall be as good, valid, and effectual for carrying this Act and the said recited Act into execution, as if the same had been repeated and re-enacted in this Act, except only such Provisions of the said recited Act as are by this Act repealed, varied, or altered, or are inconsistent therewith.

New Titles of District and Commissioners.

III. And be it enacted, That the said Lower or Fifth District or Division shall henceforth, as well for the Purposes of this Act as for all other Purposes whatsoever, be called the "*Ransonmoor* Drainage District," and the Commissioners thereof, to be qualified, authorized, and appointed as by the said recited Act is provided and required with respect to Commissioners of the said Lower or Fifth District or Division, shall be called the "*Ransonmoor* Drainage Commissioners;" and when and so often as in this Act the Word District is herein-after mentioned or used, the same shall be held to mean the said *Ransonmoor* Drainage District, and when and so often as in this Act the Word Commissioners is herein-after mentioned or used, the same shall be held to mean the *Ransonmoor* Drainage Commissioners, unless there be something either in the Subject or Context repugnant to such Meaning or Construction.

Regulations for Meetings of Commissioners.

IV. And be it enacted, That the said Commissioners shall hold a General Meeting for the Purpose of carrying this Act and the said recited Act, as hereby altered and amended, so far as the same relates to the said District, into execution, at some convenient Time and Place in *Doddington* aforesaid, on the Fourth *Tuesday* next after the passing of this Act, and shall hold a General Meeting in every Year on the Third *Wednesday* in the Month of *May*, at some convenient Place in *Doddington* aforesaid; and that Notice of the First and every subsequent General Meeting shall be given by Advertisement thereof inserted twice in some Newspaper of general Circulation in the *Isle of Ely*; and the said Commissioners assembled at the said First Meeting, and also at any General or Special Meeting, shall and may then and from Time to Time afterwards adjourn themselves to meet at such other Time and Times as they or any Five or more of them respectively shall think fit; and the said Commissioners shall and may hold such Special Meetings at *Doddington* aforesaid as Five or more of the said Commissioners shall by Notice in Writing under their Hands appoint; and every such Notice shall state the Purpose and Object of the Meeting thereby convened, and such Notices shall be affixed on the Church Doors of *Doddington* and *March* aforesaid, and on the Church or Chapel Door of *Benwick*, Ten Days before the holding of the Meeting

Meeting thereby convened, and also be advertised once at least in some Newspaper of general Circulation in the *Isle of Ely*.

Certain Clauses of 10 & 11 Vict. c. 16. incorporated with this Act.

V. And be it enacted, That all the Clauses, Powers, and Provisions of "The Commissioners Clauses Act, 1847," (except the Clause which disqualifies every Commissioner who for the Space of Six Months after his Appointment neglects to make and subscribe the Declaration therein-before required, or who for Six Months in succession is absent from all Meetings of the said Commissioners, and also except the Clauses relating to the Election and Rotation of the Commissioners, and also the Clauses and Parts of the Clauses which require and relate to monthly Meetings to be held by the Commissioners, and all Clauses relating to the Mode of convening and Notices to be given of Meetings, and also the Clause which requires the Clerk of the Commissioners to attend at their Office daily, and also so much of any Clause as requires a yearly Sum to be set apart in or towards the Discharge of any Principal Monies to be borrowed on Security of the Taxes, and also the Clause with respect to Mortgages to be executed by the Commissioners which prescribes the Form of Mortgage,) shall be and the same are hereby incorporated with and declared to be and form Part of this Act.

Power to Commissioners to assess a further Tax, not exceeding 4*s.* per Acre per Annum.

