ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

****

Cap. 83.

An Act for better lighting, watching, cleansing, and repairing the Highways, and otherwise improving the Hamlet of *Ratcliff* in the County of *Middlesex*, and for repealing an Act of the Twenty-ninth Year of His late Majesty relative thereto, and for the better Relief and Maintenance of the Poor of the said Hamlet. [18th *May* 1810.]

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Twenty-ninth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled *An Act for regulating the nightly Watch and Beadles, and better enlightening, paving, and cleansing the Streets and other Passages, and repairing the Highways, within the Parishes of* Saint John Wapping, Saint Paul Shadwell, *the Hamlet of* Ratcliff, *the Parish of* Saint Anne *in the County of* Middlesex, *and the Precinct of* Well Close *in the Liberty of the Tower of* London, certain Persons were appointed Trustees for the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*, and certain Powers were 29 G. 2. c. 87.

thereby given and granted to such Trustees and their Successors, for the Purposes of watching, lighting, paving, cleansing, and repairing the Highways, and otherwise improving of the said Hamlet: And whereas the said Trustees have proceeded in the Execution of the Powers of the said recited Act, to the great Benefit of the said Hamlet, but such Powers, so far as regard the same Hamlet, are found to be inadequate to the several Purposes thereby intended, and therefore it is expedient that such Powers should be altered, amended, and enlarged; and it would tend greatly to facilitate the Execution of the Purposes intended to be provided for by the said recited Act if the same were repealed, so far as regard the said Hamlet, and further and better Provisions made for those Purposes; and it would tend materially to the Benefit of the said Hamlet if Powers were given for the well-governing, maintaining, and employing the Poor thereof: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this Act the said recited Act, and all and every the Powers, Provisoes, Clauses, Matters, and Things therein contained, so far as the same regard the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*, shall be and the same are hereby repealed and made void to all Intents and Purposes whatever.

Recited Act repealed, as to the Hamlet of Ratcliff.

Appointment of Trustees.

II. And be it further enacted, That the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff* for the Time being, and *Richard Barrett*, *Samuel Billingay*, *Thomas Backham*, *Matthew Easum*, *William Hickson*, *Thomas Hall*, *John Harkness*, *James Richard Hardy*, *William Whittle Johnson*, *Richard Jolly*, *Joseph Kain*, *Joseph Longbottom*, *Johann Julius Lindner*, *John Otter*, *John Paulin*, *Jeremiah Snow*, *Archibald Stewart*, *Francis Whetstone*, *Matthew Warton*, *Samuel Weetch*, and *William Yellowley*, and their Successors, to be nominated and appointed in manner hereafter mentioned, shall be and they are hereby appointed Trustees for carrying this Act into Execution.

Election of future Trustees.

III. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Churchwarden and Overseers of the Poor for the Time being, and the said Trustees, and they are hereby authorized and required, within Fourteen Days next preceding *Easter Monday* One thousand eight hundred and eleven, and within Fourteen Days next preceding every subsequent *Easter Monday*, to meet in the Committee Room of the said Hamlet, and proceed to nominate Twenty-four substantial Householders of the said Hamlet, out of which the said Churchwarden and Overseers of the Poor, and Trustees, and the other Inhabitants of the said Hamlet, or the major Part of such of them as shall be so assembled, shall on *Easter Monday* (in the same Manner as other Parish Officers are nominated and chosen within the said Hamlet) elect Twelve Trustees, who, together with the Churchwarden and Overseers of the Poor for the Time being, shall be the Trustees for putting this Act in execution for One Year from the Twenty-fourth Day of *June* then next ensuing.

Qualification of Trustees.

IV. And be it further enacted, That no Person, except the Churchwarden and Overseers of the Poor of the said Hamlet for the Time being, shall be qualified to act as a Trustee in the Execution of this Act, unless he

he shall at the Time of acting be a Householder in the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*, and be seised and possessed in his own Right, or in the Right of his Wife, of Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, and shall be in the actual Receipt of the Rents or Profits thereof, within the said Hamlet, of the clear yearly Value of Forty Pounds, and assessed to the Poor Rates of the said Hamlet at the Rate of Twenty Pounds *per Annum*; or unless he shall be a Tenant or Occupier of Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments within the said Hamlet assessed to the Rates at the like Rent of Twenty Pounds *per Annum* or upwards, and also shall be possessed of a Real or Personal Estate to the Amount or Value of Five hundred Pounds, over and above what shall be sufficient to satisfy and discharge his just Debts; and if any Person, not being qualified as aforesaid, shall presume to act in the Execution of this Act, every such Person for every such Offence shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds, together with full Costs of Suit, to any Person or Persons, being a Householder in the said Hamlet, and duly assessed to the Poor Rates therein, who shall sue for the same, to be recovered in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, by Action of Debt or on the Case, or by Bill, Plaint, or Information, wherein no Essoin, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance, shall be allowed; but no such Action, Bill, Plaint, or Information shall be brought or prosecuted, unless One Calendar Month's Notice thereof shall have been given to the Defendant or Defendants, or left at his or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, signed by the Attorney for the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Prosecutor or Prosecutors, specifying the Cause thereof; and in every such Action, Bill, Plaint, or Information, the Proof of such Qualification shall be on the Defendant, and it shall be sufficient for the Plaintiff or Prosecutor to prove the Delivery of such Notice, and that he or she is a Householder in the said Hamlet, and duly assessed as aforesaid, and that the Person so sued or prosecuted had acted as a Trustee in the Execution of this Act: Provided nevertheless, that all Acts and Proceedings of all and every Person and Persons acting as a Trustee in the Execution of this Act, though not duly qualified as aforesaid, previous to his or their being convicted of such Offence, shall, notwithstanding such Conviction, be as valid and effectual as if such Person or Persons had been duly qualified according to the Directions of this Act.

No Trustees to act while in Office or under Contract.

V. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Trustee hereby appointed, or hereafter to be appointed as aforesaid, shall be capable of acting or voting as such during the Time he shall enjoy any Office or Profit under the said Trustees, or be concerned in any Contract made by virtue of this Act; and that at all Meetings to be holden in pursuance of this Act the Trustees shall defray their own Expences: Provided always, that it shall and may be lawful to and for such of the said Trustees as shall be in the Commission of the Peace to act as Justices in the Execution of this Act, within their several and respective Jurisdictions, notwithstanding their being Trustees.

Meetings of Trustees without Notice.

VI. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall meet and assemble in the Committee Room in the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*, upon the Second *Tuesday* next after the passing of this Act, at Five of the Clock in the Afternoon, in order to put this Act into Execution; and shall afterwards meet at the same Room on the *Tuesday* in every Week at the same Hour, for

for the Purpose of carrying this Act into Execution, without any Notice being given to the said Trustees of such Meeting.

Trustees may adjourn Meeting on giving Notice.

VII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Trustees, or any Five or more of them, to adjourn for any longer or shorter Space of Time than the *Tuesday* immediately subsequent to the last Meeting, or to any other Place or Places within the said Hamlet than the said Committee Room, but then and in any such Case Notice of such Adjournment in Writing (or printed), to which Notice the Name of the Clerk to the said Trustees shall be affixed, shall be given to or left for the said Trustees, at their respective Places of Abode, One Day at least before such Meeting.

