

ANNO SEPTIMO & OCTAVO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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CAP. CI.

An Act for the further Amendment of the Laws relating to the Poor in *England*.

[9th *August* 1844.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend an Act passed in the Session held in the Fourth and Fifth Years of the Reign of His late Majesty King *William* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for the Amendment and better Administration of the Laws relating to the Poor in* England *and* Wales, and certain other Acts relating to the Relief of the Poor in *England*: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this Act all Powers for obtaining or making an Order upon any putative Father for the Maintenance of a Bastard Child shall cease and determine, except as herein-after provided. 4 & 5 W. 4. c. 76.

Powers of making Order on putative Father to cease.

II. And be it enacted, That any single Woman who may be with Child, or who may be delivered of a Bastard Child, after the passing of this Act, or who has been delivered of a Bastard Child within the Period of Six Calendar Months before the passing of this Act, may either before the Birth, or at any Time within Twelve Months from the Birth of such Child, or at any Time thereafter, upon Proof that the

The putative Father to be summoned to Petty Sessions, on Application of Mother of Bastard.

the Man alleged to be the Father of such Child has within the Twelve Months next after the Birth of such Child paid Money for its Maintenance, make Application to any One Justice of the Peace acting for the Petty Sessional Division of the County, or for the City, Borough, or Place in which she may reside, for a Summons to be served on the Man alleged by her to be the Father of such Child; and if such Application be made before the Birth of the Child the Woman shall make a Deposition upon Oath stating who is the Father of such Child, and such Justice of the Peace shall thereupon issue his Summons to the Person alleged to be Father of such Child to appear at a Petty Session to be holden after the Expiration of Six Days at least for the Petty Sessional Division, City, Borough, or other Place in which such Justice usually acts.

Justices in Petty Session may make an Order on the putative Father for Maintenance and Costs, and enforce the same by Distress and Commitment.

III. And be it enacted, That after the Birth of such Bastard Child, on the Appearance of the Person so summoned, or on Proof that the Summons was duly served on such Person, or left at his last Place of Abode Six Days at least before the Petty Session, the Justices in such Petty Session shall hear the Evidence of such Woman, and such other Evidence as she may produce, and shall also hear any Evidence tendered by or on behalf of the Person alleged to be the Father; and if the Evidence of the Mother be corroborated in some material Particular by other Testimony, to the Satisfaction of the said Justices, they may adjudge the Man to be the putative Father of such Bastard Child; and they may also, if they see fit, having regard to all the Circumstances of the Case, proceed to make an Order on the putative Father for the Payment to the Mother of the Bastard Child, or to any Person who may be appointed to have the Custody of such Child under the Provisions of this Act, of a Sum of Money weekly, and of such Costs as may have been incurred in the obtaining of such Order, including, if they think proper, Ten Shillings for the Midwife, and Ten Shillings towards the Funeral Expences of the Child, provided it have died before the making of such Order; and if the Application be made before the Birth of the Child, or within Two Calendar Months after the Birth of the Child, such weekly Sum may, if the said Justices think fit, be calculated from the Birth of the Child, at a Rate not exceeding Five Shillings *per* Week for the first Six Weeks after the Birth of such Child; and in other Cases such Sum shall not exceed Two Shillings and Sixpence *per* Week from the Time of the making of the Application; and if at any Time after the Expiration of One Calendar Month from the making of such Order as aforesaid it be made to appear to any One Justice, upon Oath or Affirmation, that any Sum to be paid in pursuance of such Order has not been paid, such Justice may, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, cause such putative Father to be brought before any Two Justices; and in case such putative Father neglect or refuse to make Payment of the Sums due from him under such Order, or since any Commitment for Disobedience to such Order as herein-after provided, together with the Costs attending such Warrant, Apprehension, and bringing up of such putative Father, such Two Justices may, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, direct the Sum so appearing to be due, together with such Costs, to be recovered by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such putative Father, and may order such

putative Father to be detained and kept in safe Custody until Return can be conveniently made to such Warrant of Distress, unless he give sufficient Security, by way of Recognizance or otherwise, to the Satisfaction of such Justices, for his Appearance before Two Justices on the Day which may be appointed for the Return of such Warrant of Distress, such Day not being more than Seven Days from the Time of taking any such Security; but if upon the Return of such Warrant, or if by the Admission of such putative Father, it appear that no sufficient Distress can be had, then any such Two Justices may, if they see fit, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, cause such putative Father to be committed to the Common Gaol or House of Correction of the County, City, Borough, or Place where they have Jurisdiction, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for any Term not exceeding Three Calendar Months, unless such Sum and Costs, and all reasonable Charges attending the said Distress, together with the Costs and Charges attending the Commitment and conveying to Gaol or to the House of Correction, and of the Persons employed to convey him thither, be sooner paid and satisfied: Provided always, that if the Woman have allowed the weekly Payment to be in arrear for more than Thirteen successive Weeks, without Application to a Justice, the Man shall not be called upon to pay more than the Amount due for Thirteen Weeks in discharge of the whole Debt, and no Warrant of Distress shall be issued for more than the Amount of Arrears for Thirteen Weeks Payment in discharge of the whole Arrears or Debt. Proviso.

Applications to be made within Forty Days.

IV. And be it enacted, That the Justices in Petty Session as aforesaid may adjourn the Hearing of the Case as often as to them may seem fit; but no such Order shall be made unless applied for at such Petty Sessions within the Space of Forty Days from the Service of the Summons after the Birth of the Bastard Child on the Person alleged to be the Father of such Bastard Child; and if within Twenty-four Hours after the Adjudication and making of any Order on the putative Father as aforesaid such putative Father give Notice of Appeal to the Mother of the Bastard Child, and also within Seven Days give sufficient Security, by Recognizance or otherwise, for the Payment of Costs, to the Satisfaction of some One Justice of the Peace, it shall be lawful for such putative Father to appeal to the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden after the Period of Fourteen Days next after the making of the said Order for the County, City, Borough, or Place for which such Petty Session may have been held; and the Justices in such Quarter Sessions assembled, or the Recorder, as the Case may be, shall thereupon hear and determine such Appeal, and shall order such Costs to be paid by either Party as to them or him may seem fit. Appeal to Quarter Sessions for the putative Father.

Money under the Order to be paid to the Mother or to a Person appointed by the Justices.

V. And be it enacted, That all Money payable under any Order as aforesaid shall be due and payable to the Mother of the Bastard Child in respect of such Time and so long as she lives and is of sound Mind, and is not in any Gaol or Prison, or under Sentence of Transportation; and after the Death of the Mother of such Bastard Child, or whilst such Mother is of unsound Mind, or confined in any Gaol or Prison, or under Sentence of Transportation, any Two Justices may, if they see fit, by Order under their Hands and Seals from Time to Time appoint some Person who, with his own Consent, shall

shall have the Custody of such Bastard Child, so long as such Bastard Child is not chargeable to any Parish or Union, and any Two such Justices may revoke the Appointment of such Person, and may appoint another Person in his Stead; and every Person so appointed to have the Custody of a Bastard Child shall, so long as such Child is not chargeable to any Parish or Union, be empowered to make Application for the recovering of all Payments becoming due under the Order of the Court of Petty Session as aforesaid, in the same Manner as the Mother of such Bastard Child might have done; and the Clerk to the Justices making any Order on the putative Father of a Bastard Child, or appointing any Person to have the Custody of such Child, as herein-before provided, shall as soon as may be send by Post or otherwise a Duplicate of such Order or Appointment, signed by such Clerk, to the Clerk to the Guardians of the Union or Parish in which the Mother of such Bastard Child resided at the Time of making such Order or Appointment: Provided always, that no Order for the Maintenance or Support of any such Bastard Child made in pursuance of this Act shall, except for the Purpose of recovering Money previously due under such Order, be of any Force or Validity after the Child in respect of whom it was made has attained the Age of Thirteen Years, or after the Marriage of the Mother of such Child, or after the Death of such Child.

Time of Cessation of Order.

Mother punishable for Neglect or Desertion of her Bastard Child.

VI. And be it declared and enacted, That every Woman neglecting to maintain her Bastard Child, being able wholly or in part so to do, whereby such Child becomes chargeable to any Parish or Union, shall be punishable as an idle and disorderly Person, under the Provisions of an Act made and passed in the Fifth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for the Punishment of idle and disorderly Persons, and Rogues and Vagabonds, in that Part of the United Kingdom called* England; and every Woman so neglecting to maintain her Bastard Child, after having been once before convicted of such Offence, and every Woman deserting her Bastard Child, whereby such Bastard Child becomes chargeable to any Parish or Union, shall be punishable as a Rogue and Vagabond, under the Provisions of the said last-recited Act.

5 G. 4. c. 83.

Officers of Parishes or Unions not to receive Money under the Order, or to interfere in any respect.

VII. And be it enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any Justice of the Peace to appoint any Officer of any Parish or Union to have the Custody of any Bastard Child as herein-before provided, or for any Officer of any Parish or Union, Clerk of Justices, or Constable, to receive any Money in respect of any Bastard Child under an Order of Petty Session as aforesaid, or as such Officer to conduct any Application to make or enforce such Order, or in any way to interfere as such Officer in causing such Application to be made, or in procuring Evidence in support of such Application, under a Penalty of Forty Shillings, to be levied on Conviction before any Two Justices as Penalties and Forfeitures under the said first-recited Act: Provided always, that after the Death of such Mother, or if such Mother be incapacitated as aforesaid, so often as any Bastard Child for whose Maintenance such Order of Petty Sessions has been made, becomes chargeable to any Parish or Union by the Neglect of the putative Father

Proceedings against putative Father in case of Death or Incapacity of Mother.

Father to make the Payments due under the Orders of Justices, then and in such Case it shall be lawful for any Board of Guardians of an Union or Parish, or if there be no such Board of Guardians for the Overseers of any Parish or Place, to make such Application for the Enforcement of the Order as might have been made by the Mother of such Bastard Child if alive; but all Payments for the Maintenance of such Child made in pursuance of such Application shall be made to some Person to be from Time to Time appointed by the Justices as herein-before provided, and on condition that such Bastard Child shall cease to be chargeable to such Parish or Union.

Penalties for promoting Marriage of a Mother of a Bastard improperly, misapplying Monies, or maltreating a Bastard Child.

VIII. And be it enacted, That if any Officer of a Union, Parish, or Place endeavour to induce any Person to contract a Marriage by Threat or Promise respecting any Application to be made or any Order to be enforced with respect to the Maintenance of any Bastard Child, such Officer shall be guilty of a Misdemeanor; and every Person having the Custody of any Bastard Child under any Order of Justices, as herein-before provided, who may misapply Monies paid by the putative Father for the Support of such Child, or may withhold proper Nourishment from such Child, or otherwise abuse and maltreat such Child, shall, on Conviction before any Two Justices, forfeit and pay a Sum not exceeding Ten Pounds.

Existing Orders, &c. not to be affected. Orders made before 14th of August 1834 to cease on 1st January 1849.

IX. And be it enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall affect the Validity of any Orders for the Maintenance of a Bastard Child made by Justices in Quarter or Petty Sessions before the passing of this Act; but no such Order made before the Fourteenth Day of *August* One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four shall be in force after the First Day of *January* One thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, and that all Proceedings actually pending before Justices in Quarter Sessions or Petty Sessions at the Time of the passing of this Act may be continued, and Orders made therein in the same Manner as if this Act had not been passed.

Orders made by Justices acting in Two adjoining Counties to be valid, although not made in the County in which the Parish is situate.

X. And whereas various Unions established under the Authority of the said recited Act are situate partly in one County, Riding, or Division, and partly in an adjoining County, Riding, or Division: And whereas Doubts have been entertained whether any Justice of the Peace acting under Two Commissions for different Counties, Ridings, or Divisions can legally make Orders in Bastardy when acting in Petty Sessions within the Limits of one of such Commissions, for such Parts of such Unions as are situate within the Limits of the other of such Commissions: And whereas it is expedient to remove all such Doubts with regard to Orders which have before the passing of this Act been made under such Circumstances; be it therefore enacted, That all Orders in Bastardy which have been made by any Justices of the Peace acting as such under Two Commissions for any Two adjoining Counties, Ridings, or Divisions, shall, although not made within the County, Riding, or Division in which the Parish interested in the Order, or any Part thereof, is situate, be as valid, good, and effectual in the Law, to all Intents and Purposes, as if they had been made within such County, Riding, or Division.