VI. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Commissioners of the said District or any Five or more of them, at their first or any other General Meeting to be held after the passing of this Act, yearly and every Year, over and above the Tax or Assessment of Two Shillings *per* Acre charged upon the Lands and Grounds lying within the said District by the said recited Act, to assess, rate, tax, and charge all and every the respective Owner or Owners, Occupier or Occupiers of all and singular the Fen Lands and Low Grounds lying within the same District, by and with an equal and proportionable Tax or Assessment, in any Sum or Sums of Money not exceeding in the whole the Sum of Four Shillings *per* Acre in any One Year for every Acre of Fen Lands and Low Grounds lying within the said District, which said additional Tax or Assessment shall, in case of Nonpayment thereof within the Time or Times appointed by the said recited Act as to the said Tax of Two Shillings *per* Acre thereby authorized to be levied, be liable to the same Penalty, and shall be assessed, levied, collected, paid, and recovered in the same Manner and by the same Ways and Means as in and by the said recited Act, as altered and amended by this Act, are in that Behalf contained or provided.

Penalty on Nonpayment of Taxes.

VII. And be it enacted, That if any Occupier of any Part of the Fen Lands or Low Grounds within the said District shall refuse or neglect to pay to the Collector thereof the Taxes or Assessments with which the same Land shall be respectively taxed or charged by virtue of the said recited Act or this Act, and which shall become due and payable during his Occupation thereof, for the Space of Two Calendar Months after the same shall have so become due and payable, every such Occupier shall forfeit and pay to such Collector the further Sum of Three Shillings and Four-pence for every Twenty Shillings which shall be so in arrear and unpaid, and so in proportion for any less Sum, to be levied by Distress and Sale of his or her Goods and Chattels, in

such Manner as the Taxes and Assessments granted by the said recited Act or this Act are directed to be levied.

Further Power for Recovery of Taxes and Penalties.

VIII. And be it enacted, That in case no sufficient Distress can be found on any Fen Lands or Low Grounds within the said District whereon to levy and raise any Taxes then due to the said Commissioners, and in arrear for the same Lands, or from the Occupier thereof, or the Penalties which may have accrued due by reason of the Nonpayment thereof within the Time herein-before in that Behalf provided, then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, to levy and raise the said Taxes so in arrear, and the Penalties (if any) then due in respect thereof, by Distress and Sale of any Goods and Chattels of the Person or Persons who was or were the Occupier or Occupiers of the said Fen Lands and Low Grounds at the Time or respective Times when such Tax or Assessment, or Taxes or Assessments, became due and payable, whensoever and wheresoever the same Goods and Chattels shall be found, together with all the Charges of levying the same.

For Recovery of Arrears.

IX. And be it enacted, That in case no sufficient Distress can be found whereon to levy the said Taxes or Assessments so in arrear, and the Penalties (if any) then due in respect thereof, then such Parts of the said Fen Lands and Low Grounds in respect of which such Taxes or Assessments shall have been made or assessed shall always remain a Security for Payment thereof; and all Corn, Hay, Cattle, and other Goods and Chattels, which shall at any Time thereafter be found thereon, shall and may be distrained, kept, appraised, and sold, in manner aforesaid, until all Arrears of Taxes or Assessments, and the Charges of such Distress, and detaining, keeping, and selling the same, shall be fully paid and satisfied: Provided always, that Six Days at least before any such last-mentioned Distress shall be made the Amount of such Arrears and Penalties (if any) shall be demanded of the Occupier for the Time being of the said Fen Lands and Low Grounds in respect of which such Taxes or Assessments so in arrear shall have been made or assessed, by leaving at his usual Place of Abode a Notice in Writing specifying the Amount thereof, and signed by the Clerk to the Commissioners; and any such last-mentioned Occupier, being a Tenant, and having paid the Amount of such Demand, shall be and is hereby empowered and authorized to deduct the same from the Rent then due or accruing due from him for the Premises, or the same shall otherwise, after a Demand and Refusal by the Landlord to pay or allow the Amount thereof, be recoverable from such Landlord by Action at Law.

Power to borrow Money on the Credit of the Taxes.

X. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners from Time to Time to borrow at Interest on the Credit of the said Taxes by the said recited Act or this Act directed or authorized to be imposed, or either of the same Taxes, or any Part or Parts thereof respectively, any Sum or Sums of Money which they may think necessary for the Purposes of the said recited Act or this Act, not exceeding in the whole the Sum of Four thousand Pounds; and for securing the Repayment of the Sum or Sums so borrowed, with Interest, the said Commissioners, or any Five of them, may assign the several

several Taxes hereby or by the said recited Act directed or authorized to be imposed by them, or any Part or Parts thereof respectively, with all Powers or Remedies whatsoever for recovering and enforcing Payment thereof, to the Person who shall lend such Money, or some Person appointed by him; and any such Mortgage may contain any Provisions for continuing the Loan, and for the Payment of the Sum thereby secured by Instalments, and for reducing the Rate of Interest reserved on Payment thereof within such Period after the Time appointed for Payment thereof as shall be in that Behalf agreed upon, and may also contain any Power of Sale of the mortgaged Premises, and any Powers and Provisions in connexion therewith, and any such special Provisions as shall be in that Behalf agreed upon; and upon any such Loan any Receivers and Collectors may be appointed, and Provision may be made for the future Appointment of such Receivers and Collectors; and such Receivers and Collectors shall act under such Circumstances, and have such Powers, and be remunerated in such Manner, as shall be in that Behalf agreed upon; and it is hereby declared that the Receipts of the said Commissioners or any Five of them shall be sufficient Discharges for the Money borrowed under this Act, and that the Person advancing any such Money shall not be bound or concerned to see to the Application of the Money advanced by him, or be liable for the Misapplication or Nonapplication thereof, or be concerned to inquire whether the Sum advanced by him ought to be raised; and it is hereby further declared, that any Purchaser under any such Power of Sale as aforesaid shall be seised of the Taxes purchased by him for an absolute Estate, free from any Equity or Power of Redemption whatsoever, and he and his Heirs and Assigns may recover the same by Distress and Sale, in like Manner as the said Commissioners might have done: Provided always, that every Mortgage shall contain a Covenant on the Part of the Mortgagee not to exercise such Power of Sale as aforesaid unless Default shall have been made in Payment of the Interest or some Part thereof for Six Calendar Months next after the Advertisements herein-after mentioned shall have been first inserted, and in Payment of the Principal Money for Twelve Calendar Months next after the Advertisements herein-after mentioned shall have been first inserted, nor until such Mortgagee shall, by Advertisement in the *London Gazette*, and twice in the same Month in some Newspaper of general Circulation in the *Isle of Ely*, have given Notice of his Intention to exercise such Power of Sale if such Interest shall not be paid within Six Calendar Months, and such Principal Monies shall not be paid within Twelve Calendar Months, as the Case may be, nor unless such Advertisement shall have been repeated Four Times during such Six Calendar Months or Twelve Calendar Months respectively.

Power to borrow Money at a lower Rate of Interest, to pay off Securities bearing a higher Rate.

XI. And for the Purpose of enabling the said Commissioners to secure the Benefit of a moderate Rate of Interest, be it enacted, That if the said Commissioners can borrow any Sum of Money at a lower Rate of Interest than any subsisting Securities given or made by them shall bear, it shall be lawful for them from Time to Time to borrow such Money as they shall think proper, on the Credit of all or any of the Taxes by the said recited Act or this Act authorized to be levied, at any lower Rate of Interest; and it is hereby declared that the Money to be borrowed for that Purpose, and the Interest for the same, may

may be secured by an Assignment by the said Commissioners or any Five of them of the said Taxes hereby or by the said recited Act directed or authorized to be levied by them, or either of such Taxes, or any Part or Parts thereof respectively, with all Powers and Remedies whatsoever for recovering and enforcing Payment thereof, in like Manner and subject to the like Restrictions in all respects as is herein-before provided as to the said Sum of Four thousand Pounds, and the Interest thereof; and any such Mortgage may contain any such Provisions or Powers as herein-before mentioned, or as shall be in that Behalf agreed upon, and any such Receivers or Collectors as aforesaid may be appointed or provided for; and it is hereby declared that the Receipts of the said Commissioners or any Five of them, making such Assignment as aforesaid, shall be sufficient Discharges for the Money borrowed under this Act, and that the Person advancing any such Money shall not be bound or concerned to inquire whether there shall be any subsisting Securities bearing a higher Rate of Interest than the Sum advanced by him shall be made to bear, or whether the Sum advanced by him is a Sum properly raiseable, or to see to the Application of the Money advanced by him, or be liable for the Misapplication or Nonapplication thereof; and it is hereby declared that any Purchaser under any such Power of Sale as aforesaid in any Mortgage under this Act shall be seised of the Taxes purchased by him for an absolute Estate of Inheritance in Fee Simple, free from any Equity or Power of Redemption whatsoever; and he, his Heirs and Assigns, may recover the same by Distress and Sale, in like Manner as the said Commissioners could have done.