No Act valid unless at a Meeting.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That no Act of the said Trustees shall be or be deemed to be good or valid unless made and done at a Meeting to be holden as aforesaid by virtue of this Act (except as may be herein excepted), and all the Powers and Authorities by this Act granted to or vested in the said Trustees shall from Time to Time be exercised by the major Part of them present at any such Meeting, the Number present at such Meeting not being less than Five (except in such Cases where a greater or less Number is herein particularly mentioned), and all the Orders and Proceedings of the major Part of such Trustees present at such Meeting shall have the same Force and Effect as if the same were made or done by all the said Trustees for the Time being; and at every such Meeting one of the Trustees, to be appointed by a Majority of Trustees present, shall be Chairman; and in all Cases the said Trustees shall vote by Ballot, in case the same shall be desired by any Three or more of the Trustees then present, and in case of an equal Number of Votes upon any Question, including that of the Chairman, such Chairman shall have the decisive or casting Vote; and no Order made by the said Trustees at any Meeting shall be revoked, unless at a subsequent Meeting where Seven Trustees at least shall attend.

Proceedings to be entered.

IX. And be it further enacted, That there shall be provided and kept a proper Book or Books, in which fair and regular Entries shall be made of all Acts, Orders, and Proceedings relative to the Execution of this Act, and the Names of the Trustees who shall be present at the respective Meetings to be holden in pursuance of this Act; and such Entries, being signed by the Chairman of each respective Meeting, or by the Clerk to the said Trustees, shall be deemed Originals, and shall be allowed to be read in Evidence, in all Courts whatsoever, in all Cases, Suits, and Actions, touching or concerning any thing done in pursuance of this Act; and such Book or Books shall at all the Meetings of the said Trustees be open and liable to their Inspection, and to the Inspection, at all convenient Times, of all Persons affected by this Act, without Fee or Reward.

Officers appointed by former Act to continue until removed.

X. And be it further enacted, That each and every Collector of the Rates, Clerk, Beadle, and other Officer and Servant nominated and appointed by virtue of the said recited Act, so far as regards the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*, shall hold and enjoy their several respective Offices and Employments, together with the several and respective Salaries, Gratuities, and Allowances thereunto annexed, until he or they shall be removed therefrom respectively by the Trustees acting by virtue of this Act; and every

every such Collector, Clerk, Beadle, and other Officer and Servant shall be subject to the like Pains and Penalties and Power of Removal, and to the like Rules and Regulations, as if he or they had been nominated or appointed by virtue of this Act.

Appointment of Officers.

XI. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and may from Time to Time, whenever they shall think necessary, by Writing under their Hands appoint and employ a Treasurer and Clerk, Collector or Collectors of the Rates and Assessments herein mentioned, and also a Surveyor or Surveyors, and a Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, Beadle or Beadles, and such other Officer and Officers, Person and Persons, for the Execution of this Act, as they the said Trustees shall think proper, and from Time to Time remove them or any of them, and in like Manner appoint others in the Room of those removed, and out of the Money to be raised by virtue of this Act, pay such Salaries, Wages, or Allowances to the said Officers and other Persons as they the said Trustees shall think reasonable; and the said Trustees shall and they are hereby required to take such Security from such Treasurer, Collector, and other Officers as they the said Trustees shall think reasonable; and all such Officers so to be appointed shall under their Hands (at such Time and Times, and in such Manner as the said Trustees shall direct) deliver up to said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint, true and perfect Accounts in Writing of all Matters and Things committed to their Charge, and of all Money which shall have been received by such Officers and Persons respectively by virtue of this Act, and how much thereof hath been paid and disbursed and for what Purpose, together with the Vouchers for such Payments, and shall pay all such Money as shall remain due from them respectively to the said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint; and all the said Officers so accounting shall upon Oath (which Oath the said Trustees or any One or more of them are hereby empowered and required to administer) verify their said Accounts; and if any such Officer or Person shall refuse or wilfully neglect to make and render, or to verify upon Oath any such Accounts, or to produce or deliver up the Vouchers relating to the same, or to make Payment as aforesaid, or shall refuse or neglect to deliver to the said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint, within Fourteen Days next after being thereunto required by the said Trustees, by Notice in Writing to be given to or left at the last or usual Place of Abode of such Officer or Person, all Books, Papers, and Writings in his or her Custody or Power relating to the Execution of this Act, or to give Satisfaction to the said Trustees respecting the same; then and in every such Case, upon Complaint made by the said Trustees or any Two or more of them, or by any Person or Persons whom they shall appoint for that Purpose, of any such Neglect or Refusal as aforesaid, to any Two or more Justices of the Peace for the County, City, or Place wherein such Officer or Person so neglecting or refusing shall reside or be, such Justices may and they are hereby authorized and required, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to cause the Officer or Person so refusing or neglecting to be brought before them, and upon his or her appearing, or having been summoned and not appearing, or not being to be found after due Endeavour used for that Purpose, to hear and determine the Matter in a summary Way; and if upon the Confession of the Party, or by the Testimony of any credible Witness or Witnesses upon Oath (which Oath such Justices are hereby

Officers to account.

empowered to administer), it shall appear to such Justices that any of the Money which shall have been collected or raised by virtue of this Act shall be in the Hands of such Officer or Person, such Justices may and they are hereby authorized and required, upon Nonpayment thereof, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals to cause such Money to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Officer or Person; and if no Goods or Chattels of such Officer or Person can be found sufficient to answer and satisfy the said Money and the Charges of distraining and selling such Goods and Chattels, or if it shall in manner aforesaid appear to such Justices that such Officer or Person shall have refused or wilfully neglected to render or give such Account, or to verify the same as aforesaid, or to produce the Vouchers relating thereto, or that any Books, Papers, or Writings relative to the Execution of this Act, shall be in the Custody or Power of such Officer or Person, and he or she shall have refused or wilfully neglected to deliver or give Satisfaction respecting the same as aforesaid, then and in any of the Cases aforesaid such Justices shall commit such Offender to the Common Gaol or House of Correction for the City, County, or Place where such Offender be or reside, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until he or she shall have made and given a true and perfect Account and Payment as aforesaid, or until he or she shall have compounded with the said Trustees for such Money, and shall have paid such Composition in such Manner as they shall appoint, (which Composition the said Trustees are hereby empowered to make and receive,) and until he or she shall have delivered up such Books, Papers, and Writings as aforesaid, or have given Satisfaction in respect thereof to the said Trustees; but no such Officer or Person shall be detained or kept in Prison by virtue of this Act for want of sufficient Distress for any longer Space of Time than Six Calendar Months.

For appointing Collector.