XI. And

Clerks to Justices annually to make a Return of Summonses, Orders, &c. to the Clerks of the Peace;

who shall transmit Copies thereof to the Secretary of State, with Lists of Appeals.

XI. And be it enacted, That every Clerk to the Justices shall once in each Year, (that is to say,) as soon as may be after the First Day of *January*, make up, in the Form in the Schedule (A.) annexed to this Act, and forward to the Clerk of the Peace, a complete List of Summonses issued, Applications heard, and Orders made as aforesaid since the First Day of *January* of the Year preceding, by the Justices to whom he acts as Clerk; and every Clerk of the Peace shall receive such Lists, and shall, on Demand of the Clerk to the Justices, acknowledge under his Hand the Receipt of any such List, and shall preserve the said Lists, and shall, as soon as may be after the Receipt of such Lists, transmit Copies thereof, duly certified, to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, and shall also transmit a List of all the Cases in which Appeals have been made to the Court of Quarter Sessions during the same Period, with the Result of every such Appeal; and it shall be lawful for the Justices of the Peace, at their respective General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, to make and settle a Fee or Fees to be paid to every such Clerk to the Justices for every such List; and on Production by any such Clerk to the Justices of the Acknowledgment by the Clerk of the Peace of the Receipt of such List the Treasurer of the County shall pay the Fee so made and settled, and due in respect of any such List, out of the County Stock in the Hands of such Treasurer.

Poor Law Commissioners to prescribe the Duties of poor Apprentices, and Masters neglecting to fulfil them liable to Penalty.

Guardians to bind poor Children Apprentices instead of Overseers.

XII. And be it enacted, That the Poor Law Commissioners may, by Order under their Hands and Seal, prescribe the Duties of the Masters to whom poor Children may be apprenticed, and the Terms and Conditions to be inserted in the Indentures by which such Children may be so bound as Apprentices; and every Master of such Apprentice who wilfully refuses or neglects to perform any of such Terms or Conditions so inserted in any such Indenture shall be liable, upon Conviction thereof before any Two Justices, to forfeit any Sum not exceeding Twenty Pounds; and that after the First Day of *October* next no poor Child shall be bound Apprentice by the Overseers of any Parish included in any such Union or subject to a Board of Guardians under the Provisions of the first-recited Act, but it shall be lawful for the Guardians of such Union or Parish respectively to bind any such poor Child to be an Apprentice, and in such Case the Indentures of Apprenticeship shall be executed by the said Guardians, and shall not need to be allowed, assented to, or executed by any Justice or Justices of the Peace, and the Guardians shall have all the Powers for binding or assigning any such Apprentice which are now possessed by Overseers, and shall cause all Apprentices so bound or assigned by them to be registered by their Clerk according to the Form prescribed by the Statute of the Forty-second Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third relating to the Registration of Parish Apprentices, so far as the same may be applicable to such Binding or Assignment: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall directly or indirectly interfere with the Provisions of any Act of Parliament relating to Apprentices to be bound to the Sea Service.

XIII. And

Compulsory Apprenticeship abolished.

XIII. And be it enacted, That after the passing of this Act so much of an Act passed in the Forty-third Year of the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, intituled *An Act for the Relief of the Poor*, and so much of an Act passed in the Session held in the Eighth and Ninth Years of the Reign of King *William* the Third, intituled *An Act for supplying some Defects in the Laws for the Relief of the Poor of this Kingdom*, or of any other Act of Parliament, whether general or local, as compels any Person to receive any poor Child as an Apprentice, shall be and is hereby repealed.

Repeal of 43 Eliz. c. 2. 8 & 9 W. 3. c. 3.

Repeal of so much of 4 & 5 W. 4. c. 76. as relates to Number of Votes of Owners and Rate-payers.

XIV. And whereas by the said first-recited Act it is provided, that in every Case of an Election of Guardians under the said Act, or whenever the Consent of Owners of Property or Rate-payers in any Parish or Union may be required for any of the Purposes of the said Act, the Owner, as well as the Rate-payer, in respect of any Property in such Parish or Union, shall be entitled to vote, and the Owner shall have the same Number and Proportion of Votes respectively as is provided for Inhabitants and other Persons in and by an Act made and passed in the Fifty-eighth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for the Regulation of Parish Vestries*, and in and by an Act to amend the same, made and passed in the Fifty-ninth Year of His said late Majesty; and the Rate-payers under Two hundred Pounds shall each have a single Vote; and the Rate-payers rated at Two hundred Pounds or more, but under Four hundred Pounds, shall each have Two Votes; and the Rate-payers rated at Four hundred Pounds or more shall each have Three Votes: And whereas it is expedient that the Number and Proportion of Votes of Owners of Property and of Rate-payers respectively should be assimilated; be it enacted, That so much of the said Act as is above recited relating to the Number and Proportion of Votes of Owners of Property and of Rate-payers respectively shall be and the same is hereby repealed; and that in all Cases in which by the said Act, or by any Act amending or extending the same, Owners of Property and Rate-payers are entitled to vote, every Owner of Property and Rate-payer shall have respectively the same Number and Proportion of Votes, according to the Scale following; (that is to say,) if the Property in respect of which he is entitled to vote be rated upon a rateable Value of less than Fifty Pounds, he shall have One Vote; if such rateable Value amount to Fifty Pounds and be less than One hundred Pounds, he shall have Two Votes; if it amount to One hundred Pounds and be less than One hundred and fifty Pounds, he shall have Three Votes; if it amount to One hundred and fifty Pounds and be less than Two hundred Pounds, he shall have Four Votes; if it amount to Two hundred Pounds, and be less than Two hundred and fifty Pounds, he shall have Five Votes; and if it amount to or exceed Two hundred and fifty Pounds, he shall have Six Votes.

58 G. 3. c. 69.

Owners of Property and Rate-payers to vote according to the Scale herein set forth.

Regulations as to Votes of Owners and of Proxies.

XV. And be it enacted, That no Owner of Property shall be entitled to vote as such, under the Provisions of the said recited Act, either in Person or Proxy, during the Year following the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* in any Year, unless before the First Day of *February* next preceding such Twenty-fifth Day of *March* he had given to the Overseers the Statement required by the said Act,

Act, signed by him, nor unless such Statement contain a Description of the Nature of the Interest or Estate he may have in such Property, and a Statement of the Amount of all Rent Service (if any) which he may receive or pay in respect thereof, and of the Persons from whom he may receive or to whom he may pay such Rent Service; and no Person shall be entitled to vote as Proxy until Fourteen Days after he have made his Claim so to vote in the Manner required by the said Act; and no Person shall be entitled to vote as Proxy for more than Four Owners of Property in any One Parish (except he be a Steward, Bailiff, or Land Agent, or Collector of Rents for the Owners of Property for whom he may be appointed to vote); and no Appointment of Proxy shall remain in force for a longer Period than Two Years from the making thereof, excepting only in the Case in which an Owner appoints his Tenant, Bailiff, Steward, Land Agent, or Collector of Rents to be his Proxy, in which Case such Appointment shall remain in force so long as the Proxy may continue to be such Tenant, Bailiff, Steward, Land Agent, or Collector, and while such Appointment remains unrevoked; and the Overseers of every Parish containing a Population exceeding Two thousand Persons, according to the last Enumeration of the Population published by the Authority of Parliament, shall, on or before the Fifth Day of the Month of *February* in every Year, enter in the Book to be from Time to Time provided for the Purpose the Names and Addresses of all Persons who before the First Day of the said Month of *February* have given such Statement or made such Claims as Owners or Proxies as aforesaid; and such Overseers shall allow any Person to peruse such Book, without Payment of any Fee, at all reasonable Hours between the said Fifth Day and the Tenth Day of *February;* and any Person who has given such Statement or made such Claim, or any Rate-payer of such Parish, may, on or before the Fifteenth Day of the said Month of *February*, object to any other Person as not being entitled to vote as such Owner, by delivering to the Clerk of the Board of Guardians of the said Parish, or of the Union in which it may be comprised, and at the Address of the Person objected to, Notice in Writing of the Grounds of such Objection; and on or before the Twentieth Day of such Month of *February* such Clerk shall send to the Overseers of such Parish Notice of some Day, between the Twenty-fourth of the said Month and the First of *March* then next, on which he or some Person duly appointed for the Purpose will hear Evidence in relation to such Objections, and of the Place within the Parish or Union at which he or such other Person will attend to hear such Evidence; and such Overseers shall forthwith cause a Copy of such Notice to be fixed on or near the Doors of all Churches or Chapels within such Parish, and at all the usual Places of affixing Notices of parochial Business; and such Clerk shall attend on the Day and at the Place so appointed, and shall, in the Presence of all Persons who may think fit to be present, hear any Matter adduced in support of such Grounds of Objection, or in opposition thereto, but none other; and the Overseers of the said Parish shall then and there attend, and produce to such Clerk the Rate Books of the Parish for the whole Year preceding, and shall answer all such Questions as such Clerk may put to them or any of them touching the Matter of any such Objection; and such Clerk shall retain in

the said Book the Name of all Persons to whom no Objection has been duly made, and of all Persons objected to, unless the Party objecting have appeared in support of his Objection, and established such Objection, and when the Name of any Person has been duly objected to, such Clerk shall require Proof of the Right of such Person to vote as Owner; and in case any Matter be adduced in support of the Objection, and the Right of the Person objected to be not proved to the Satisfaction of such Clerk, he shall expunge the Name of such Person from such Book; and such Clerk shall have Power to adjourn from Time to Time, and administer an Oath to the Overseers of any Parish, and to all Persons attending before him claiming a Right to vote as Owners or objecting to such Right, and to all Witnesses who may be tendered or examined on either Side; and such Clerk shall write his Initials against every Name struck out, and sign his Name to every Page of the said Book; and the Persons whose Names as Owners are retained by such Clerk in such Book shall be the only Persons entitled to vote in such Parish as Owners of Property for the Year following the Twenty-fifth of *March* next ensuing: Provided always, that the said Commissioners may, if they see fit, by Order under their Hands and Seal, direct the Guardians of such Parish or Union to appoint some Person, other than the Clerk to such Guardians, as a paid Officer, to hear and decide the Matter of such Objections as aforesaid, who shall have all such Powers as are hereinbefore given to the Clerk, and perform all such Duties as are hereinbefore imposed on the Clerk in that Behalf: Provided also, that nothing herein contained shall affect any Election in which Proceedings have been commenced before the passing of this Act.

So much of 4 & 5 W. 4. as relates to not voting only to extend to Poor's Rates.

XVI. And whereas by the said first-recited Act it is provided that no Person shall be deemed a Rate-payer, or be entitled to vote, or do any other Act, Matter, or Thing as such, under the Provisions of that Act, unless he shall have been rated to the Relief of the Poor for the whole Year immediately preceding his so voting or otherwise acting as such Rate-payer, and shall have paid the parochial Rates and Assessments made and assessed upon him for the Period of One whole Year, as well as those due from him at the Time of so voting or acting, except such as shall have been made or become due within Six Months immediately preceding such voting or acting; be it enacted, That such Parochial Rates and Assessments shall be deemed to extend only to Rates made for the Relief of the Poor.

Annual Election of Guardians to take place within Forty Days after the 25th of March.

XVII. And whereas in the said first-recited Act it is provided, that Guardians of the Poor elected under the Provisions of that Act shall go out of Office, and Guardians for the ensuing Year shall be chosen within Fourteen Days next after the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* in every Year: And whereas such Period hath been found to be too short, and it is expedient to extend the same; be it therefore enacted, That the Period within which the annual Election of Guardians shall take place shall be extended to the Period of Forty Days next after the said Twenty-fifth Day of *March*, and that the Guardians of the preceding Year shall continue in Office for the said Period of Forty Days, or until the Election of Guardians for the succeeding Year have taken place.

XVIII. And

Number of Guardians may be altered with reference to Population, &c.

XVIII. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, having due Regard to the relative Population or Circumstances of any Parish included in a Union, to alter the Number of Guardians to be elected for such Parish, without such Consent as is required by the said first-recited Act.

Parishes may be divided into Wards.