Power to borrow Money to pay off Sums previously borrowed.

XII. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners from Time to Time to borrow at Interest, on the Credit of the Taxes hereby or by the said recited Act directed or authorized to be levied by them, or either of the said Taxes, or any Part or Parts thereof respectively, any Sum or Sums which they may think necessary to be raised for the Purpose of paying off any Sum or Sums which may have been previously borrowed under both or either of the Powers herein-before contained; and all the Powers and Provisions herein-before given and contained as or in reference to the Monies which are herein-before authorized to be borrowed shall apply to the Monies to be borrowed under this Act, as if the same were here repeated and made applicable to this Act, and to the Monies hereby authorized to be borrowed.

Repayment of Monies borrowed.

XIII. And be it enacted, That the said Commissioners shall in every successive Period of Six Years, to be computed from the Expiration of Three Years after the borrowing of any Principal Monies on Security of the said Taxes authorized to be levied by the said recited Act or this Act, or any Part or Parts thereof respectively, when and so often as any such Principal Monies shall be owing, appropriate and set apart a Sum of not less than Five hundred Pounds out of the Funds and Monies of the said Commissioners, to be applied by them in paying off all or any Part of such Principal Monies, or as a Sinking Fund to be accumulated for that Purpose.

Commissioners empowered to sell Mills

XIV. And be it enacted, That the said Commissioners or any Five or more of them shall and may, if they think necessary, at any Time or Times hereafter, and from Time to Time, sell or cause to be sold all and

and every the Engines and Mills or other Works already erected by virtue of the said former Act, or which shall from Time to Time be erected by virtue thereof or of this Act, within the said District, and also all their Right and Interest in the Site of the said Engines and Mills or other Works, for the best Price that can be gotten for the same, and shall apply the Money arising from every such Sale to and for the Purposes of the said District.

and Works and the Sites thereof.

XV. And be it enacted, That the Monies arising from the respective Rates or Assessments made or to be made by virtue of the said recited Act and this Act, so far as relates to the said District, and all Penalties and Monies whatsoever to be received by the said Commissioners by virtue of the said recited Act or this Act, shall be applied and disposed of in defraying the Expenses of obtaining this Act, and in and about making, executing, and maintaining any of the Works, Matters, and Things which by the said recited Act or this Act are authorized to be made, done, or executed by the said Commissioners; and all Costs, Charges and Expenses incident thereto, and to the due Execution of the said recited Act and of this Act, and in Payment of such Sums of Money as shall be due to any Person or Persons on Security of the Taxes of the said District, and the Interest thereof, and to and for no other Use or Purpose whatsoever.

Application of Monies.

XVI. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, at any general, special, or adjourned Meeting to be held by them after the passing of this Act, to resolve and order that the Division heretofore made of the said District into Three Subdivisions for the Purposes of draining shall, from and after a Time to be therein specified, cease and be void, and at the Expiration of such Time the said Subdivisions shall be deemed to be ended and determined to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

Subdivisions of the District may be annulled.