XII. And be it further enacted, That if no such special Collector or Collectors shall be appointed as aforesaid, the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor for the Time being, and the said Trustees, shall and they are hereby authorized and required, within Fourteen Days next preceding *Easter Monday*, and within Fourteen Days next preceding every subsequent *Easter Monday*, to meet in the Committee Room of the said Hamlet, and proceed to nominate Four or more substantial Householders of the said Hamlet, out of which the said Churchwarden and Overseers of the Poor and Trustees, and the other Inhabitants of the said Hamlet, or the major Part of such of them as shall be so assembled, shall on *Easter Monday* (in the same Manner as other Parish Officers are nominated and chosen within the said Hamlet) elect Two of the said Inhabitants to be the Collectors, and who are hereby required to collect and gather, quarterly or otherwise, the Rates and Assessments hereby empowered and directed to be made and collected by virtue of this Act for the Purpose of cleansing, lighting, and watching the said Hamlet; and in case any Person or Persons so appointed shall refuse or neglect, within Fourteen Days next after such Appointment and his being served therewith, to take upon himself or themselves the said Office of Collector or Collectors of the said Rates or Assessments, or shall be negligent in the due Execution of his or their Duty, all and every Person or Persons shall for every such Offence and Neglect forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Twenty Pounds.

XIII. Pro-

Persons not to be liable to serve Collector after serving Churchwarden, &c.

XIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Person shall be obliged to serve the Office of Collector who has served the Office of Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, Constable or Collector in the said Hamlet, or has been fined for not serving the same respectively.

Officers acting for the Hamlet of Ratcliff under the Act repealed, to account to the Trustees under this Act.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That all and every Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, and all and every other Person or Persons appointed by virtue of or acting or who have acted in Execution of the said recited Act, so far as regards the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*, who shall have in his or their Custody or Power any Monies collected by virtue of, or any Books, Papers, or Writings relating to the Execution of the said recited Act, so far as regards the same Hamlet, shall, when thereunto required, by Notice in Writing signed by any Five or more of the said Trustees, given to him or them, or left at his or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, within Fourteen Days after the Receipt of such Notice, deliver up to the said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons appointed by them for that Purpose as aforesaid, at the Time and Place to be mentioned in such Notice, all the Monies received by him or them by virtue of the said recited Act, and all the Books, Papers, and Writings relating to the Execution thereof, so far as regards the same Hamlet, and all the Accounts of the several Monies received or disbursed by him or them, together with the Vouchers relating thereto; and if any such Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, or other Person shall refuse or wilfully neglect to make and render such Accounts, or to produce and deliver up the Vouchers relating thereto, or to make Payment as aforesaid, or shall refuse or wilfully neglect to deliver up in manner aforesaid all Books, Papers, and Writings relating to the Execution of the said recited Act, so far as regards the said Hamlet, or give Satisfaction to the said Trustees in respect of the same, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for any Two or more Justices of the Peace for the County, City, or Place wherein such Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, or other Person so refusing or neglecting shall be or reside, upon Complaint made to them by the said Trustees, or by any Two or more of them, or by such Person or Persons as they shall appoint for that Purpose, to issue a Warrant under their Hands and Seals to cause the Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, or other Person so refusing or neglecting to appear before them, and upon his or their appearing, or having been summoned and not appearing, or not being to be found after due Endeavour used for that Purpose, to hear and determine the Matter in a summary Way; and if upon the Confession of the Party, or by the Testimony of any credible Witness or Witnesses upon Oath (which Oath such Justices are hereby empowered to administer), it shall appear to such Justices that any of the Monies that shall have been collected or received by virtue of the said recited Act, so far as regards the said Hamlet, shall be due from such Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, or other Person, such Justices may and they are hereby authorized and required, upon Nonpayment thereof, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals to cause such Money to be raised by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, or other Person as aforesaid; and if no Goods and Chattels of such Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, or other Person can be found sufficient to answer and satisfy the said Money, and the Charges of distraining and selling such Goods and Chattels, or if it shall appear to such Justices

Justices that such Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, or other Person shall have refused or wilfully neglected to render and give such Account, or to produce the Vouchers relating thereto, or that any Books, Papers, or Writings relating to the Execution of the said recited Act, so far as regards the said Hamlet, shall be in the Custody or Power of such Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, or other Person, and he or they shall have refused or wilfully neglected to deliver or give Satisfaction respecting the same as aforesaid, then and in each and every such Case such Justices shall commit such Offender to the Common Gaol or House of Correction of the County, City, or Place where such Offender shall be or reside, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until he or they shall give and make a true and perfect Account and Payment as aforesaid, or until he or they shall have compounded with the said Trustees for such Money, and shall have paid such Composition in such Manner as they shall appoint, (which Composition the said Trustees are hereby empowered to make and receive,) and until he or they shall deliver up all such Books, Papers, and Writings, or give Satisfaction in respect thereof to the said Trustees: Provided that no Person who shall be committed by virtue of this Act, on account of his or her not having sufficient Goods or Chattels, shall be detained in Prison for any longer Time than Six Calendar Months; provided also, that if any Money shall remain due from such Treasurer, Collector, Officer or Person, Treasurers, Collectors, Officers or Persons as aforesaid, the Commitment of him, her, or them to Prison shall not be deemed a Discharge for the same, nor exonerate his, her, or their Surety or Sureties, but such Treasurer, Collector, Officer or Person, Treasurers, Collectors, Officers or Persons, and his, her, and their Surety and Sureties, shall still remain liable to the Payment thereof, in the same Manner as if such Treasurer, Collector, Officer or Person, Treasurers, Collectors, Officers or Persons, had not been committed to Prison.

Treasurer to pay to the Order of Trustees.

XV. And be it further enacted, That the Treasurer to the said Trustees for the Time being shall and may and he is hereby authorized and required, out of the Money to be collected and received by him under and by virtue of this Act, to pay all Sums of Money for which the said Trustees shall order him to pay; and the said Treasurer shall and he is hereby required to keep regular and clear Entries, in a Book or Books to be for that Purpose provided, of all and singular his Receipts and Payments on account of or in pursuance of this Act, and shall once at least in every Year produce the said Account to be audited by the said Trustees at some Meeting to be holden in pursuance of this Act.

Old Contracts to be good.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That all and every Contract and Contracts, Agreement and Agreements still existing and entered into and made by virtue and in pursuance of the Directions of the said recited Act, so far as regards the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*, shall be and be deemed to be as good, valid, and effectual as if the said recited Act, as to the same Hamlet, had not been repealed; and the Observance and Performance thereof may be enforced and compelled by such Ways and Means as the Observance and Performance of any Contract or Agreement made by virtue of this Act may be enforced and compelled.

XVII. And

Trustees may contract.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees to enter into any Contract or Contracts for repairing, cleansing, and lighting the several Streets, Roads, Lanes, public Passages and Places within the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*, or any of them, or for furnishing Materials or any other Matters or Things necessary whatsoever for the same, or for the Workhouse within the same Hamlet, or for any other the Purposes of this Act, and the said Trustees may and they are hereby authorized to take Security from every such Contractor for the due Peformance of his or her Contract.

Contracts not to be entered into for more than Two Years.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That no such Contract or Contracts shall be deemed good or valid if the same shall have been made for a longer Space or Term than Two Years from the Time of entering into such Contract or Contracts.