XIX. And be it enacted, That in every Case in which a Parish in which Guardians are to be elected under the Provisions of the said first-recited Act contains more than Twenty thousand Persons, according to the Enumeration of the Population then last published by Authority of Parliament, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, by Order under their Hands and Seal, for the Purpose of conducting the Election of Guardians, to divide such Parish into such and so many Wards as they may deem expedient, so that no such Ward shall contain a Number of rated Houses less than Four hundred, and to determine the Number of Guardians to be elected for every such Ward, having due Regard to the Value of the rateable Property therein; and each such Ward shall, for the Purpose of every Election of Guardians, so far as the said Commissioners may direct, be considered as a separate Parish.

Qualifications of Guardians in Wards.

XX. And be it enacted, That in every Case in which a Parish is divided into Wards for the Purpose of electing Guardians every Person qualified to be elected as a Guardian in the Parish shall be qualified to be elected in any Ward within the same Parish; but no Person shall at any Election of Guardians be elected for more than One Ward within the same Parish; and if at any such Election a Person be nominated in Two or more Wards, the Returning Officer at such Election shall, if such Person reside within the Parish, give such Person Notice thereof in Writing, to be left at his Place of Residence on the Day following the last Day fixed for the Nomination of Candidates, and such Person, whether he reside in the Parish or not, may at any Time, until Two Days preceding the issuing of the Voting Papers, elect by Notice in Writing delivered to the Returning Officer any One Ward for which he will stand an Election; and if he do not so elect some One Ward the Returning Officer shall place his Name on the List of Candidates for that Ward only for which he was first duly nominated.

Voting in Wards.

XXI. And be it enacted, That no Person entitled to vote shall give in the whole of the Wards into which a Parish may be divided a greater Number of Votes than he would be entitled to have given if the Parish had not been divided into Wards, nor in any One Ward a greater Number of Votes than he is entitled to in respect of Property in that Ward; but, subject to the foregoing Limitations, any Ratepayer, Owner of Property, or Proxy entitled to vote may, by Notice in Writing delivered to the Overseers of the Parish before the Day appointed for the annual Nomination of Candidates, elect in what Ward or Wards he will vote for the ensuing Year, and determine the Proportion of Votes which he will give in any One or more of such Wards; and if he do not give such Notice he shall not be entitled to vote for any Ward in which he does not reside.

XXII. And

Restriction as to separate Overseers for Townships.

XXII. And be it enacted, That after the passing of this Act it shall not be lawful to appoint separate Overseers for any Township or Village or other Place for which before the passing of this Act separate Overseers had not been lawfully appointed.

Orders of Poor Law Commissioners valid, notwithstanding separate Appointment of Overseers.

XXIII. And it is hereby declared and enacted, That in all Cases in which Overseers have for the first Time been separately appointed for any Township or Village since the Fourteenth Day of *August* in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four all Orders of the Poor Law Commissioners, determining the Number of Guardians, or ascertaining the Averages of any such Township or Village, or of any Portion of the Parish from which such Township or Village had been separated, shall be and be deemed to be good and valid in Law, notwithstanding such separate Appointment of Overseers.

Justices who reside in extra-parochial Places or Parishes within Unions to be ex-officio Guardians.

XXIV. And be it enacted, That when any Union has been formed under the Provisions of the said first-recited Act, or where the said Commissioners have under the Provisions of the said Act directed that the Laws for the Relief of the Poor of any single Parish shall be administered by a Board of Guardians, every Justice of the Peace acting for the County, Riding, or Division in which such Union or Parish, or any Part thereof, is situated, and residing in any extra-parochial Place the boundary Line of which, or the greater Part of the boundary Line of which, is included within or coincident with the boundary Line of such Union or Parish, shall be *ex officio* a Guardian of such Union or Parish; and every Justice of the Peace residing in any Parish within such a Union, and acting for any County, Riding, or Division in which any Part of such Union is situated, shall be *ex officio* a Guardian of such Union.

Relief of married Women in certain Cases to be subject to the same Conditions as if they were Widows.

XXV. And be it enacted, That so long as it may appear that the Husband of any Woman is beyond the Seas, or in Custody of the Law, or in Confinement in a licensed House or Asylum as a Lunatic or Idiot, all Relief given to such Woman, or to her Child or Children, shall, notwithstanding her Coverture, be given to such Woman in the same Manner and subject to the same Conditions as if she was a Widow; but nothing herein contained shall diminish or affect the Obligations or Liabilities of such Husband in respect of such Relief.

Relief to Widows in certain Cases.

XXVI. And be it enacted, That in the Case of any Person being a Widow having a legitimate Child dependent on her for Support, and no illegitimate Child born after the Commencement of her Widowhood, and who at the Time of her Husband's Death was resident with him in some Place other than the Parish of her legal Settlement, and not situated in any Union in which such Parish is comprised, it shall be lawful for the Guardians of such Parish or Union, if they see fit, to grant Relief to such Widow, although not residing in such Parish or Union: Provided always, that, notwithstanding any thing herein contained, the Guardians of any Union or Parish, and the Overseers of any Parish, in which such Widow may be resident or may require Relief, shall be and remain liable to relieve such Widow in the same Manner as any other Person requiring Relief in such Union or Parish.

Proviso.

XXVII. And

Expences incurred for Insane Paupers may be levied off their Estates.

XXVII. And be it enacted, That if it be made to appear to any Two Justices that any Insane Person, Lunatic, or Idiot chargeable to any Parish hath an Estate more than sufficient to maintain his Family, they shall by Order under their Hands and Seals direct the Overseers of the Parish to which such Person is chargeable to seize so much of any Money, to seize and sell so much of any Goods and Chattels, or to receive so much of the Rent of the Lands or Tenements of such Person who is proved to such Justices to be necessary to pay any Charges incurred in providing for the Removal, Maintenance, Clothing, Medicine, and Care of such Person; and if any Trustee or other Person having the Possession, Custody, or Charge of any Property of an Insane Person, Lunatic, or Idiot, or if the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, or any other Person or Persons, having in his or their Hands any Stock, Interest, Dividend, or Annuity due to any such Insane Person, Lunatic, or Idiot, pay any Money to any Overseer or to any Guardians of the Poor to defray the Charges incurred by any Parish in the Removal, Maintenance, Clothing, Medicine, or Care of such Insane Person, Lunatic, or Idiot, the Receipt of such Overseer or of the Clerk of such Guardians shall be a good Discharge to such Trustee or other Person aforesaid.

Guardians under local Acts to have Powers with respect to Insane Poor.

XXVIII. And be it enacted, That the Guardians of every Parish or Union appointed under any local Act, and their Officers appointed to act in the Relief of the Poor, and their Clerks, shall, from and after the passing of this Act, have the like Powers and shall be liable to perform the same Duties with respect to Insane Persons as are provided in the Case of Guardians appointed under the Provisions of the said first-recited Act, their Relieving Officers and their Clerks respectively,

Guardians to apply Money raised for Emigration.

XXIX. And be it enacted, That the Guardians of any Parish or Union constituted by the said Commissioners shall apply all Money raised or borrowed for the Purpose of defraying the Expences of Emigration in such Parish or in any Parish within such Union, subject to the Conditions and Restrictions imposed by the said first-recited Act,

Cost of obtaining Site of Workhouses in the Metropolitan Police District, &c.

XXX. And be it enacted, That in addition to the Principal Sum or Sums of Money which Guardians are empowered by the said first-recited Act to raise or borrow for the Purpose of purchasing, hiring, building, enlarging, or altering Workhouses, or Buildings to be converted into Workhouses, the Guardians of any Parish or Union any Part of which is situated within the Metropolitan Police District, or the City of *London*, or the Select Vestry of the Parish of *Liverpool*, may, with the Consent of the Poor Law Commissioners, also raise or borrow and charge the future Poor Rates of such Parish or Union with such further or other Sum or Sums of Money as may be or may have been necessary for the Purchase of any Land, or Interest in Land, required as the Site of such Workhouse, or of any Additions to any such Workhouse.

Burials of Paupers.

XXXI. And be it declared and enacted, That it shall be lawful for Guardians, or where there are no Guardians for the Overseers, to bury

the Body of any poor Person which may be within their Parish or Union respectively, and to charge the Expence thereof to any Parish under their Control to which such Person may have been chargeable, or in which he may have died, or otherwise in which such Body may be; and unless the Guardians, in compliance with the Desire expressed by such Person in his Lifetime, or by any of his Relations, or for any other Cause, direct the Body of such poor Person to be buried in the Churchyard or Burial Ground of the Parish to which such Person has been chargeable (which they are hereby authorized to do), every dead Body which the Guardians or any of their Officers duly authorized shall direct to be buried at the Expence of the Poor Rates shall (unless the deceased Person, or the Husband or Wife or next of Kin of such deceased Person, have otherwise desired,) be buried in the Churchyard or other consecrated Burial Ground in or belonging to the Parish, Division of Parish, Chapelry, or Place in which the Death may have occurred; and in all Cases of Burial under the Direction of the Guardians or Overseers as aforesaid the Fee or Fees payable by the Custom of the Place in which the Burial may take place, or under the Provisions of any Act of Parliament, shall be paid out of the Poor Rates, for the Burial of each such Body, to the Person or Persons who by such Custom or under such Act may be entitled to receive any Fee: Provided always, that it shall not be lawful for any Officer connected with the Relief of the Poor to receive any Money for the Burial of the Body of any poor Person which may be within the Parish, Division of Parish, Chapelry, or Place in which the Death may have occurred, or to act as Undertaker for personal Gain or Reward in the Burial of any such Body, or to receive any Money from any Dissecting School or School of Anatomy, or Hospital, or from any Person or Persons to whom any such Body may be delivered, or to derive any personal Emolument whatever for or in respect of the Burial or Disposal of any such Body; and any such Officer offending as aforesaid shall, on Conviction thereof before any Two Justices, forfeit and pay a Sum not exceeding Five Pounds.

Commissioners may combine Parishes and Unions into Districts for Audit of Accounts.

Election of District Auditors.

XXXII. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners from Time to Time, by Order under their Hands and Seal, to combine the Parishes and Unions in *England* and *Wales* into Districts for the Audit of Accounts, and from Time to Time to add any Parish or Union to any such District, or separate any Parish or Union therefrom; and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of each Board of Guardians constituted under the said first-recited Act or any other Act, or if there be no Chairman or Vice Chairman of any Guardians constituted under any other Act, then some Two of their Number to be selected by such last-mentioned Guardians, or if there be no such Body then some Two of the Overseers to be selected by the Overseers respectively acting within the District, shall elect, at the Time and in the Manner to be prescribed by the said Commissioners, a Person to be the Auditor of the District; but in any Case in which there are Two Vice Chairmen appointed in any Board of Guardians such Board of Guardians shall select One of the Vice Chairmen, who shall vote in the Election of such Auditor; and the said Commissioners shall have all the Powers with regard to the Salaries of the said Auditors to be charged on the Poor Rates, and to all other Matters relating to

Their Powers and Duties.