XVII. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners and they are hereby authorized and required from Time to Time to make, do, cleanse, widen, cut, build, erect, purchase, repair, amend, reinstate, and execute, or cause to be made, done, cleansed, widened, cut, built, erected, purchased, repaired, amended, reinstated, and executed, all such Banks, Bridges, Headings, Cuts, Drains, Outlets, Mills, Engines, and Machinery, and other Works, Matters, and Things, as the said Commissioners of the said Lower or Fifth District were by the said recited Act authorized and required to make, do, and execute, or cause to be made, done, and executed, for all or any of the Purposes of the said recited Act, and to have and exercise all the Powers and Authorities, and shall be under and subject to all the Clauses, Enactments, and Provisions, mentioned and contained in the said recited Act of and concerning the said Commissioners of the said Lower or Fifth District or Division.

Works to be done.

XVIII. And be it enacted, That if the Occupier or Occupiers of any Lands lying within the said District to which any Droveway Dike, Outring Dike, or Division Dike doth or shall belong shall neglect or refuse sufficiently to rode, scour, cleanse, open, or repair any such Dike, or to make the same of a sufficient Depth, and of the Width of Nine Feet at the least, after Fourteen Days Notice in Writing given

Penalty on Occupiers not cleansing Dikes.

to him, her, or them, or left at his, her, or their Place of Abode from Time to Time for that Purpose, by the Clerk, Collector, or other Officer of the Commissioners, pursuant to any Order or Bye Law of the Commissioners, every such Occupier shall for every such Neglect or Refusal forfeit and pay the Sum of Sixpence for every Rod of the Dike so neglected to be roded, scoured, cleansed, opened, repaired, deepened, and widened; and it shall be lawful from Time to Time for the said Commissioners to cause such Dikes, at the Charge and Expense of every such Occupier, to be roded, scoured, cleansed, opened, repaired, and deepened, in a sufficient Manner, and made of the Width aforesaid at the least, and where a Way shall have been made over any Dike without a sufficient Tunnel, to cause such Ways to be taken up, and such Dike to be made of a proper Width and Depth, and by Warrant under the Hands of Three or more of the said Commissioners to levy such Penalty, and also such Charges and Expenses, upon such Occupier or Occupiers, by Distress and Sale of his, her, or their Goods and Chattels.

Commissioners may purchase a Site for Engine and Buildings.

XIX. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners from Time to Time to contract with and purchase of and from any Person or Persons interested in any Land within the said District or in the Schedule to this Act annexed, who may be willing to sell the same, a Piece or Pieces of Land, to be used as and for a Site or Sites of an Engine House or Engine Houses, and Residences of the Engine Drivers or other Servant or Servants of the said Commissioners, so that the total Quantity of Land for this Purpose to be held at any One Time by the said Commissioners shall not exceed Two Acres, and to cause the same, by proper Assurances, to be conveyed to the Use of the said Commissioners or any Five or more of them, their Heirs and Assigns, upon and for the Trusts, Intents, and Purposes of the said recited Act as altered and amended by this Act.

Certain Provisions of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 18. incorporated with this Act.

XX. And be it enacted, That for the Purposes of the said Contracts and Purchases lastly herein-before authorized all the Clauses, Powers, and Provisions of "The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," with respect to the Purchase of Lands by Agreement, and with respect to the Purchase Money or Compensation coming to Parties having limited Interests, or prevented from treating, or not making Title, shall and the same are hereby declared to be incorporated with and form Part of this Act.

Annexation of Lands in the Schedule.

XXI. And be it enacted, That from and immediately after the passing of this Act all and every the Fen Lands and Low Grounds mentioned and specified in the Schedule to this Act annexed shall thenceforth be deemed and taken to be within and to form Part of the said District; and the same Lands, and also the respective Owners and Occupiers thereof, shall have and be subject and liable to all such and the same Rights, Privileges, Clauses, Enactments, Powers, Provisions, Taxes, Penalties, Remedies, Matters, and Things as the said District, and the Fen Lands and Low Grounds therein, and the respective Owners and Occupiers thereof, had or was or were entitled or subject or liable to under and by virtue of the said recited Act, as altered and amended by this Act, immediately prior to or as if such Annexation had not been made.