Trustees may compound for Breach of Contracts.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees from Time to Time and at all Times hereafter to compound and agree with any Person or Persons, on account of any Breach or Nonperformance of such Contract or Contracts, for such Sum or Sums of Money as they the said Trustees shall think proper, so as the Sum so compounded and agreed for be not less than the Injury or Damage sustained by the Breach or Nonperformance of such Contract or Contracts, and all Costs, Charges, and Expences which shall be occasioned thereby.

Contract to be signed by the Trustees.

XX. And be it further enacted, That every such Contract or Contracts shall specify the several Works, Articles, and Things to be done or contracted for, and the Prices to be received or paid for the same, and the Time or Times when the said Works, Articles, or Things are to be completed or delivered, and the Penalties to be suffered in case of Nonperformance thereof, and shall be signed by the said Trustees or any Five or more of them, and also by the Person or Persons contracting to perform such Works respectively, such Contract or Contracts shall be entered in a Book or Books to be kept for that Purpose by the Clerk to the said Trustees.

Property of the Hamlet to be vested in the Trustees.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That all and every the Messuages, Tenements, Poorhouse, Lands, Hereditaments, Bonds, Monies, and Securities for Money, Rates, Assessments, and Arrears of Rates and Assessments, Leases, Goods, Chattels, and Effects which from and immediately before the passing of this Act the Churchwarden and Overseers of the Poor of the said Hamlet, or any other Person or Persons whomsoever, were entitled unto or possessed of in Trust for the Inhabitants thereof, or for the Relief, Maintenance, Use, and Benefit of the Poor, or for cleansing, watching, and lighting, or otherwise improving the same, shall, from and immediately after the passing of this Act, be vested in and paid and conveyed to the said Trustees, by virtue of this Act, as fully and effectually, and in as large and ample a Manner and Form, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, as the said Churchwarden, Overseers of the Poor, or other Person or Persons, at or immediately before the passing hereof, were entitled unto or were in Possession thereof as aforesaid, subject nevertheless to be used, possessed,

applied, and disposed of upon the Trusts in this Act contained, and not otherwise.

Materials vested in the Trustees.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That all the Dirt, Dung, Ashes, and Filth to be swept, gathered, and collected in or from the several Streets, Lanes, and other public Passages and Places within the same Hamlet, or any of them; and also all Lamps, Lamp Irons, Lamp Posts, Watchboxes, Watch-houses, and other Houses and Buildings which now are or shall or may hereafter be used, erected, or fixed up by virtue of this Act, and all Materials, Implements, and other Things which shall be purchased or provided by the said Trustees for the Purposes of this Act, shall belong to and be the Property of and are hereby vested in the said Trustees, who shall and may bring or cause to be brought any Action or Actions, or direct the preferring of any Bill or Bills of Indictment, as the Case may require, against any Person or Persons who shall steal, take or carry away, detain, spoil, injure, or destroy the several Articles and Things hereby respectively vested in them the said Trustees as aforesaid, or any of them, or any Part or Parts thereof; and in all such Actions and Bills of Indictment respectively it shall be deemed and taken to be sufficient to state generally that the Article or Articles, Thing or Things, for or on account of which such Action or Actions shall be brought, or Bill or Bills of Indictment preferred, is or are the Property of the Trustees for the Improvement of the Hamlet of *Ratcliff*, without particularly stating or specifying the Name or Names of all and every of the said Trustees; and the said Trustees shall have full Power and Authority from Time to Time to sell and dispose of, for the Purposes of this Act, all or any of the said Articles and Things, or any Part or Parts of the same respectively, to such Person or Persons, and in such Manner, as they the said Trustees shall think proper.

Trustees empowered to repair Highways.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees from Time to Time, and at all Times hereafter, when they shall think proper, to order and direct all or any of the several Roads, Lanes, public Passages and Places of the said Hamlet, or any Part or Parts thereof, to be repaired and amended, and the Ground thereof to be raised, lowered, or altered from Time to Time, in such Manner and with such Materials as they shall think fit.

Where Materials may be lodged for repairing Highways.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That during the Time any Road, Lane, public Passage or Place within the said Hamlet, shall be altering or repairing by virtue of this Act, the said Trustees shall have Power to order the necessary Materials to be lodged in that or any adjoining Lane, Road, or Place, Lanes, Roads, or Places, according to their Discretion, as also to stop up the Way through that or any adjacent Lane, Road, or Place, so long as they shall judge necessary; and the said Trustees, and all Persons acting under the Direction of the said Trustees, are hereby indemnified from any Prosecution or Action whatsoever for so doing.

Workmen, &c. to be appointed, and Horses, &c. purchased.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees from Time to Time to appoint such and so many Workmen, Labourers, Carters, and others, and also to purchase any

Horses, Carts, Tools, and Implements as they shall judge necessary for the Purpose of carrying this Act into Execution.

Lamps to be set up.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, from Time to Time and at any Time or Times after the passing of this Act, to purchase and provide such and so many Glass Lamps of such Sorts and Sizes, and such and so many Lamp Irons and Lamp Posts, and Materials and Things for lighting such Lamps, as they shall judge necessary, and to direct the same to be affixed or set up or against the Walls, Rails, or Palisades of all or any of the Houses, Tenements, or Buildings, or against any other Walls or Places within the same Hamlet, or in any other Manner they shall think proper and convenient, and to be taken down, altered, or renewed when and as often as they shall think fit; and to cause such Lamps, or any of them, to be lighted at such Season of the Year, on such Evenings and such Hours of the Evening, and to be kept burning so many Hours, as to them the said Trustees shall seem necessary or proper for the well and sufficient lighting of all or any of the said Streets, Roads, Lanes, Paths, Passages, or Places within the said Hamlet.

Penalty on wilfully breaking Lamps.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall wilfully break, take away, throw down, or otherwise destroy or damage any Lamp or Lamps already erected, or which shall be erected by or by the Order of the said Trustees, or by any Person at his, her, or their own Expence, for the Purpose of lighting any of the said Streets, Roads, Lanes, Paths, Passages, or Places, or any Post, Iron, or Cover, or other Furniture thereof, or shall wilfully extinguish the Light or Lights of any such Lamp or Lamps, it shall and may be lawful to and for any Justice of the Peace of the said County of *Middlesex*, and he is hereby required, upon Complaint to him made by any One or more credible Witness or Witnesses of any such Offences, to issue a Warrant for apprehending the Party or Parties accused; and it shall and may be lawful to and for any Person or Persons who shall see such Offence committed to apprehend, and also for any Person or Persons to assist in apprehending, the Offender or Offenders, and by the Authority of this Act, without any other Warrant, to deliver him or them into the Custody of a Peace Officer, in order to be secured and conveyed before some Justice for the said County; and on the Party or Parties accused being brought before such Justice, such Justice shall proceed to examine upon Oath any Witness or Witnesses who shall appear or be produced to give Evidence touching such Offence, and if the Party or Parties accused shall be convicted of such Offence, either by his, her, or their Confession, or upon such Evidence as aforesaid, then and in every such Case he, she, or they shall for each and every such Offence respectively, and if more than One shall severally, forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, and shall besides make full Satisfaction (to be ascertained by such Justice) to the said Trustees or other Party injured for the Damage so done; and in case such Offender or Offenders shall not upon Conviction forthwith pay such Penalty by him, her, or them incurred, and also such Satisfaction as aforesaid, such Justice is hereby required to commit such Offender or Offenders to the Common Gaol or House of Correction of the same County, there to be kept to hard

hard Labour for any Time not exceeding Six Calendar Months, and such Offender or Offenders shall not be discharged before the Expiration of the Time for which he, she, or they shall be so committed, unless such Penalty and Satisfaction shall be sooner paid and given.