Auditors for such Districts, as they have under the said first-recited Act with regard to paid Officers; and every Auditor appointed for such a District shall have full Powers to examine, audit, allow, or disallow of Accounts, and of Items therein, relating to Monies assessed for and applicable to the Relief of the Poor of all Parishes and Unions within his District, and to all other Money applicable to such Relief; and such Auditor shall charge in every Account audited by him the Amount of any Deficiency or Loss incurred by the Negligence or Misconduct of any Person accounting, or of any Sum for which any such Person is accountable, but not brought by him into account against such Person, and shall certify on the Face of every Account audited by him any Money, Books, Deeds, Papers, Goods or Chattels, found by him to be due from any Person; and when any such Auditor has so certified any Money, Books, Deeds, Papers, Goods or Chattels, to be due from any Person, he shall forthwith report the same to the said Commissioners; and the Person from whom any Money is so certified to be due shall within Seven Days pay or cause to be paid such Money to the Treasurer of the Guardians of the Union or Parish, if there be any such Treasurer; and in the Case of a Union such Money shall be applied by the Guardians to the Use of all or any of the Parishes included in such Union, according as all or any of such Parishes may be interested in the Sum so paid; and all Books, Deeds, Papers, Goods and Chattels, and in the Case where there is no Treasurer as aforesaid all Monies so certified to be due, shall be delivered over or paid, within Seven Days of the same being certified, to the Person or Persons authorized to receive the same; and if any such Money, Books, Deeds, Papers, Goods or Chattels, be not duly paid or delivered over as herein-before directed, the said Auditor, or any Auditor subsequently appointed, shall proceed, as soon as may be, to enforce the Payment or delivering over of the same; and all Monies so certified to be due by such Auditor shall be recoverable as so certified from all or any of the Persons making or authorizing the illegal Payment, or otherwise answerable for such Monies, and shall be recovered on the Application of such Auditor, or of any such Auditor subsequently appointed, or by any Person for the Time being entitled or authorized to receive the same, in the same Manner as Penalties and Forfeitures may be recovered under the Provisions of the said first-recited Act; and the Expences attending such Proceeding or Recovery shall (except so far as the same may be paid by the Person against whom the Proceedings have been taken) be repaid to such Auditor by the Guardians of the Parish or Union, or by the District Board of the District to which the Proceedings may respectively relate, and shall be charged in their Accounts in such Manner and in such Proportions as the said Commissioners may direct; and if any Person from whom any such Books, Deeds, Papers, Goods or Chattels, may be due, neglect or refuse to deliver over the same to the Person for the Time being entitled or authorized to receive the same, the Person so neglecting or refusing shall be liable, on the Complaint of any such Auditor for the Time being, or of the Person entitled or authorized to receive the same, to the Penalties and Proceedings provided in the Case of Overseers refusing or neglecting to pay and deliver over to their Successors any Sum or Sums of Money, Goods, Chattels, and other Things, in their Hands; and any Church-

warden, Surveyor of the Highways, Overseer or other Officer of a Parish or Union, who shall wilfully authorize or make an illegal or fraudulent Payment from the Church Rate, Highway Rate, or other public Fund of a Parish or Union, or shall unlawfully make any Entry in his Accounts for the Purpose of defraying or making up to himself or any other Person the whole or any Part of any Sum of Money unlawfully expended from the Poor Rate, or disallowed or surcharged in the Accounts of any Parish or Union by such Auditor, shall, upon Conviction thereof before any Two Justices, forfeit and pay for every such Offence any Sum not exceeding Twenty Pounds, and also Treble the Amount of such Payment or of the Sum so entered in his Accounts.

Rate Books, &c. to be made up Seven Days before the Audit Day.

XXXIII. And be it enacted, That Seven clear Days at least before the Day fixed for the Audit of Accounts the Overseers or other Officers employed in any Parish in carrying the Laws for the Relief of the Poor into execution, and every Collector or Assistant Overseer acting for such Parish, shall cause their Rate Books and other Accounts to be made up and balanced; and the Books so made up shall forthwith be deposited at the House within the Parish of some One of such Overseers or other Officers, or of such Collector or Assistant Overseer, or at some other House within the Parish; and Notice shall forthwith be affixed at the usual Place or Places of giving Parish Notices, stating the Time and Place of Audit, as notified by the Auditor, and the Place where the Books are deposited; and such Books shall on each of such Days be open between the Hours of Eleven and Three, for the Inspection of every Person liable to be rated to the Relief of the Poor; and such Auditor shall give or send by Post or otherwise to the said Overseers or other Officers Fourteen Days Notice of the said Audit; but it shall not be necessary for the Auditor to give or send separate Notices to each of such Overseers or other Officers, and it shall be sufficient if it be proved that any One of them had Notice; and if any such Overseer or other Officer, Collector, or Assistant Overseer neglect to make up such Account, or alter such Account, or allow it to be altered when so made up, or refuse to allow such Inspection thereof, he shall be liable, on Conviction thereof, to forfeit Forty Shillings; and if any such Overseer or other Officer, Collector or Assistant Overseer, refuse or wilfully neglect to affix such Notice of Audit, and of the Time and Place for the Inspection of such Accounts, as above provided, he shall be liable, on Conviction thereof, to forfeit Forty Shillings; and it shall be lawful for every Rate-payer in any Parish or Union to be present at the Audit of the Accounts relating to such Parish or Union, and to make any Objection to any such Accounts before such Auditor; and it shall be lawful for any such Auditor to require any Person holding or accountable for any Money, Books, Deeds, Papers, Goods or Chattels, relating to the Poor's Rate or the Relief of the Poor, to produce to such Auditor his Accounts and Vouchers, and to make or sign a Declaration with respect to such Accounts; and so often as such Person neglects or refuses to attend, either at the Audit or any Adjournment thereof, when so required by such Auditor, or to produce to him such Accounts or Vouchers, or any of them, or to make or sign a Declaration with respect to his Accounts, if thereunto required by such Auditor,

Notice of Time and Place of Audit.

Inspection of Books.

Auditor, he shall be liable for every such Refusal or Neglect to forfeit Forty Shillings, to be recovered as Penalties and Forfeitures under the said first-recited Act, or if he wilfully make or sign a false Declaration in respect of such Accounts he shall be liable to the Penalties of Perjury.

Balances found before the passing of this Act may be discharged.

XXXIV. And be it enacted, That in every Case in which before the passing of this Act any Balance has been struck by any Auditor in the Account of any Officer of any Parish or Union, and such Balance has not been paid nor any Proceedings commenced before the passing of this Act for the Recovery thereof, it shall be lawful, on the Application of the Officers of any Parish or of any Board of Guardians of any Union, and in all other Cases of disputed Accounts relating to the Expenditure and Management of the Fund for the Relief of the Poor previous to the passing of this Act upon the Application of the Board of Guardians to the said Commissioners, and with the Consent of the said Commissioners, for the Auditor to discharge the Officers for the Time being from the Payment of such Balance; and all Balances struck against any Person, and not so discharged, shall be recoverable, after the passing of this Act, as if the same had been struck and the Amount thereof certified by an Auditor appointed in pursuance of the Provisions of this Act.

Certiorari for Auditors Allowances or Disallowances.

XXXV. And be it enacted, That if any Person aggrieved by any Allowance, Disallowance, or Surcharge by any such Auditor require such Auditor to state the Reasons for the said Allowance, Disallowance, or Surcharge, the Auditor shall state such Reasons in Writing in the Book of Account in which the Allowance, Disallowance, or Surcharge may be made; and it shall be lawful for every Person aggrieved by such Allowance, and for every Person aggrieved by such Disallowance or Surcharge, if such last-mentioned Person have first paid or delivered over to any Person authorized to receive the same all such Money, Goods, and Chattels as are admitted by his Account to be due from him or remaining in his Hands, to apply to the Court of Queen's Bench for a Writ of Certiorari to remove into the said Court the said Allowance, Disallowance, or Surcharge, in the like Manner and subject to the like Conditions as are provided in respect of Persons suing forth Writs of Certiorari for the Removal of Orders of Justices of the Peace, except that the Condition of such Recognizance shall be, to prosecute such Certiorari, at the Costs and Charges of such Person, without any wilful or affected Delay, and if such Allowance, Disallowance, or Surcharge be confirmed, to pay to such Auditor or his Successor, within One Month after the same may be confirmed, his full Costs and Charges, to be taxed according to the Course of the said Court, and except that the Notice of the intended Application, which shall contain a Statement of the Matter complained of, shall be given to such Auditor or his Successor, who shall in return to such Writ return a Copy under his Hand of the Entry or Entries in such Book of Account to which such Notice shall refer, and shall appear before the said Court, and defend the Allowance, Disallowance, or Surcharge so impeached in the said Court, and shall be reimbursed all such Costs and Charges as he may incur in such Defence

Defence out of the Poor Rates of the Union or Parish respectively interested in the Decision of the Question, unless the said Court make any Order to the contrary; and that on the Removal of such Allowance, Disallowance, or Surcharge the said Court shall decide the particular Matter of Complaint set forth in such Statement, and no other; and if it appear to such Court that the Decision of the said Auditor was erroneous, they shall, by Rule of the Court, order such Sum of Money as may have been improperly allowed, disallowed, or surcharged to be paid to the Party entitled thereto by the Party who ought to repay or discharge the same; and they may also, if they see fit, by Rule of the Court, order the Costs of the Person prosecuting such Certiorari to be paid by the Parish or Union to which such Accounts relate, as to such Court may seem fit; which Rules of Court respectively shall be enforced in like Manner as other Rules of the said Court are enforceable.

Persons aggrieved may apply to Commissioners, who may issue Orders thereupon.

XXXVI. Provided always, and be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Person aggrieved as aforesaid by any Allowance, Disallowance, or Surcharge, in lieu of making Application to the Court of Queen's Bench for a Writ of Certiorari, to apply to the said Commissioners to inquire into and to decide upon the Lawfulness of the Reasons stated by the Auditor for such Allowance, Disallowance, or Surcharge, and it shall thereupon be lawful for the said Commissioners to issue such Order therein, under their Hands and Seal, as they may deem requisite for determining the Question.

Cessation of Powers of Justices to audit.

XXXVII. And be it enacted, That in every District for which an Auditor may be appointed under the Provisions of this Act the Powers of Justices of the Peace and of all other Persons to examine, audit, allow, or disallow Accounts shall, so far as relates to any Accounts which such Auditor is authorized to examine and audit, cease, and the same are hereby repealed: Provided always, that where any Union or Unions and Parishes have been already combined by the said Commissioners under the Provisions of the said first-recited Act for the Appointment of an Auditor, and such an Auditor has been appointed, or where any Person has been appointed Auditor for more than One Union, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners to continue such Auditor in Office, and such District shall be deemed to have been formed, and such Unions to have been formed into a District, and such Auditor to have been appointed respectively under this Act: Provided also, that if the said Commissioners subsequently add any Parish or Union to any District now formed or to be formed after the passing of this Act, or which is to be deemed to be formed under this Act, or separate any Parish or Union therefrom, such Addition or Separation shall not vacate the Appointment of any Auditor appointed previously to such Addition or Separation, but it shall be lawful for the Commissioners to continue such Auditor in Office for such increased or diminished District without any Re-election of such Auditor.

Existing District Auditors may be retained.

Proviso.

Accounts may be rendered half-yearly.

XXXVIII. And be it enacted, That so much of the said first-recited Act as provides that Accounts shall be made and rendered not less frequently than once in every Quarter shall be and is hereby repealed; and

and such Accounts shall be made and rendered at such Times and as often as the said Commissioners may direct, but not less often than Once in every Half Year.

Taxation and Allowance of Law Bills.

XXXIX. And be it enacted, That on Application of any Overseer, or of any Board of Guardians, or of any Attorney at Law, it shall be the Duty of the Clerk of the Peace of the County or Place, or his Deputy, if thereunto required, to tax any Bill due to any Solicitor or Attorney in respect of Business performed on behalf of any Parish or Union situate wholly or in part within such County or Place; and the Allowance of any Sum on such Taxation shall be *primâ facie* Evidence of the Reasonableness of the Amount, but not of the Legality of the Charge; and the Clerk of the Peace shall be allowed for such Taxation after the Rate to be fixed from Time to Time by the Master of the Crown Office, and declared by an Order of the said Commissioners; and if any such Bill be not taxed before it is presented to the Auditor, the Auditor's Decision on the Reasonableness as well as the Legality of the Charges shall be final.

Parishes and Unions may, within certain Limits, be combined into School Districts.

XL. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, as and when they may see fit, by Order under their Hands and Seal, to combine Unions, or Parishes not in union, or such Parishes and Unions, into School Districts, for the Management of any Class or Classes of infant Poor not above the Age of Sixteen Years, being chargeable to any such Parish or Union, who are Orphans, or are deserted by their Parents, or whose Parents or surviving Parent or Guardians are consenting to the placing of such Children in the School of such District; but the said Commissioners shall not include in any such District any Parish any Part of which would be more than Fifteen Miles from any other Part of such District: Provided always, that when the Relief of the Poor has been hitherto administered in any Parish or united Parishes by Guardians appointed under a Local Act, and not by Overseers of the Poor, if such Parish or united Parishes, according to the last Enumeration of the Population published by Authority of Parliament, contain more than Twenty thousand Persons, it shall not be lawful for the said Commissioners, without the Consent in Writing of the Majority of such Guardians, to include such Parish or united Parishes in a School District.

Districts for providing Asylums for houseless Poor may be formed in the Towns specified in Schedule (B.)

