ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO SEPTIMO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

****

CAP. XLI.

An Act to repeal Two Acts passed in the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth Years of His present Majesty, relating to the Office of the Agent General, and for transferring the Duties of the said Office to the Offices of the Paymaster General and Secretary at War.

[20th *June* 1817.]

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Fifty-fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act to repeal an Act passed in the Fifty-second Year of His present Majesty, for better regulating the Office of Agent-General for Volunteers and Local Militia, and for the more effectually regulating the said Office, and to make further Provisions for the Regulation of the Office of Agent General*: And whereas another Act passed in the Fifty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act to amend an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, for better regulating the Office of Agent General for Volunteers and Local Militia, and for the more effectually regulating the same*: And whereas it has been deemed expedient that the Duties of the said Office should be transferred to the Offices of the Paymaster General and Secretary at War; and it is therefore expedient that the said Acts should be repealed: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the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

54 G.3. c.151.

55 G.3. c.170.

5 P

assembled,

Recited Acts repealed.

aſſembled, and by the Authority of the ſame, That from and after the paſſing of this Act, the ſaid recited Acts of the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth Years of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty ſhall be and the ſame are hereby repealed.

Office of Agent General for Volunteers and Local Militia aboliſhed, and Duties tranſferred to Paymaſter General, &c.

II. And be it further enacted, That from and after the Twenty-fourth Day of *June* One thouſand eight hundred and ſeventeen, the ſaid Office of Agent General for Volunteers and Local Militia ſhall be and the ſame is hereby declared to be aboliſhed; and from and after the Time the ſaid Office ſhall ceaſe, the Duties of the ſaid Office ſhall be transferred to and performed in the Offices of the Paymaſter General and Secretary at War reſpectively, under the Regulations and Proviſions in this Act, and according to ſuch other Rules and Regulations as ſhall from Time to Time be made by the Secretary at War and Paymaſter General in that Behalf.

Agent General to transfer his Balance at the Bank to the Paymaſter General, &c.

III. And be it further enacted, That on the Twenty-fourth Day of *June* One thouſand eight hundred and ſeventeen, it ſhall and may be lawful for the Agent General to cauſe the Balance of Caſh which ſhall at that Time remain at the Credit of his Accounts with the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, to be transferred and paid over to the Account of the Paymaſter General of His Majeſty's Land Forces at the Bank of *England*, and by ſo doing the ſaid Agent General ſhall be and is hereby fully diſcharged for the Amount of the Sum which ſhall be ſo transferred or paid over by him as aforeſaid; and all ſuch Sum or Sums of Money ſo transferred and paid over to ſuch Account of the Paymaſter General, ſhall be applied in the ſame Manner as if the ſame had been iſſued from the Exchequer to ſuch Account; and the ſaid Paymaſter General ſhall make Payment of all unſatisfied Charges and Demands on account of the Public Services under the Authority of the Secretary at War, although the ſame ſhall have accrued in the Time of the Agent General; and all outſtanding Bills, which may have been accepted by the Agent General or his Deputy, ſhall be paid by the ſaid Paymaſter General under the Warrant or Warrants of the Secretary at War, in the Manner and under the Regulations herein-after directed; and all ſuch Bills, Drafts, or Orders ſo paid by the ſaid Paymaſter General of His Majeſty's Forces on the Acceptance of the ſaid Agent General or his Deputy, ſhall be held and be deemed to be the good and proper Vouchers of the ſaid Paymaſter General, and ſhall be by him tranſmitted to the Commiſſioners for auditing the Public Accounts, by whom the ſaid Vouchers ſhall be admitted and allowed, in the ſame Manner as if the ſaid Bills, Drafts, or Orders had been addreſſed to and accepted by the ſaid Paymaſter General.

Agent General to be indemnified on account of Acceptances on Bills unpaid.

IV. And be it further enacted, That from and after the Twenty-fourth Day of *June* One thouſand eight hundred and ſeventeen, the Agent General or his Deputy, or the Perſon or Perſons in his Office duly authorized by the ſaid Agent General to accept Bills of Exchange, ſhall be indemnified againſt all Perſons whatſoever, for or on account of his or their Acceptance on any Bill or Bills of Exchange which ſhall or may have been accepted by him or them under the Authority of the Secretary at War for the Time being, and which ſhall remain unpaid on the ſaid Twenty-fourth Day of *June*.

Delivery and Examination of Accounts

V. And be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend to repeal the ſaid recited Act of the

Fifty-fourth Year of His Majeſty, ſo far as relates to the proper Delivery of the Accounts of the ſaid Agent General to the Commiſſioners for auditing the Public Accounts, and to the immediate Examination and Preſentment of the ſame by the ſaid Commiſſioners. under recited Act of 54G.3.c.151. continued.