For negligently breaking Lamps.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall carelessly, negligently, or accidentally break, throw down, or otherwise destroy or damage any Lamp or Lamps being hung out or set up by the said Trustees, or by any Person or Persons at his, her, or their private Expence, or any Post, Iron, Cover, or Furniture thereof respectively, and shall not upon Demand make Satisfaction for the Damage so done, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for any Justice of the Peace for the said County, and he is hereby required, upon Complaint thereof made by One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, to summon before him the Party or Parties complained of for doing such Damage, and upon his, her, or their appearing or making default to appear, (Oath having been made that the Party complained against had been served with such Summons, or that the same had been left at his, her, or their usual Dwelling or Place of Abode, if known, or that he, she, or they could not be found,) such Justice shall proceed to examine the Cause of such Complaint, and upon Proof thereof, either by the Confession of the Party, or the Oath of One or more Witness or Witnesses, shall award and order such Satisfaction to be made by the Party or Parties complained against, for the Damage so done to the said Trustees or the Owner or Owners of such Lamp or Lamps, as to such Justice shall appear just and reasonable; and in case the Sum so awarded shall not be paid forthwith, it shall and may be lawful to and for such Justice, and he is hereby required, to cause the same to be levied and recovered as any Fine or Penalty can or may be levied and recovered by virtue of this Act.

Trustees to appoint Watchmen and Beadles.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and they are hereby required from Time to Time to appoint such Number of able-bodied Men as they shall judge proper to be employed as Watchmen or Beadles within the said Hamlet during the Night-time, under such Regulations and subject to such Orders as the said Trustees shall make and give from Time to Time in that Behalf, and to provide proper Watch-houses, Watchboxes, or Places for the Reception of such Watchmen and Beadles, and for the safe Custody of such Persons as may be apprehended by such Watchmen and Beadles while on Duty, and to pay such Watchmen and Beadles reasonable Wages or Allowances; and also to appoint One or more fit Person or Persons in the Stead of any Watchman or Watchmen, Beadle or Beadles, who shall die or who shall be discharged from his or their Office for Neglect of Duty or other Misbehaviour in Office, and also to impose from Time to Time any Fine not exceeding Ten Shillings on any Watchman or Watchmen for every such Neglect or other Misbehaviour (such Fine to be deducted out of the Wages of such Watchman or Watchmen); and from Time to Time to make such Orders and Regulations as they the said Trustees shall judge expedient for the better Government of the Watchmen and Beadles to be so appointed, and to repeal such Orders and Regulations, or any of them, and to substitute others; and it shall and may be lawful to and for such Watchmen and Beadles, and they are hereby required, in their respective

Watchmen and Beadles to apprehend Rogues, &c.

Stations,

Stations to use their best Endeavours to prevent Mischiefs happening by Fires, and to apprehend and secure in some proper Place or Places of Security, to be for that Purpose appointed within the said Hamlet, all Malefactors, Rogues, Vagabonds, and Disturbers of the public Peace, and all suspected Persons who shall be found wandering or misbehaving themselves during the Hours of keeping Watch, and conduct all such Persons as soon as conveniently may be before some Justice of the Peace for the said County, to be examined and dealt with according to Law.

Trustees may appoint Headboroughs to attend every Night to keep Watch.

XXX. And be it enacted, That the said Trustees shall order and direct what Number of Headboroughs shall attend every Night, and in what Place, and shall make all such Orders and Regulations in Writing, as to the said Trustees shall appear necessary; and that true Copies of such Orders and Regulations as shall be made from Time to Time for the better Direction and Government of the said Headboroughs, shall be signed by the said Trustees, and be delivered to the Constable and Headboroughs; and the said Headboroughs for the Time being shall attend every Night by Turns, and shall keep Watch and Ward for such respective Times and in such Manner as shall be from Time to Time appointed by the said Trustees, and shall, in their several Turns and Courses of watching, use their best Endeavours to prevent Mischiefs happening by Fires, and all Murders, Burglaries, Robberies, Breaches of the King's Peace, and all other Outrages and Disorders, and to that end shall and they are hereby jointly and severally empowered and required to arrest, apprehend, and detain in the Watch-house or other convenient Place of Security within the said Hamlet, all Malefactors, Disturbers of the King's Peace, and all suspected Persons who shall be found wandering or misbehaving themselves during the Hours of keeping Watch, and shall conduct all such Persons as soon as conveniently may be before some Justice of the Peace for the said County, to be examined and dealt with according to Law; and the said Headboroughs shall, so often in the Night as they shall be directed by the said Trustees, go about their respective District to take notice whether the Watchmen perform their Duties in their several Stations, according to such Orders and Regulations as shall be made for that Purpose by the said Trustees; and in case any Beadle or Watchman shall misbehave himself or neglect his Duty, the said Constable or Headborough shall, as soon as conveniently may be, give notice thereof to the Churchwarden of the said Hamlet for the Time being, who is hereby authorized to suspend such Watchman from the Execution of his Office, and appoint another Person to officiate therein, until the next Meeting of the said Trustees, when the Churchwarden shall acquaint or give notice to the Trustees so assembled at such Meeting, of such Complaint against such Beadle or Watchman, in order for the said Trustees to proceed to the Examination of the Offence.

Copies of Regulations for watching to be delivered to Constable and Headboroughs.

Penalty on Headboroughs neglecting their Duty.

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That if the said Headboroughs shall wilfully neglect to attend in their Turn to keep Watch and Ward in manner or during the Times which shall be appointed by the Trustees for their Attendance thereon, or shall depart from or leave keeping Watch and Ward during the respective Hours appointed by the said Trustees as aforesaid for keeping the same, or shall otherwise neglect their Duty, or misbehave themselves, the Persons so offending shall respectively forfeit

forfeit and pay for every such Neglect or Offence any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings.

Penalty on Publicans harbouring Watchmen during their Hours of Duty.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That if any Victualler, Publican, or other Person selling or dealing in Spirituous or other Liquors, shall entertain or harbour in his, her, or their House or Habitation or Shop, any Watchman or Beadle appointed under this Act, during any of the Hours or Times appointed for such Watchmen or Beadles to be on Duty, by virtue or in pursuance of this Act, then every such Victualler, Publican, or other Person shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings.

Trustees may direct the Streets to be cleansed.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, and they are hereby required, to nominate and appoint any Person or Persons, and to purchase any Cart or Carts, or other Carriage or Carriages, and also any Horse or Horses, for the Purpose of cleansing the several Streets, Lanes, public Passages and Places within the said Hamlet, and of carrying away the Dust, Dirt, Ashes, Filth, and Soil thereof; or it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees to contract with any Person or Persons for cleansing the same, and for carrying away the Dust, Dirt, Ashes, Filth, and Soil thereof.