XLI. And whereas it is expedient that more effectual Means should be provided for the temporary Relief of poor Persons found destitute and without Lodging within the District of the Metropolitan Police, or the City of *London*, and the City, Towns, and Boroughs named in the Schedule annexed to this Act, and for avoiding the Introduction of infectious Disease, by the Reception of such poor Persons into the Workhouses established for the ordinary Relief of the Poor within such Districts and Places; be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, as and when they may see fit, by Order under their Hands and Seal, to declare so many Parishes or Unions, or Parishes and Unions, any Part of which may be within the District of the Metropolitan Police, or the City of *London*, or within the Limits respectively of the City, Towns, or

Boroughs named in the Schedule marked (B.) annexed to this Act, as such Limits are described in an Act passed in the Third Year of the Reign of King *William* the Fourth, "to settle and describe the Division of Counties, and the Limits of Cities and Boroughs, in *England* and *Wales*, so far as respects the Election of Members to serve in Parliament," to be combined into Districts for the Purpose of providing and managing Asylums for the temporary Relief and setting to work therein of destitute houseless Poor who are not charged with any Offence, and who may apply for Relief, or become chargeable to the Poor's Rates within any such Parish or Union.

Constitution of the District Boards for Schools and Asylums.

XLII. And be it enacted, That a Board shall be constituted for every District formed under this Act for the Maintenance of a School or of an Asylum; and every District Board so constituted shall respectively consist of Members to be elected from amongst the Persons rated within the District to the Relief of the Poor; and the said Commissioners shall fix the Qualification of such Members, such Qualification to consist in being rated within the District to the Relief of the Poor, but not so as to require a Qualification exceeding the net annual Value of Forty Pounds; and such Members shall be elected at such Periods, not exceeding Three Years, and in such Proportions and in such Manner, as the said Commissioners may from Time to Time direct, by the Guardians of every Parish or Union governed by a Board of Guardians under the Provisions of the said first-recited Act or of any Local Act, and if there be no such Guardians then by the Overseers of a Parish not governed by such Guardians; and the Chairman of every Board of Guardians constituted under the Provisions of the said first-recited Act shall, if he consent thereto, be *ex officio* a Member of any District Board constituted under the Provisions of this Act.

Powers and Duties of District Boards.

XLIII. And be it enacted, That every such District Board shall have such of the Powers of Guardians for the Relief and Management of the Poor within any School or Asylum, and for the Appointment, Payment, and Control of paid Officers, as the said Commissioners may direct; and the legal and reasonable Orders of such District Board shall be obeyed and Obedience thereto enforced in the same Manner and by the same Remedies and Penalties as the legal and reasonable Orders of Guardians; and it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, with the Consent in Writing of a Majority of any District Board, to direct such District Board to purchase or hire or build, and to fit up and furnish, a Building or Buildings, of such Size and Description, and according to such Plan, and in such Manner as the said Commissioners may deem most proper, for the Purpose of being used or rendered suitable for the Relief and Management of the Poor to be received into such School or Asylum; and the said Commissioners may, with the like Consent, alter the District for which such District Board was originally constituted, by adding thereto or taking therefrom any Parish or Parishes, Union or Unions, as aforesaid; and the said Commissioners shall have the same Powers for regulating the Proceedings of any District Board or of any Committee thereof, and for directing and regulating the Appointment, Duties, Remuneration, and Removal of paid Officers to be appointed by

by any District Board, as they have with respect to the Proceedings of Boards of Guardians, or with respect to paid Officers to be appointed by any Board of Guardians; and every such Board for a School District shall appoint, with the Consent of the Bishop of the Diocese, at least One Chaplain of the Established Church as one of the paid Officers aforesaid, who shall be empowered to superintend the religious Instruction of all the infant Poor being under the Control of such District Board; and it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners to issue Rules and Regulations for the Government of any such School or Asylum, and the Inmates thereof, as if such School or Asylum were a Workhouse; and any Orders or Regulations of the said Commissioners made in pursuance of this Act shall be enforced in the same Manner and by the same Penalties as if the same were an Order or Regulation made in pursuance of the said first-recited Act: Provided always, that no Rules, Orders, or Regulations of the said Commissioners, nor any Regulations made by such District Board, shall oblige any Inmate of any such School or Asylum to attend any religious Service which may be celebrated in a Mode contrary to the religious Principles of such Inmate, nor shall authorize the Education of any Child in any religious Creed other than that professed by the Parents or surviving Parent of such Child, and to which such Parents or surviving Parent may object, or, in the Case of an Orphan or deserted Child, to which his next of Kin may object: Provided also, that it shall be lawful at all reasonable Times of the Day, according to Rules and Regulations to be made for this Purpose by the said Board, for any Minister of the religious Persuasion professed by an adult Inmate, or of the religious Persuasion in which any Child has been brought up, or in which the Parents, or surviving Parent, or next of Kin, as the Case may be, may desire such Child to be instructed, to visit the School or Asylum, at the Request of such adult Inmate, for the Purpose of affording to him religious Assistance, or to visit such Child for the Purpose of instructing such Child in the Principles of his Religion: Provided also, that it shall be lawful at all Times for any Inspector of Schools appointed by Her Majesty in Council to visit such Schools, and to examine into the Proficiency of the Scholars therein.

Powers of District Board for purchasing and Hire of Land, &c.

XLIV. And be it enacted, That for the Purpose of providing a Building for such School or Asylum it shall be lawful for such District Board, subject to the Order of the said Commissioners, to exercise the Powers given to Boards of Guardians by the said first-recited Act or any other Act or Acts for the Purchase and Hire of Lands and Buildings, and to borrow, in like Manner as is provided in the said first-recited Act or in any other Act or Acts, such Sum or Sums of Money as may be necessary for the Purpose of purchasing any Site, or purchasing, hiring, or building, and of fitting up and furnishing such Building or Buildings as aforesaid, and to charge the future Poor Rates of the Parishes or Unions, or Parishes and Unions, so combined as aforesaid, with the Payment of such Sum or Sums of Money, and Interest thereon: Provided always, that the Consent of any Ratepayers or Owners of Property of any Parish shall not be necessary to any Sale, Exchange, Lease, or other Disposal by Guardians or Overseers to or with any such District Board of any Workhouse, Tenement,

Tenement, Building, or Land: Provided also, that the Principal Sum or Sums to be raised for the Purpose of providing any such Building or Buildings as aforesaid, and charged on any Union, or on any Parish not included in a Union, shall in no Case exceed One Fifth of the average annual Amount of the aggregate Expenditure relating to the Relief of the Poor within any such Union, or of the like Expenditure within any such Parish, for Three Years ending the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* next preceding the raising of such Money; provided also, that the Principal Sum or Sums required for the Purpose of providing any such Building or Buildings shall, if the same be borrowed, be repaid, with all Interest thereon, within a Period not exceeding Twenty Years.

Sums to be raised for providing Schools or Asylums not to exceed One Fifth Part of the average annual Rates.

XLV. And be it enacted, That every such District Board shall be enabled to accept, take, and hold, on behalf of the District for which they act, any Lands, Buildings, Goods, Effects, or other Property, as a Corporation, and in all Cases to sue and be sued as a Corporation, by the Name of the Board of Management of the District School or Asylum, as the Case may be.

District Board to hold Property of the District as a Corporation.

XLVI. And be it enacted, That every District Board for the Management of any School or Asylum shall from Time to Time call on the Parishes and Unions included in such District for such Contributions as they may deem requisite for the Purposes of this Act; and Notice in Writing of the Amount of such Contributions, purporting to be signed by the Clerk or other Officer of such District Board, in any Form prescribed by the said Commissioners, shall, Fourteen Days at least before such Contribution becomes due, be forwarded, by Post or otherwise, to the Clerk to the Board of Guardians of any Union, and to Two at least of the Overseers or other Officers authorized to make and levy Rates for the Relief of the Poor in every Parish from whom such Contributions or any Part thereof will become due; and if such Contributions are not duly paid to the Treasurer of such District Board, such District Board shall, in addition to any other Remedy which now is or hereafter may be given to any Persons against any Board of Guardians, have the like Remedy for Recovery of the same from the Overseers or other Officers authorized to make and levy the Rates for Relief of the Poor of the several Parishes, whether comprised in an Union or otherwise, and which may form Part of the District for which such District Board may act, as are given to Guardians for the Recovery from Overseers of the Contributions of Parishes; and in case of any Addition or Separation of Parishes or Unions, the said Commissioners shall ascertain the proportionate Value of Property and Amount of Obligations of every Parish or Union affected by the Change, and shall fix the Amount to be received or paid, or secured to be paid, by every such Parish or Union.

Payment of Contributions to District Boards.

XLVII. And be it enacted, That the Expences incurred by any District Board in the Purchase or Hire of any Building or Buildings to be used as a School, or in erecting, repairing, adding to, or fitting up any Building, and in the Purchase of Utensils and Materials for the Employment of the Inmates of such School, or of Books and other Objects and Things necessary for the Instruction of such Inmates, and the

Distribution of Charges for Schools.

the Salaries of the Officers and Servants of the Establishment, and all other Expences incurred on the common Account of the Parishes or Unions, or Parishes and Unions, so united for the Management of any Class of infant Poor, or incidental to the Discharge of the Duties of such District Board, shall be paid by such Unions in the Proportion of the Averages last declared for every such Union, and by such Parishes in the Proportion of the average Expenditure of every such Parish for the like Period and Purposes as those to which the declared Averages of such Unions shall relate; and the said Commissioners shall from Time to Time, by Order under their Hands and Seal, ascertain and declare the Proportion and Rates of Contribution in the above respects of every such Parish and Union; and that all other Expences incurred in the Relief of the Children under the Management of such District Board shall be separately charged by such District Board to the Parish or Union from which each such Child may be sent.

Distribution of Charges for Asylums.

XLVIII. And be it enacted, That the Expences incurred by every such District Board in the Purchase or Hire of any Building or Buildings, or in erecting, repairing, adding to, or fitting up any Building as an Asylum, and in the Purchase of Utensils and Materials for the Employment of the Inmates of such Asylum, and other Objects and Things necessary for the Relief of such Inmates, and the Salaries of the Officers and Servants of the Establishment, and all other Expences incurred by such District Board in the Relief of the Poor, or in the Management of such Asylum, or incidental to the Discharge of the Duties of such District Board, shall be charged by such District Board upon the Parishes or Unions, or Parishes and Unions, comprised in such District, in proportion to the annual Value of Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments upon which such Parishes and the Parishes combined in such Unions are respectively assessed to the County or Borough Rate, or other Rate in the Nature of a County or Borough Rate; and where any Parish or Place comprised in such District does not contribute in respect of the whole thereof to any County or Borough Rate, the said Expences shall be paid by such Parish or Place in proportion to the net Annual Value of all the Property therein assessed to the Rates for the Relief of the Poor; and any Information necessary for the Distribution of such Charge shall be furnished, on Demand of such District Board or of the said Commissioners, by every Parish Officer, and by every Clerk of the Peace, Town Clerk, or other like Officer of any County, City, Town, or Borough, or other Place raising Rates in the Nature of County or Borough Rates.

Appointment of Auditors for District Boards.

XLIX. And be it enacted, That the Poor Law Commissioners shall appoint some Person, being at the Time the Auditor of some Parish or Union situated within the District for which any District Board for any School or Asylum may be appointed, who shall be the Auditor of such District, and shall be empowered and required to audit the Accounts of each District Board, and of the Officers of such District Board; and the Salary of every such Auditor of a District shall be paid by the District Board thereof; and the said Commissioners shall have the same Powers for regulating the Duties and

Remuneration of such Auditors as they have with respect to paid Officers appointed by any Board of Guardians; and it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, as they may see fit, to remove any Auditor of such District, and in case of Vacancy to appoint another Person as aforesaid to the Office; and every District Board constituted under this Act, and every Officer of such District Board, shall, twice in the Year at least, at such Time and in such Manner and Form as may be prescribed by the Poor Law Commissioners, account to the Auditor appointed as aforesaid; and such Auditor shall have all the Powers of allowing and disallowing any Charges in such Accounts as are or may hereafter be given to Auditors under the Provisions of the said first-recited Act or any other Act for the Audit of Accounts relating to Rates for the Relief of the Poor; and all Sums disallowed or reduced, or charged as Balances against any Person by such Auditor, shall be recovered, on the Application of such Auditor (which Application he is hereby empowered to make), in the same Way as Penalties and Forfeitures under the said first-recited Act, from the Person making or authorizing such illegal Payment; and within Thirty Days of such Audit each District Board shall cause to be printed, and shall forward by Post or otherwise to each Board of Guardians, and to the Officers of every Parish within their District, an Abstract of the Accounts of their District, so audited, in such Form as the Poor Law Commissioners may direct.