VI. And be it further enacted, That from and immediately after the paſſing of this Act it ſhall be lawful for the Secretary at War, by any Warrant or Warrants, ſigned by himſelf or by his Deputy, from Time to Time, addreſſed to the Paymaſter General of His Majeſty's Forces, to authorize and empower the ſaid Paymaſter General to accept Bills of Exchange, payable at the Bank of *England*, for any Pay or Allowances, or other Contingencies of or Services relating to any Militia, Local Militia, or Volunteers, without ſpecifying ſuch Services in ſuch Bills; and which Bills ſo drawn and accepted ſhall be ſufficient Authority to the Bank of *England* to pay ſuch Money to the Perſon or Perſons mentioned in ſuch Bills, or to their Order or Orders, according to the uſual Courſe in reſpect of Bills of Exchange, and which Bills ſhall be accepted and paid accordingly; and the Warrants for ſuch Acceptances, and the Bills ſo accepted and paid, ſhall be good and ſufficient Vouchers for the ſaid Paymaſter General in his Accounts, and ſhall be placed on the Credit Side of his Account accordingly. Secretary at War to authorize Paymaſter General to accept Bills. Sufficient Authority to the Bank to pay ſuch Bills.

VII. And whereas an Act paſſed in the Fifty-ſecond Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled *An Act to continue, amend, and extend the Proviſions of an Act paſſed in the Forty-eighth Year of His preſent Majeſty, for enabling the Secretary at War to enforce Returns from Clerks of Subdiviſions and others, in relation to Fines, Bounties, and Sums due under any Acts relating to the Defence of the Realm or Militia, for the Purpoſe of directing the Diſtribution and ſecuring the due Application thereof*, whereby the Secretary at War was empowered to order Sums of Money to be paid over under the ſaid Act to the Agent General; be it therefore enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the Secretary at War to make like Orders for Payment of all or any of the Sums ſpecified in the ſaid Act to the Paymaſter General; and from and after the paſſing of this Act every Order which ſhall have been made by the Secretary at War under the ſaid laſt-recited Act, to pay over any Sum or Sums of Money under the ſaid Act to the Agent General, ſhall be deemed and conſtrued to be an Order to pay over ſuch Money to the Account of the Paymaſter General at the Bank of *England*, as fully and effectually as if a new Order had been iſſued under this Act for the Payment of ſuch Money to the ſaid Account of the Paymaſter General. 52G.3.c.105. Secretary at War to make Orders for Payment of Sums ſpecified in recited Act, to Paymaſter General inſtead of Agent General.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That all Bills, Drafts, and Orders drawn upon the Paymaſter General on account of the Pay or Allowances of the Militia or Local Militia, or of any Yeomanry or Volunteer Corps, or of any Staff Officers, or which may be drawn by any Clerks of Subdiviſions, or any Perſons under the Directions of the Secretary at War, for the Payment of Bounties or any other public Services whatever; and alſo all Bills, Drafts, or Orders by which any Balances, Fines, Penalties, Bounties, or any other Sums of Money whatſoever, ſhall be remitted to the Bank of *England* on account of the ſaid Paymaſter General in purſuance of this Act, may and ſhall be drawn upon unſtamped Paper; and that no ſuch Bill, Draft, or Order ſhall be void by reaſon of being ſo drawn or written upon unſtamped Paper; any Thing in any Act or Acts of Parliament to the contrary notwithſtanding. Bills, &c. for Payments to be drawn on unſtamped Paper.

IX. And

IX. And whereas an Act passed in the Forty-eighth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for accelerating the making up, Examination, and Audit of the Accounts of the Paymaster General of His Majesty's Forces*: And whereas by the said Act certain Rules are prescribed for the general and separate Accounts of the Paymaster General: And whereas it is expedient that a separate Account should be made up of the Money received and paid on account of Adjutants of the Local Militia; be it therefore enacted, That the Paymaster General shall, in the present and every future Year, make up a separate Account of the Money received and paid within the Period comprized in his general Account on account of Adjutants of the Local Militia, in like Manner as he is required by the said Act to make up the separate Accounts therein specified; and that such separate Account shall be transmitted, examined, and declared, and the said Paymaster shall be discharged and acquitted therein, in the same Manner in all respects as is by the said recited Act provided with regard to the separate Accounts thereby directed to be made.

48 G. 3. c. 49.

Separate Accounts to be kept of the Money received and paid on account of Adjutants of the Local Militia, &c.

X. And be it further enacted, That this Act may be altered or varied by any Act to be passed in this present Session of Parliament.

Act may be altered this Session.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1817.