No Person to take away Dirt, &c. but the Contractor.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons whomsoever, other than the Person or Persons employed by or contracting with the said Trustees for cleansing the several Streets, Lanes, public Passages or Places within the said Hamlet, or the Person or Persons employed by or acting under the Direction of the Person or Persons so contracting as aforesaid, shall take or carry away, or cause to be taken or carried away, any Dirt, Dust, Ashes, Filth, or Soil, out of any of such Streets, Lanes, or other public Passages or Places as aforesaid, every such Person so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings.

Persons may keep the Dust, Dirt, &c. occasioned within their own Premises.

XXXV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to any Ashes, Cinders, Dust, Filth, or Rubbish, which any of the Inhabitants of the said Hamlet shall occasion and think fit to keep and preserve within their own respective Houses, Yards, or Gardens, but the same shall respectively belong to and be at the Disposal (though not for Sale) of the Person or Persons so reserving the same, so as such Ashes, Cinders, Dust, Dirt, Filth, or other Rubbish be not laid down or placed in any of the said Streets, Roads, Lanes, public Passages or Places in the said Hamlet, for any longer Time than shall be necessary for the loading and carrying away the same, nor suffered to annoy the Neighbour or Neighbours of such Person or Persons; but in case such Person or Persons so reserving such Ashes, Cinders, Dirt, Dust, Filth, Soil, or Rubbish, shall wilfully or neglectfully permit or suffer the same to lay in any of the said Streets, Roads, Lanes, public Passages or Places in the said Hamlet, for any longer Time than Two Hours, for the Purpose of loading and carrying away the same, or shall suffer the same to annoy his, her, or their Neighbour or Neighbours, such Person or Persons shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Twenty Shillings;

Shillings; and it shall and may be lawful for the Person or Persons to be appointed by or contracting with the said Trustees for cleansing the said Streets, Lanes, public Passages and Places, and they are hereby authorized and directed, to take and convert such Ashes, Cinders, Dust, Dirt, Filth, Soil, and Rubbish, to his or their own Use and Uses, and to sell and dispose thereof without rendering any Satisfaction for the same.

For preventing Annoyances.

XXXVI. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall at any Time hereafter drive or place, or cause to be driven or placed in any of the Carriageways within the Limits aforesaid, any Waggon or Cart, with or without Horses, and cause or permit or suffer the same Waggon or Cart to stand or remain in any of the said Streets, Roads, Lanes, public Passages or Places within the Limits aforesaid, for any longer Time than shall be necessary for the loading or unloading thereof, or shall cause or permit or suffer any Stage Coach, Post Coach, Post Chaise, or other Carriage let to hire, (except Hackney Coaches authorized to stand in any of the said Streets, Roads, or Places, by the Commissioners of Hackney Coaches,) to stand or remain in any of the said Streets, Roads, or Places within the Limits aforesaid, for any longer Time than shall be necessary for taking up or setting down Passengers, or for loading or unloading their Baggage or other Loading, (except for Repair in Cases of Accident,) or shall place or cause, permit, or suffer any Horse to stand at the Door of the House of any Person, so as to obstruct or incommode the Passage of any of the said Footways, or shall lay or place, or cause to be laid or placed, any Timber, Bricks, Stones, Wood, Goods, or other Things, and suffer the same to remain in any of the said Streets, Roads, Lanes, or other public Passages or Places for any longer Time than shall be necessary for removing or housing the same, or for the repairing of any House or Building, as the Case may happen to be, or shall put up or place, or permit or suffer to remain in any of the said Streets or Pavements or Footways, any Baskets, Barrows, Stands, or other Things, to the Interruption of any such Footways, Pavements, or Carriageways, or shall put or place, or leave or suffer to remain any Meat, Fish, or Vegetables, or other Articles of a like Description, to the Annoyance of any Passengers or Interruption of any Footways, Pavements, or Carriageways in the said Streets or Roads, or at the Door of any Public House, or shall wilfully permit or suffer any Swine to wander or stray in any of the said Streets, Roads, Lanes, or other public Passages or Places, it shall be lawful for the Beadle or Beadles of the said Hamlet, or any other Person or Persons to be appointed by the said Trustees, to seize any such Waggon or Cart, Stage Coach, Post Coach, Post Chaise, or other Carriage let on hire, (except as aforesaid,) together with the Horse or Horses, (if any shall be thereunto belonging,) and such Horse so standing at the Door of any Person, to the Obstruction of the Passage of any of the said Footways, and the Loading, Harness, or Accoutrements thereof respectively, and all such Timber, Brick, Stone, Wood, Goods, Swine, or other Things as aforesaid, and cause the same to be removed to some convenient Place or Places, to be appointed by the said Trustees, there to be kept and detained until the Owner or Owners thereof, or other Person or Persons interested, shall have paid and discharged all Costs, Charges, and Expences attending the carrying away, depositing, and keeping the same as aforesaid, as also a Penalty not exceeding Forty Shillings for each such Offence; and in case the same

same shall not be claimed, and the said Penalty and Charges paid within the Space of Six Hours, if Fish, Meat, Vegetables, or other Articles of a perishable Nature, and becoming decayed or stinking, or likely so to be, and within the Space of Five Days, if not perishable or of such Description as aforesaid, next after such Seizure and Removal thereof, then it shall and may be lawful for the said Trustees, or any Five or more of them, to order the same, or a sufficient Part thereof, to be appraised and sold, and the Overplus (if any) of the Money arising by such Sale, and what shall remain unsold, shall be returned to the Owner or Owners thereof, on Demand, after deducting the said Penalty, and Costs, Charges, and Expences attending such Seizure, removing, appraising, and selling the same.

Trustees may cause Nuisances to be removed.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That in Case any Hogstye, Necessary-house, Flesh stinking or offensive, Bones, Dung, Carrion, Blood, Offal, Soil, or Rubbish, or any other noisome Matter whatsoever, on any Wharf, or in any Yards, Gardens, or Premises within the said Hamlet, shall be a Nuisance to any of the Inhabitants or other Person or Persons, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees and they are hereby required, upon Complaint thereof made to them by any such Inhabitant or other Person or Persons, by Notice in Writing under the Hands of the said Trustees or any Five or more of them, (who are hereby authorized and required to view the same,) to order every such Nuisance to be removed; and in case the same shall not be removed within Two Days after such Notice given to the Person or Persons who ought to remove the same, such Person or Persons shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings for every Day the same shall continue unremoved after the Expiration of the said Term.

Where private Sewers are out of Repair, the Owners of Houses connected therewith to repair the same within Six Days after Notice;

and on their Neglect the same to be done by the Trustees.