Guardians may visit and inspect Asylums.

L. And be it enacted, That every Guardian of every Union or Parish included in any such District formed for the Maintenance of an Asylum shall at all reasonable Times be entitled to enter the Asylum of such District, and inspect any Part thereof, and enter his Remarks thereon in a Book to be kept for that Purpose.

Children may be sent to District Schools from Parishes and Unions not combined, but not distant more than Twenty Miles.

LI. And be it enacted, That in any Case where a Parish or Union is not combined in a School District, and where any Part of such Parish or Union is not more than Twenty Miles from a District School, the Board of Guardians of such Parish or Union may, with the Consent of the Board of such District, send to such District School any infant Poor not above the Age of Sixteen Years, being chargeable to any such Parish or Union, who are Orphans, or are deserted by their Parents, or whose Parents or surviving Parent or Guardians are consenting thereto; and the Costs of the Maintenance, Employment, and Instruction of such infant Poor in such District Schools shall be paid by such Board of Guardians to such District Board, according to such Rates and at such Times and in such Manner as may be agreed upon by the said Boards, with the Approbation of the said Commissioners; and such infant Poor while at such District School shall be subject to the Control and Management of such District Board and their Officers, in like Manner as if the said Parish or Union were combined in such School District by virtue of this Act.

Repeal of the Acts 7 G. 3. c. 39. and 2 G. 3. c. 22.

LII. And be it enacted, That the Provisions of the Act passed in the Seventh Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for the better Regulation of the Parish poor Children of the several Parishes therein mentioned within the Bills of Mortality*,

Mortality, and of an Act passed in the Second Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty, intituled *An Act for the keeping regular, uniform, and annual Registers of all Parish poor Infants under a certain Age within the Bills of Mortality*, shall be and are hereby repealed.

Class of destitute Poor to be relieved in such Asylum.

LIII. And be it enacted, That every District Board for the Management of any Asylum under this Act shall make Provision for the temporary Relief and setting to work therein of any poor Person found destitute within any such District, not professing to be settled in any Parish included therein, and not known to have any Place of Abode there, and not being charged with any Offence under the Provisions of an Act passed in the Fifth Year of His late Majesty King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for the Punishment of idle and disorderly Persons, and Rogues and Vagabonds, in that Part of* Great Britain *called* England, or of any other Act; and, subject to any Regulations of the said Commissioners, every such District Board or any Committee thereof may direct the Mode of Admission of such poor Persons to the Asylum of such District; and it shall be lawful for any Constable of the Metropolitan Police, or of the Police of the City of *London*, or any Constable of the Police acting under the Chief Constable of any County, District, or Division, or any Constable of the City, Towns, or Boroughs respectively named in the Schedule marked (B.) annexed to this Act, personally to conduct any such poor Person found wandering abroad within any District to any Asylum established in such District in pursuance of this Act, and such poor Person shall, if there be Room in such Asylum, be temporarily relieved therein; and the Serjeant of Police or Constable conducting such poor Person shall sign his Name in a Column, headed to the following Effect, in a Book to be kept, in such Form and Manner as the said Commissioners may from Time to Time direct, by some Officer of every such Asylum, in which shall be entered the alleged Names of all poor Persons admitted:

5 G. 4. c. 83.

Mode of Admission into Asylum.

'WE, the undersigned Constables of the Metropolitan Police [*or* of the Police of the City of *London*, *or* Constable, *&c.*, *as the Case may be*], do severally declare, so far as each of us is concerned therein, that we have conducted the poor Persons (whose alleged Names are set opposite our respective Signatures) to the Asylum of District, the said poor Persons having been by us found wandering abroad, and apparently destitute, and not having committed or being charged with any Offence punishable by Law, within our Knowledge.'

And every such Book, purporting to be signed and to be certified at the Foot of the Page by the Officer keeping the same, shall be received in all Courts of Justice as sufficient Evidence of the Fact that the poor Persons described therein were chargeable to the said District at the Time of their Admission, and, if not contradicted by other Evidence, of such other Particulars as are therein duly recorded; and all poor Persons admitted into any such Asylum shall, if they desire it, be relieved with Food and Lodging for the Night succeeding such Admission; but no such poor Person shall be detained against his Will for any longer Space of Time than until the ordinary Hour of Breakfast of the Day next succeeding his Admission, and Four Hours afterwards,

Regulations with respect to poor Persons admitted into such Asylums.

afterwards, unless such poor Person, since his Admission, have become lawfully punishable for Misbehaviour within such Asylum, in which Case it shall be lawful to detain such poor Person for a Space of Time sufficient for such Punishment; but no poor Person shall be punished for any Offence or Misbehaviour in any Asylum by Confinement for any longer Space of Time than Twenty-four Hours, and such longer Space of Time as may be necessary in order to have such Person before a Justice of the Peace; and if any poor Person so admitted as aforesaid shall be disabled by Sickness, or shall be unwilling to depart from such Asylum, he may receive Relief therein, if he consent to remain, and conform to the Rules of the House, until the next Meeting of the District Board or of some Committee (which such District Board, subject to the Rules of the said Commissioners, is hereby authorized to appoint), who shall give such Directions respecting such poor Person as they may deem right, by discharging him from such Asylum, with a Direction to apply for Relief in the District where he has dwelt, or otherwise as to them may seem fit: Provided always, that, except under a medical Certificate of Sickness, it shall not be lawful for the Officers of any such Asylum to relieve any poor Person for a longer Period continuously in such Asylum than is sufficient to enable his Case to be decided by the District Board or Committee as aforesaid: Provided also, that if any Person received into such Asylum shall wilfully give a false Name, or make a false Statement, or shall be proved to have given Two or more different Names on Two or more different Occasions, when so received into any such Asylum, such Person not having lawfully changed her Name in consequence of Marriage, such Person shall be deemed a Rogue and Vagabond within the Meaning of the said Act passed in the Fifth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for the Punishment of idle and disorderly Persons, and Rogues and Vagabonds, in that Part of the United Kingdom called* England. 5 G. 4. c. 83.

Liabilities of Persons relieved in such Asylums.

LIV. And be it enacted, That every poor Person relieved in any Asylum under the Management of any District Board shall be liable to the same Obligations in respect of the Relief afforded to him as if the same were afforded in any Workhouse, and shall be subject to the same Punishment and Penalties as are provided by an Act passed in the Fifty-fifth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act to prevent poor Persons in Workhouses from embezzling certain Property provided for their Use; to alter and amend so much of an Act of the Thirty-sixth Year of His present Majesty as restrains Justices of the Peace from ordering Relief to poor Persons, in certain Cases, for a longer Period than One Month at a Time; and for other Purposes therein mentioned relating to the Poor*, or under any other Act or Acts, for Refusal or Neglect to work, in pursuance of any Regulations or Directions prescribing a Task of Work, or for wilfully destroying or injuring his own Clothes or any Property, or for absconding with any Clothes or other Articles provided by such District Board, or for damaging any of the Property of such District Board, or for any Misbehaviour in such Asylum, by Disobedience of the Rules and Regulations in force therein, or otherwise, as if he were relieved or set to work in any Workhouse under the 55 G. 3. c. 137.

Control of a Board of Guardians acting under the Orders and Regulations of the said Commissioners in pursuance of the said first-recited Act: Provided always, that nothing in this Act contained shall relieve any Guardian, Overseer, Relieving Officer, or Master of a Workhouse from any Obligation now imposed upon him by Law with regard to the Relief of Cases of sudden and urgent Necessity, or shall prevent the Reception into a Workhouse of any Person labouring under dangerous Illness, or shall authorize the Transfer to an Asylum of any Person received into such Workhouse in a Case of dangerous Illness, unless with the Certificate in Writing of a Medical Man duly licensed to practise, to the Effect that such Person is then in a fit State to be removed, and stating the Manner in which such Person, in the Opinion of such Medical Man, may be safely removed.

Penalty for returning after Removal.

LV. And be it enacted, That if any poor Person return and become chargeable in the Asylum of any District after Removal from any Parish in such District, he shall be deemed to have returned and become chargeable, without any Certificate, to the Parish whence he has been legally removed by Order of Two Justices of the Peace, within the Meaning of the said Act made and passed in the Fifth Year of King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for the Punishment of idle and disorderly Persons, and Rogues and Vagabonds, in that Part of* Great Britain *called* England.

5 G. 4. c. 83.

Workhouse to be deemed to be situate in every Parish of an Union, &c.

LVI. And be it enacted, That, for the Purposes of Relief, Settlement, and Removal of poor Persons, and the Burial of the Poor, the Workhouse of any Union or Parish, and every such District School, shall be considered as situated in the Parish to which each poor Person respectively to be relieved, removed, or buried, or otherwise concerned in any such Purpose, is or has been chargeable: Provided always, that every Birth and Death within any such Workhouse or Building shall be registered in the Parish or Place in which such Workhouse or Building is locally situated; and all Fees for registering Births and Deaths in any such Workhouse or Building shall be charged by the Guardians to the Parish or Union to which the Person dying or the Mother of the Child respectively is chargeable.

Committal of Offenders in Workhouses to the Gaol of the Place to which the Offenders belong.

LVII. And be it enacted, That if any Person be convicted before any Justice or Justices of any Offence committed in any Workhouse, while maintained therein, or of absconding from any Workhouse, and carrying away Clothes or other Property therefrom, and be liable to be committed for such Offence to any Gaol or House of Correction, it shall be lawful for the Justice or Justices before whom such Person is convicted to commit such Person to the Common Gaol or House of Correction of the County or Place in which the Parish is situated to which such Person at the Time of the Commission of the Offence was chargeable, notwithstanding that such Workhouse may not be situated in such County or Place, and notwithstanding that such Justices may not be Justices of such County or Place; and if such Person have not Goods or Money within such County or Place sufficient to bear the Charges of himself and those who convey him, then such Charges shall be defrayed at the Expence of the County,

Place, or Parish, according to the Provisions of an Act passed in the Twenty-seventh Year of the Reign of King *George* the Second, intituled *An Act for the better securing to Constables and others the Expences of conveying Offenders to Gaol; and for allowing the Charges of poor Persons bound to give Evidence against Felons;* provided that in Cases of such Conviction and Committal as aforesaid all further Proceedings in respect thereof may be taken; and the Costs and Charges of such Proceedings, and for the Maintenance of such Offender in such Gaol or House of Correction, shall be payable in like Manner and under the like Authority as such Proceedings would have been taken, or as such Costs and Charges would have been payable, in case the Offence had been committed within the Parish or Place to which such Offender was chargeable at the Time when he committed such Offence. 27 G. 2. c. 3.

Punishment of Persons in Workhouses for Misconduct.

LVIII. And whereas by the said Act passed in the Fifty-fifth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, it is enacted, that if any Person or Persons shall desert or run away from any Workhouse or Workhouses, and carry away with him, her, or them any Clothes, Linen, or other Goods as aforesaid, such Person or Persons, being thereof lawfully convicted, either by the Confession of such Party or Parties, or by the Oath or Oaths of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, before any Justice or Justices of the Peace, shall by such Justice or Justices of the Peace be forthwith committed to the Common Gaol or House of Correction, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for the Space of Three Calendar Months; and it is further enacted, that in case any Person or Persons maintained in any public Workhouse or Workhouses established for the Relief, Maintenance, and Employment of the Poor shall refuse to work at any Work, Occupation, or Employment suited to his, her, or their Age, Strength, and Capacity, or shall be guilty of Drunkenness or other Misbehaviour, every such Person or Persons, being thereof lawfully convicted before any Justice or Justices of the Peace, shall thereupon by such Justice or Justices of the Peace be committed to the Common Gaol or House of Correction, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for any Period of Time not exceeding Twenty-one Days, and during such Time to be kept to hard Labour: And whereas it is desirable that Justices of the Peace should have a Power to commit such Persons as are first mentioned for a Period less than Three Months, and such Persons as are last mentioned for a Period greater than Twenty-one Days, in Cases of repeated Offences; be it therefore enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Justice or Justices to commit any such Person as is first mentioned to the Common Gaol or House of Correction, to be kept there in the Manner provided by the said recited Act for any Period not less than Seven Days nor greater than Three Months, and to commit any such Persons as are last mentioned, in case such Persons have been before convicted of a like Offence, to the Common Gaol or House of Correction, in manner provided by the said Act, for any Period not exceeding Forty-two Days.