XXII. And

XXII. And whereas the said Commissioners have heretofore cut, made, and executed divers Drains and other Works of Drainage in and for the Benefit of the said District, and are now possessed of divers Mills or Engines, and other Property and Effects: Be it enacted, That each and every Owner for the Time being of the said several Lands and Grounds mentioned and specified in the said Schedule to this Act annexed shall, in and for the first Year after the passing of this Act, be taxed and charged with and liable to the Payment of such further and additional gross Sum or Payment, over and above the rateable and proportional Taxes authorized to be assessed and imposed thereon by the said recited Act and this Act, by way of a proportional Payment and Contribution towards the said Cuts, Works, Mills, or Engines, Property and Effects, and the Value thereof, as the said Commissioners and the said Owners respectively shall mutually agree upon, or in case of Diagreement, then as shall be settled by Arbitration, in such and the same Manner as is directed and provided in and by the said "Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," for the Settlement of disputed Questions of Compensation by Arbitration, which said further and additional gross Sum or Payment shall, in case of Default in Payment thereof within Two Months after the Amount shall have been agreed upon or been ascertained, be recoverable by the said Commissioners from the said Owners respectively, either by Action at Law, or, if the Amount does not exceed the Sum of Twenty Pounds, in the County Court of *Cambridgeshire* holden at *March*, or in the same Manner as Rates and Taxes imposed and assessed under and by virtue of the said recited Act or this Act are authorized to be recovered, or by such other lawful Ways and Means as the said Commissioners may determine.

Lands annexed to be charged with extra Payment for first Year.

XXIII. And be it enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to empower the said Commissioners or any of them, or any Person or Persons whomsoever, to have, use, or exercise any Power or Authority over or to intermeddle with any of the Sewers, Drains, or Works already made by or belonging to, or hereafter to be made by or belonging to, the Governor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the Company of Conservators of the Great Level of the Fens called the *Bedford Level*, or to invalidate, lessen, diminish, alter, or take away any of the Rights, Powers, and Authorities vested in the said Governor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, or in the Governor, Bailiffs, and Conservators of the said Great Level, but that all Rights, Powers, and Authorities which by virtue of an Act made in the Fifteenth Year of the Reign of King *Charles* the Second, intituled *An Act for settling the Drainage of the Great Level of the Fens called the* Bedford Level, or of any other Act or Statute whatsoever or otherwise, are now vested in the said Governor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, or in the said Governor, Bailiffs, and Conservators, shall for ever hereafter remain and continue and be in the said Governor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, and in the said Governor, Bailiffs, and Conservators, and every of them, as fully and amply to all Intents and Purposes as if this Act had not been passed.

Saving the Rights of the Corporation of Bedford Level.

XXIV. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be a Public Act, and shall be judicially taken notice of as such. Public Act.

The

The SCHEDULE to which this Act refers;

CONTAINING

A DESCRIPTION of the SEVERAL FEN LANDS and LOW GROUNDS that are in future to be deemed within and Part of the RANSONMOOR DRAINAGE DISTRICT.

No. on Plan, called Plan of Part of the Bedford Level and Lands adjacent, by J. G. Lenny, 1833.	Occupiers.	Owners.	Quantity. A.	R.	P.
	In the Hamlet of March in the Parish of Doddington.				
56	Redmore Allenby - -	Himself - -	56	3	6
	In the Hamlet of Wimblington in the said Parish of Doddington.				
97	Wm. Shepperson - -	Elizabeth, the Wife of Abraham Jobson Cole, and her Trustees.	43	0	24
98	The same - - -	The same - - -	23	3	15
99	The same - - -	Abraham Jobson Cole - -	1	1	11
100	John Fryer - -	Himself - - -	7	0	0
	Willm Searle - - -	Charles Culledge and Thos. Richards (Trustees of Johnson Bavin's Will) - -	1	1	36
101	Thos. Cousins junr -	Joseph Bavin - - -	5	3	28
102	Willm Searle - - -	Charles Culledge and Thos. Richards (Trustees of Johnson Bavin's Will) - -	9	2	6
	Francis Bavin - -	Himself - - -	5	0	34

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