XXXVIII. And whereas there are in the said Hamlet many private Sewers and Drains, which are not under the Direction of the Commissioners of Sewers, and in many Instances it has happened that where the same have been out of Repair, the Owners of the Houses and Premises connected therewith have refused or neglected to repair the same, by Means whereof the adjacent Places have been inundated, rendered unwholesome, and great Nuisances have arisen; to remedy which, in future, be it further enacted, That when and so often as any such private Sewer or Drain shall require to be made new, repaired, altered, cleansed, or emptied, or any such Nuisance as aforesaid shall arise, then and in every such Case the Owner and Owners of the Houses and Premises connected with such Sewer or Drain, and from whence the Water and Soil shall run into the same, shall, within Six Days next after Notice thereof in Writing to be given to or left with the Occupier or Occupiers of such Houses respectively by the said Trustees or by the Surveyor or other Person authorized by them, make new, effectually repair, cleanse, or empty such Sewer or Drain (as the Case may require); and in Default thereof it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, or their Surveyor for the Time being, to cause such Sewer or Drain to be made new, repaired or altered, cleansed or emptied (as the Case may require), the Charges and Expences whereof shall be paid by the said Trustees, who shall be reimbursed the same by the Owner and Owners of the Houses and Premises connected with such Sewer or Drain as aforesaid, in proportion to the Rent of such Houses and Premises respectively;

spectively; and in case the said Charges and Expences shall not be repaid and reimbursed to the said Trustees by the said Owner and Owners of such Houses and Premises respectively, within Ten Days next after Notice thereof shall be given to or left at his, her, or their last or usual Place of Abode, which Notice shall be in Writing, and signed by the Clerk to the said Trustees, and annexed to the Bill containing an Account of such Charges and Expences, and the Proportion thereof to be paid by such Owner and Owners respectively; and which Proportion the said Trustees are hereby authorized and empowered to adjust and settle, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to bring or cause to be brought any Action or Actions in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, or in the Court of Requests for the Tower Hamlets or other District wherein the Owner or Owners of such Houses respectively shall reside, in the Name of their Clerk for the Time being, against every such Owner and Owners who shall refuse or neglect to pay his or her Proportion of the said Charges and Expences, for Recovery of the same, in which Action or Actions no Essoign, Protection, or Wager at Law, or more than One Imparlance, shall be allowed.

Persons making Vaults, &c. to inclose the same.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons whatsoever shall dig out any Earth, or leave any Hole in any Street, Road, or Place, before any House or Premises within the said Hamlet, for the Purpose of making any Vault or Cellar, or any other Purpose whatever, or in case any Vault or Cellar already made within the said Hamlet shall fall in, and the Owner or Occupier thereof shall not inclose the same in a good and sufficient Manner, to be approved by the said Trustees or any Five or more of them, or shall keep up such Inclosure longer than necessary, or shall not well and sufficiently fence or rail before the Area or Areas fronting to any Street or Place within the said Hamlet, every Person or Persons guilty of any of the Offences aforesaid shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings, and the like Sum for every Week that such Offence shall be continued.

Foot Pavements to be swept.

XL. And be it further enacted, That all and every Person and Persons inhabiting within the said Hamlet shall sweep and clean, or cause to be swept and cleansed, the Footpaths before their respective Houses, Buildings, and Walls, once in every Day, between the Hours of Six and Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon (*Sundays* excepted), upon pain of forfeiting any Sum not exceeding Five Shillings for every such Neglect therein.

Emptying Privies, and carting Night Soil.

XLI. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall empty any Privy or Necessary-house, or empty or pump out any noisome or offensive Water or Soil from any Cellar or Cesspool, or carry any Night Soil along any of the Streets, Roads, Lanes, or other public Passages or Places within the said Hamlet, before the Hour of Eleven at Night, or after Six in the Morning, or shall at any Time negligently spill or put or cast any Night Soil in or over any of the said Streets, Lanes, Roads, or other public Passages or Places, or in any respect improperly, carelessly, or negligently remove the same, every Person or Persons so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds.

If Offenders be not seized, the Owners of the Carts, &c. to be liable.

XLII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That in case the Person or Persons who shall so unlawfully take and carry away, or cause to be taken and carried away, any Dust, Dirt, Cinders, Ashes, or other Filth, or remove or cart any Night Soil, shall not be seized and apprehended, then and in every such Case the Owner or Owners of the Waggon, Cart, or other Carriage, Horse or Beast (in any), employed or used as aforesaid for the Purpose of taking and carrying away the same, shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings for the first Offence, and any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds for the second or any subsequent Offence; and it shall and may be lawful to and for any Person or Persons whomsoever to seize or cause to be seized any such Waggon, Cart, or other Carriage, together with the Horse or Horses, Beast or Beasts drawing the same, and the Loading, Harness, or Accoutrements thereof respectively, and to drive, remove, and take, or cause the same to be driven, removed, and taken, to such Place in or near the said Hamlet as the Beadle or other Person acting by and under the Authority of the said Trustees shall order and direct; and Notice of the taking of such Waggon, Cart, or other Carriage, Horse or Horses, Beast or Beasts, and of the Place to which the same shall have been removed, shall be given by the Person or Persons seizing or removing the same, to the Owner or Owners thereof, in case he, she, or they can be found, or left at his, her, or their last or usual Place of Abode; and it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Beadle or other Person acting by and under the Authority of the said Trustees to detain or cause to be detained such Waggon, Cart, or other Carriage, together with the Horse or Horses, Beast or Beasts drawing the same, and the Loading, Harness, or Accoutrements thereof respectively, until the Owner or Owners thereof, or other Person or Persons in his, her, or their Behalf, shall have paid such Penalty as aforesaid, to the Person or Persons so seizing or removing the same, together with the reasonable Costs and Charges of such Seizure and Removal, and of keeping such Horse or Horses or other Beasts (if any); and in case such Penalty, Costs, and Expences shall not be paid within Five Days after such Seizure and Removal, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, or any Five or more of them, or their Beadle, to sell or cause to be sold such Waggon, Cart, or other Carriage, Horse or Horses, Beast or Beasts, and the Loading, Harness, or Accroutrements thereof respectively, or a sufficient Part thereof to defray such Penalty, and the Costs and Expences of seizing, removing, keeping, and selling such Waggon, Cart, or other Carriage, Horse or Horses, Beast or Beasts, and the Loading, Harness, or Accoutrements respectively; and the Overplus, (if any be,) and what shall remain unsold, shall be paid or returned, on Demand, to the Owner or Owners thereof; such Penalty, Costs, Charges, and Expences to be ascertained and allowed by any Justice of the Peace for the said County of *Middlesex*.

Directions to Overseers to attend the Workhouse.