Costs of certain Civil and Criminal Proceedings

LIX. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Board of Guardians or District Board to pay out of the Funds in their Hands the reasonable Costs of the Apprehension and of the Prosecution of any

to be paid out of Poor Rates.

any Person who, according to the Laws in force at the Time being, is charged with refusing or neglecting to maintain himself or his Family, or with running away and leaving his Family chargeable, or whereby such Family has become chargeable, or with wilfully neglecting or disobeying the Rules, Orders, and Regulations of the Poor Law Commissioners, or with any Offence or Misbehaviour in any Workhouse, or with deserting or running away from any Workhouse, and carrying away Clothes, Linen, or other Goods or Things belonging to any Workhouse, or given or procured or provided as or for Relief, or with Neglect or Disobedience of the reasonable and lawful Orders of Justices or Guardians, or of any District Board, in the Administration of the Laws relating to the Relief of the Poor, or with obstructing or assaulting any Officer engaged in the Administration of the Laws for Relief of the Poor, or with fraudulently obtaining, stealing, purloining, embezzling, wasting, or injuring, or wilfully misapplying, any Property applicable to or connected with the Relief of the Poor, or with any Offence directly affecting the Administration of the Laws for the Relief of the Poor, and the reasonable Costs of apprehending and prosecuting any Officer who may have been employed in the Administration of the Laws for the Relief of the Poor, for any Neglect or Breach of any Duty of his Office, or for any Maltreatment or Abuse of any poor Person; and, subject to the Approval of the said Commissioners, every Board of Guardians or District Board shall pay the Costs of all legal Proceedings taken by any Auditor, or under his Direction, for the Protection of the Poor Rates or Property of any Parish, Union, or District, or taken by any other Person whom the Board of Guardians or District Board have authorized or directed to institute such Prosecution or legal Proceedings; and to the Extent to which any such Costs may not be repaid by the offending or other Party, or from the County, Liberty, or Borough Rates, the Guardians of any Union then may, in any of the Cases aforesaid, having due Regard to the Circumstances of the Case, and subject to the Approval of the Poor Law Commissioners, charge such Expences, either to the common Funds of the Union, or to any Parish or Parishes comprised therein; and the District Board of any District may, having like Regard to the Circumstances of the Case, and subject to the like Approval of the Poor Law Commissioners, charge such Expences, either to the Funds of the whole of such District, or on any One or more of the Unions and Parishes comprised therein.

Expences of Jury Lists and Boundaries of Parishes may be paid out of Poor Rates. 6 G. 4. c. 50.

LX. And be it enacted, That the Costs, Charges, and Expences properly incurred by the Officers of the Parish in making out, preparing, printing, and collecting the Lists of Persons qualified to serve on Juries, according to the Provisions of the Act in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His Majesty King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for consolidating and amending the Laws relative to Jurors and Juries*, and relating thereto, shall be paid and allowed to them out of the Poor Rates of the Parish, together also with all Expences properly incurred by the same Officers on the Perambulation of the Parish, and in setting up and keeping in proper Repair the Boundary Stones of the Parish, provided that such Perambulations do not arise more than Once in every Three Years.

LXI. And

Collectors appointed by Guardians may be appointed to perform the Duties of Assistant Overseers. 2 & 3 Vict. c. 84.

LXI. And whereas by an Act passed in the Third Year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen *Victoria*, intituled *An Act to amend the Laws relating to the Assessment and Collection of Rates for the Relief of the Poor*, it was amongst other things enacted, "that all Orders heretofore made and issued under the Hands and Seals of the Poor Law Commissioners, and not rescinded by them or quashed before the Sixth Day of *May* in the present Year, by which the said Commissioners may have directed the Overseers or Guardians of any Parish or Union to appoint any Person to collect the Rates for the Relief of the Poor in any Parish or Parishes, or shall have defined or specified or directed the Execution of the Duties of such Person, or the Places or Limits within which the same shall be performed, or shall have directed the Mode of Appointment, or determined the Continuance in Office or Dismissal of any such Person from his Office, or the Amount or Nature of the Security to be given by any such Person, or shall have regulated the Amount of Salary payable to any such Person, or the Time or Mode or the Proportions of Payment thereof, shall be deemed and the same are hereby declared to have the same Force and Validity as if the same had been warranted by an Act passed in the Fourth and Fifth Years of the Reign of His late Majesty King *William* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for the Amendment and better Administration of the Laws for the Relief of the Poor*; and the Commissioners shall have the same Powers and Authorities with respect to all such Orders, and to the Persons appointed in pursuance thereof, as they have with respect to Orders made and issued, and the paid Officers appointed, under the Provisions of the said Act; and that every Person appointed by Guardians of the Poor under any such Order of the said Commissioners shall have the like Powers, Authorities, Privileges, Immunities, Protections, and Remedies, in and for the Performance of his Duty under such Order, as are by Law given to Overseers of the Poor in the Performance of the like Duty;" and it is expedient that such Collectors should in certain Cases be invested with other of the Duties of Overseers of the Poor; be it enacted, That the Inhabitants in Vestry assembled of any Parish situated within the District for which any Collector or Assistant Overseer appointed under any Order of the said Commissioners now acts may appoint such Collector or Assistant Overseer to discharge all the Duties of an Overseer of the Poor, in addition to those of Collector of Poor Rates for such Parish, and in the same Manner as if he were appointed thereto as an Assistant Overseer under the Provisions of an Act passed in the Fifty-ninth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act to amend the Laws for the Relief of the Poor*; and wherever any such Collector or Assistant Overseer has been or may be appointed under any Order of the said Commissioners, and whilst the said Order remains in force, the Powers of any Vestry or Parish Officers, or of any other Persons, other than the Board of Guardians of such Parish or Union (if a Board of Guardians have been constituted), to appoint any Collector or Assistant Overseer, and (if so directed by the said Commissioners) every Appointment under such Powers shall cease: Provided always, that where the Appointment of such Assistant Overseer shall have been made under the Powers of any Local Act of Parliament of a Parish containing more than

4 & 5 W. 4. c. 76.

59 G. 3. c. 12.

Twenty thousand Persons such Appointment shall continue, and the Powers of such Local Act, as to any future Appointment of an Assistant Overseer, shall be exercised, but subject always to the Powers of the Poor Law Commissioners, notwithstanding the Provisions of this Act: Provided always, that no Overseer shall be discharged by the Appointment of any such Collector or Assistant Overseer from his Responsibility for the Provision and Supply of Monies necessary for the Relief of the Poor, or for any of the Purposes to which the Rates made for the Relief of the Poor may be by Law applicable; and every Collector appointed or to be hereafter appointed as aforesaid, and every Assistant Overseer appointed or hereafter to be appointed, in pursuance of the said Act of the Fifty-ninth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, or of the Orders of the said Commissioners, shall, subject to the Rules of the Poor Law Commissioners, obey, in all Matters relating to the Duties of Overseer, all Directions of the Majority of the Overseers of the Parish for which he acts; and the said Commissioners shall have the same Powers with respect to all Collectors or Assistant Overseers as are given to them by the said first-recited Act with respect to paid Officers; and every Collector or Assistant Overseer appointed as aforesaid shall be bound to give to the Board of Guardians of the Parish or Union, or if there be no such Board of Guardians then to the Overseers of the Parish for which such Collector or Assistant Overseer may act, sufficient Security for the due Performance of his Duties; and no Bond or any other Security entered into in pursuance of this Act, or of the said Act of the Fifty-ninth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, shall be charged or chargeable with, or be deemed to be or to have been subject or liable to, any Stamp Duty whatsoever; and wherever any Parish for which such Collector or Assistant Overseer may be appointed is situated in an Union, or is governed by a Board of Guardians, every Bond or Security given by any Officer, in pursuance of this Act, or of the said Act of the Fifty-ninth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, or of the said first-recited Act, and not contrary to the Rules of the said Commissioners, shall, if the Guardians shall see fit, be put in Suit by the Board of Guardians of the Union in which the Parish or District for which the Officer acts or has acted may be situated, notwithstanding that such Bond or Security may have been originally given to the Overseers of a Parish, or to any other Persons; and every Bond or Security given by or on account of any Officer appointed by any Board of Guardians, for the due Performance of the Office to which he is so appointed, shall remain in full Force and Effect, notwithstanding any Change in District for which such Officer may have been appointed or required to act at the Time when such Bond or Security was given, or the Addition of any Parish to or the Separation of any Parish from such Union since the giving of such Security.

Poor Law Commissioners, on Application of Board of Guardians, may direct

LXII. And be it enacted, That if the Board of Guardians of any Parish or Union make Application to the said Commissioners to direct the Appointment of a paid Collector of the Poor Rates in such Parish or Union, or in any Parish or Parishes of such Union, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, by Order under their Hands and Seal, to direct the said Board of Guardians to appoint such a Collector;

lector; and the said Commissioners shall have the same Powers with respect to such Collectors as are given to them by the said first-recited Act with respect to paid Officers; and all Powers of the Inhabitants of any Parish in Vestry assembled, or of Justices of the Peace, or of any Persons, other than the Board of Guardians of such Parish or Union, to appoint any Collector for any such Parish as aforesaid, and (except when otherwise directed by the said Commissioners) all Appointments under such Powers, shall cease. Appointment of paid Collector of Poor Rates.

LXIII. And be it enacted, That if the Overseers of any Parish wilfully neglect to make or collect sufficient Rates for the Relief of the Poor, or to pay such Monies to the Guardians of any Parish or Union as such Guardians may require, and if by reason of such Neglect any Relief directed by the Board of Guardians to be given to any poor Person be delayed or withheld during a Period of Seven Days, every such Overseer shall upon Conviction thereof forfeit and pay for every such Offence any Sum not exceeding Twenty Pounds. Penalty on Overseers neglecting to obtain a Supply of Funds for the Relief of the Poor.

LXIV. And be it enacted, That the Guardians of every Parish or Union acting under any Local Act for the Relief of the Poor shall hold their Meetings once in every Fortnight, or oftener, and in all Matters concerning the Relief of the Poor shall act as a Board at a Meeting, and not individually; and whenever under any such Local Act there is no Person particularly designated or authorized to act as Chairman, such Guardians shall elect and appoint annually, and from Time to Time as Vacancies may occur, a Chairman and Vice Chairman of such Board, and shall at any Meeting at which no Chairman or Vice Chairman is present elect a temporary Chairman to preside at that Meeting: Provided always, that when the Relief of the Poor has been hitherto administered in any Parish by Guardians appointed under a Local Act, and not by Overseers of the Poor, if such Parish, according to the last Enumeration of the Population published by Authority of Parliament, contain more than Twenty thousand Persons, it shall not be lawful for the said Commissioners, after the passing of this Act, without the Consent in Writing of Two Thirds at least of such Guardians, to declare such Parish to be united with any other Parish for the Administration of the Laws for the Relief of the Poor, any thing in the said first-recited Act to the contrary notwithstanding; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall prevent the said Commissioners from including any such last-mentioned Parish in a District for providing and managing an Asylum for the temporary Relief of and setting to work of destitute houseless Poor, or from including such Parish in a District for the Audit of Accounts, under the Provisions of this Act, except as herein-after enacted. In what Manner Guardians under Local Acts shall conduct their Proceedings. Parishes under Local Acts, with a Population exceeding 20,000, not to be united without Consent of Guardians. Exception as to Vagrant and Audit Districts.

LXV. Provided always, and be it enacted, That where any Parish which is not governed by a Board of Guardians constituted under the said first-recited Act, or comprised in any Union, but is governed by Guardians or Directors under a Local Act, and contains a Population exceeding Twenty thousand Persons, according to the last Enumeration of the Population published by the Authority of Parliament, have before the First Day of *January* in this present Year adopted Parishes, with a Population exceeding 20,000, under Local Acts, having adopted the Provisions of

1 & 2 W. 4. c. 60., and Parishes in the Metropolitan District having Auditors, not to be included in any District for Audit of Accounts.

adopted and acted upon the Provisions of an Act passed in the Second Year of the Reign of King *William* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for the better Regulation of Vestries, and for the Appointment of Auditors of Accounts, in certain Parishes of* England *and* Wales, and that where any Two or more Parishes situated within the District of the Metropolitan Police, containing together a Population exceeding Twenty thousand, according to the last Enumeration of the Population published by the Authority of Parliament, have been united for the Purposes of Rating or Settlement under the Provisions of any Local Act, and are governed by Guardians or Directors under such Local Act, and have not been comprised in any Union formed under the Provisions of the said first-recited Act, and have an Auditor or Auditors appointed and acting under any Provisions of such Local Act relating to the Audit of Accounts in such Parishes, it shall not be lawful to include such Parish or such Two or more Parishes respectively in any such District for the Audit of Accounts: Provided always, that it shall be lawful for any Assistant Poor Law Commissioner to be present at any Audit as if the same were a Meeting of a Board of Guardians or Vestry, and to inspect, examine, and take Copies or Extracts from any Books, Accounts, or Vouchers produced at such Audit.

Proviso.

Commissioners may separate Parishes from Unions, or add Parishes to Unions, without the Consent of the Guardians of the Union.

LXVI. And whereas it is provided by the said first-recited Act that the said Commissioners may, from Time to Time as they may see fit, by Order under their Hands and Seal, declare any Union not united for the Purposes of Settlement or Rating to be dissolved, or any Parish or Parishes to be separated from or added to any such Union, and that such Union shall thereupon be dissolved, or such Parish or Parishes shall thereupon be separated from or added to such Union accordingly; and it is thereby further provided that no such Dissolution, Alteration, or Addition shall take place or be made unless a Majority of not less than Two Thirds of the Guardians of such Union concur therein; and it is expedient to enable the said Commissioners to separate any Parish or Parishes from any Union, or to add any Parish or Parishes to any Union, without the Concurrence of the Guardians of such Union respectively; be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners to exercise the Powers given to them by the said Act for the separating of any Parish or Parishes from any Union formed under the Provisions of the said Act, or for the Addition of any Parish or Parishes to any such Union, without the Concurrence of the Guardians of such Union respectively in such Separation or Addition; and the said Commissioners may, if they see fit, cause a Board of Guardians to be elected under the Provisions of the said Act for any single Parish separated from any Union in pursuance hereof, notwithstanding the Provisions of any Local Act in force in such Parish.

Repeal of 55 G. 3. c. 137. s. 7. as to Notices of Contracts for supplying Workhouses,

LXVII. And be it enacted, That so much of an Act passed in the Fifty-fifth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act to prevent poor Persons in Workhouses from embezzling certain Property provided for their Use; to alter and amend so much of an Act of the Thirty-sixth Year of His present Majesty as restrains Justices of the Peace from ordering Relief to*

poor Persons in certain Cases for a longer Period than One Month at a Time; and for other Purposes therein mentioned relating to the Poor, as relates to the giving of Notice of the Intention to enter into Contracts relating to the Relief of the Poor, shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

Clerks and Officers may conduct Proceedings before Justices at Petty Sessions on behalf of Boards of Guardians, although not certified Attornies.

LXVIII. And be it enacted, That, notwithstanding any thing contained in an Act passed in the Seventh Year of the Reign of Her Majesty, intituled *An Act for consolidating and amending several of the Laws relating to Attornies and Solicitors practising in* England *and* Wales, it shall be lawful for any Clerk or other Officer to any Board of Guardians constituted under the said first-recited Act or under any Local Act, or to any District Board, if duly empowered by such Board, to make or resist any Application, Claim, or Complaint, or to take and conduct any Proceedings on behalf of such Board before any Justice or Justices of the Peace at Petty or Special Sessions or out of Sessions, although such Clerk or Officer be not an Attorney or Solicitor, or have not obtained a stamped Certificate in pursuance of the Provisions of the said Act.

Guardians, &c. may make a certain Certificate, which may be received in Evidence, &c.

LXIX. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Board of Guardians or District Board, at any Meeting thereof, to make a Certificate in the Form or to the Effect contained in the Schedule of this Act marked (C.), and that every such Certificate, and every Copy of a Minute of any Order, Complaint, Claim, Application, or Authority of any such Board of Guardians or District Board, purporting respectively to be signed by the presiding Chairman of such Guardians or District Board, and to be sealed with their Seal, and to be countersigned by their Clerk, shall, unless the contrary be shown, be taken to be sufficient Proof of the Truth of all the Statements contained in such Certificate, and of the Directions respecting such Order, Complaint, Claim, or Application having been given as alleged in the Copy of such Minute, and shall be received in Evidence accordingly by and before all Courts of Justice and all Justices, without any Proof of the Signatures or of the official Characters of the Persons signing the same, or of such Seal, or of such Meeting; and that for the Purpose of making any Order of Removal or other Order no further or other Evidence of Chargeability than such Certificate shall be required, provided that every such Order bear Date within Twenty-one Days next after the Day of the Date of such Certificate.

Justices at Petty Sessions, or out of Sessions, may summon Witnesses, and compel them to attend and give Evidence.

LXX. And be it enacted, That in any Proceedings to be had before Justices in Petty or Special Sessions, or out of Sessions, under the Provisions of this Act or of any of the Acts required to be construed as one Act herewith, if any Party to such Proceedings request that any Person be summoned to appear as a Witness in such Proceedings, it shall be lawful for any Justice to summon such Person to appear and give Evidence upon the Matter of such Proceedings; and if any Person so summoned neglect or refuse to appear to give Evidence at the Time and Place appointed in such Summons, and if Proof upon Oath be given of personal Service of the Summons upon such Person, and that the reasonable Expences of Attendance were paid or tendered to such Person, it shall be lawful for such Justice,

by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to require such Person to be brought before him, or any Justices before whom such Proceedings are to be had; and if any Person coming or brought before any such Justices in any such Proceedings refuse to give Evidence thereon, it shall be lawful for such Justices to commit such Person to any House of Correction within their Jurisdiction, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for any Time not exceeding Fourteen Days, or until such Person shall sooner submit himself to be examined, and in case of such Submission the Order of any such Justice shall be a sufficient Warrant for the Discharge of such Person.

Rules &c. printed by the Printer authorized by Her Majesty to be received in Evidence.

LXXI. And whereas it is provided by the said first-recited Act that all Rules, Orders, and Regulations made by the said Commissioners under the Authority of the said Act shall be as valid and binding, and shall be obeyed and observed, as if the same were specifically made by and embodied in the said Act; but no sufficient Provision is made for bringing such Orders to the Knowledge of Courts of Justice; be it therefore enacted, That any Copy of any such Rule, Order, or Regulation, printed by the Printer duly authorized by Her Majesty or any of Her Royal Predecessors or Successors, shall, after the Lapse of Fourteen Days from the Date thereof, be received in Evidence, and judicially taken notice of, and shall, until the contrary be shown, be deemed sufficient Proof that such Order was duly made, and is in force.

Evidence in legal Proceedings of the Transmission of the Commissioners Rules, &c.

LXXII. And whereas it is provided by the said first-recited Act that a written or printed Copy of every Rule, Order, or Regulation of the said Commissioners shall, before the same shall come into operation in any Parish or Union, be sent by the said Commissioners by the Post, or in such Manner as the Commissioners shall think fit, sealed or stamped with their Seal, addressed to the Overseers of such Parish, the Guardians of such Union, or their Clerk, and to the Clerk to the Justices of the Petty Sessions held for the Division in which such Parish or Union shall be situate: And whereas the Proof of such sending is often attended with great Expence and Difficulty; be it enacted, That it shall not in any civil or criminal Proceeding be necessary to prove such sending, except to the Clerk to the Guardians of the Union or of the Parish, or, where there shall be no Guardians, to the Overseers of the Parish within which such Rule, Order, or Regulation is intended to have Effect; and that it shall in no Case be necessary to prove such sending, unless reasonable Notice in Writing be given, by the Party requiring such Proof, to the Party upon whom such Proof would lie, that such Proof will be required; and whenever it is proved to the Satisfaction of the Court that the said Rule, Order, or Regulation was sent, and that the Party was cognizant thereof, such Court shall order the reasonable Expences of the Witness or Witnesses proving the same to be paid by the Party who has given such Notice, and such Expences shall be recoverable as Penalties and Forfeitures under the first-recited Act.

Conveyances, &c. for Workhouses to

LXXIII. And be it enacted, That in all Cases where any Messuages, Lands, or Hereditaments, or any Estates or Interest therein, have or hath been conveyed or assured, or purported to be conveyed or

assured, either gratuitously or for valuable Consideration, to or in trust for the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the Overseers only, or the Guardians of any Parish or Parishes respectively, or otherwise for the Benefit of any Parish or Parishes respectively, or to or in trust for the Guardians of any Union, for the Purpose of providing a Workhouse or Asylum, or Workhouses or Asylums, for the Accommodation of the Poor of such Parish or Parishes or Union respectively, every such Conveyance or Assurance shall be deemed good and valid for all Purposes whatsoever, notwithstanding that such Conveyance or Conveyances have not been enrolled pursuant to the Statute passed in the Ninth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled *An Act to restrain the Disposition of Lands whereby the same became inalienable.*

be good, although not enrolled. 9 G. 2. c. 36.

LXXIV. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be construed in the same Manner as the Act passed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act to continue until the Thirty-first Day of* July *One thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, and to the End of the then next Session of Parliament, the Poor Law Commission; and for the further Amendment of the Laws relating to the Poor in* England, and as one Act with the same, and with the Acts and Provisions thereby required to be construed as one Act; and the Word "Month" shall be taken to mean Calendar Month; and the Words "Clerk of the Peace" shall be taken to mean the Clerk of the Peace or other Officer discharging any of the Duties of Clerk of the Peace for any County, Division of a County, Riding, Borough, Liberty, Division of a Liberty, Precinct, County of a City, City, County of a Town, Town, Cinque Port, or Town Corporate; and the Words "licensed Minister" in the said first-recited Act, and "Minister," in this Act, shall be construed to mean and include every Person in Holy Orders, and also every Person teaching or preaching in any Congregation for religious Worship whose Place of Meeting is certified and recorded according to Law; and, except where it is otherwise expressly provided, all Provisions in any Act now passed or hereafter to be passed, relating to the Officers of Boards of Guardians constituted under the Provisions of the said first-recited Act, or to the Workhouses under the Management of such Guardians, shall apply to all Officers appointed by any District Board, and to all Workhouses under the Management of any District Board.

Construction of Act. 5 & 6 Vict. c. 57.

LXXV. And be it enacted, That this Act shall extend only to *England* and *Wales*.

Act limited to England and Wales.

LXXVI. And be it enacted, That this Act shall come into operation on the Day next after that on which Her Majesty gives Her Assent thereto.

When Act to operate.

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

Act may be amended this Session.

SCHE-

SCHEDULES referred to in the foregoing Act.

SCHEDULE (A.)

County
Division

Name of Mother of Bastard applying.	Date of Issue of Summons.	Date of Petty Sessions.	Result of the Application.	Name of the putative Father in all Cases in which Orders are made.
			[Here state if the Summons was never served, or if the alleged Father absconded, or the Complaint was abandoned or heard, and the Order refused, or, if made, the Amount of the Order.]	

I certify the above List to be correct in all Particulars.
(Signed) *A.B.*, Clerk to the Justices.

SCHEDULE (B.)

City, Towns, and Boroughs.

LIVERPOOL.
MANCHESTER.
BRISTOL.
LEEDS.
BIRMINGHAM.

SCHEDULE (C.)

The Board of Guardians of the Poor of the Union [*or* Parish of] do hereby certify, That on the Day of *A.B.* and his Wife *C.B.*, and his Child *E.B.*, became chargeable to the Parish of in the said Union [*or* to the said Union].

In testimony whereof the Common Seal of the said Guardians is hereunto affixed at a Meeting of their Board this Day of 18 .

(L.S.) (Signed) *W.J.*, Presiding Chairman of the said Board.
(Countersigned) *C.D.*, Clerk [*or* acting as Clerk] to the Board of Guardians of .

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