XLIII. And for the better governing, maintaining, employing, and regulating the Poor of the said Hamlet, as to the said Trustees shall appear necessary and expedient, be it further enacted, That the Overseers of the Poor of the said Hamlet for the Time being shall and are hereby required to attend at the Workhouse of the said Hamlet once in every Week separately, each on a different Day in the Week, during the Time of their continuing in the said Office of Overseer, and to examine into the State of the Poor, and of their Complaints and Provisions,

and

and Necessaries, and which of them are or are not able to work, and also to examine all such Bills as shall be delivered in for any Goods or Wares received at the said Workhouse, and check and compare the same with the Master or Mistress of the said Workhouse, before such Bills shall be audited by the said Trustees; and each and every of the said Overseers shall also examine and see that the Poor, as well as the Master and Mistress of the said Workhouse, do severally conform to the Rules and Regulations which shall be from Time to Time made by the said Trustees, and shall at every Time of their Attendance as aforesaid sign their Names in a Book to be provided for that Purpose, and kept at the said Workhouse, and also the Day of the Month and Time of their Attendance at the said Workhouse; and in case any Complaint shall be made, or any thing shall be found amiss, or shall appear to any of the said Overseers to want Amendment, the Overseer to whom the same shall be made appear shall enter the Particulars thereof in the said Book so to be signed as above mentioned, which said Book the Master or Mistress of the Workhouse for the Time being shall from Time to Time lay or cause to be laid before the said Trustees at each and every of their weekly Meetings, for the Inspection and Direction of the said Trustees; and that in case any Overseer or Overseers shall neglect or refuse to attend at the said Workhouse, or to sign the said Book in manner aforesaid, or in case any Master or Mistress of the said Workhouse shall neglect or refuse to lay or cause to be laid the said Book before the said Trustees, at their several weekly Meetings as aforesaid, every such Overseer or Overseers and Master or Mistress shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Ten Shillings, for the Use of the Poor of the said Hamlet.

Trustees may make Orders relating to the Poor.

XLIV. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and they are hereby empowered from Time to Time to make and issue such general Rules, Orders, and Regulations as they shall think proper, for maintaining, regulating, and employing the Poor of the said Hamlet in the said Workhouse.

Trustees may take the Benefit of the Labour of the Poor.

XLV. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees may take the Benefit of the Work, Labour, and Service of any such Poor in the said Workhouse, and apply the same towards their Maintenance by virtue of this Act; or the said Trustees, if they find it expedient, from Time to Time may and they are hereby empowered to contract and agree with any Person or Persons for the lodging, keeping, maintaining, and employing all or any such Poor, and providing Materials to set them to work.

Punishing disorderly Persons.

XLVI. And be it further enacted, That if any poor Person maintained in the Workhouse of the said Hamlet shall embezzle or purloin any of the Apparel provided for any of the Poor, or of the Goods or Provisions provided for or belonging to the said Workhouse, or any Materials for Work, or shall refuse to work, or shall be guilty of profane Cursing or Swearing, or otherwise misbehave himself or herself, it shall and may be lawful for the said Trustees to cause such Person or Persons so offending to be punished in such Workhouse, either by Confinement not exceeding Forty-eight Hours, or by Distinction in Dress

Dress or Diet, as may best tend to remedy such Offences for the future; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Encouragement to the industrious Poor.

XLVII. And to the end all the Poor in the said Workhouse may be encouraged to apply themselves with Diligence to the Labour or Tasks in which they may be employed; be it further enacted, That out of the Profits arising from the Work which shall be done by the Poor, such Rewards shall be distributed to the industrious and skilful, in proportion to the Quantity and Perfection of their Work, as to the said Trustees shall appear reasonable.

Security against Bastard Children.

XLVIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Churchwarden, Overseers, and Trustees, or any Five or more of them, to take, accept, and receive Security from any Person or Persons for indemnifying the said Hamlet against any Claim or Demand to be made by the said Hamlet for the Maintenance of any Bastard Child or Children respectively.

Churchwarden and Overseers of the Poor and the Trustees may sue on Bond given to former Officers, and may take Bond in future in their own Names.

XLIX. And be it further enacted, That all Bonds and Securities which have already been given to any Churchwarden and Overseers of the Poor, or Officers of the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*, for indemnifying such Hamlet from any Charge that may arise from illegitimate Children, shall from and after the passing of this Act be vested in the Churchwarden and Overseers of the Poor, and Trustees for the Time being, who shall and may and they are hereby authorized to sue on such Bonds and Securities given heretofore, or hereafter to be given as aforesaid, for the Purpose of recovering the Penalties thereon; any Law, Statute, or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Vagrants and Persons threatening to leave their Families.

L. And whereas divers Persons belonging to and who ought by the Laws now in force to be relieved by the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*, are found wandering and begging in the said Hamlet, and committing Acts of Vagrancy, and misbehaving themselves by exposing in an indecent Manner their Persons and Limbs: And whereas divers Persons by reason of their idle and disorderly Living neglect or refuse to maintain or threaten to desert their Families, not being able to maintain themselves; and if Power were given to apprehend such Persons, and send them to such Workhouse, there to be dealt with in manner herein mentioned, it might tend to enure them to a Habit of Industry, and make them useful to the Public; be it therefore further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and they hereby have Power and Authority to receive and to order and compel all and every Person found wandering and begging in the said Hamlet, or committing Acts of Vagrancy, and also all and every idle and disorderly Person neglecting or refusing to maintain, or threatening to desert their Families, not being able to maintain themselves, and who shall belong to or ought by any Law now in force to be relieved and provided for by the said Hamlet, to come into, work, dwell, and inhabit the said Workhouse, and to detain, keep, maintain, and employ all such respective poor Persons therein so long as it shall not appear to the said Trustees, on the Part of any such poor Person, that any of them respectively are of Ability or can otherwise be sufficiently maintained and provided

vided for without the Aid and Provision of the said Trustees; and shall have Power and Authority to employ, set, and compel all such Poor who shall be received or come into, dwell, and be in the said Workhouse, during such their Abode and Residence there, and whilst maintained by the said Trustees, to do, execute, and perform such Work, Labour, Business, and Employ as the said Trustees, at any of their weekly Meetings, shall think and judge such respective Poor are and shall be able and fit to do and perform for the Use of the said Hamlet; and to detain and keep all such Persons found wandering and begging in the said Hamlet, and committing Acts of Vagrancy, and also all such idle and disorderly Persons who shall have so deserted, threatened to leave, neglected, or refused to maintain his or their Families, and to set each of them to work in such Workhouse during such Time and until every such Person by his or her Work or Labour there shall have got and raised so much Money above their Maintenance as shall be sufficient to repay and reimburse to the said Trustees the Charges and Expences they shall have sustained in the maintaining and providing for every such Person, and his or her Family; and in case such Person shall not by his or her Work and Labour have gained so much Money as shall be sufficient to reimburse to the said Trustees the Charges and Expences of having maintained him or her, or any of his or her Family as aforesaid, and shall neglect or refuse to apply himself or herself to such reasonable Work or Labour as shall be given to him or her by the Master or Mistress of such Workhouse under the Directions aforesaid, then the said Trustees, at any of their weekly Meetings, shall have Power to detain and keep such Person within such Workhouse to hard Labour for the Space of Thirty Days.

Paupers to be removed by Beadles instead of Overseers.

LI. And be it further enacted, That whenever any poor Person or Persons, or any Vagrant or Vagrants, shall be ordered to be removed from the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff* to the Place or Parish of his, her, or their legal Settlement, it shall and may be lawful for the said Trustees (if they shall think fit) to cause such poor Person or Persons, Vagrant or Vagrants to be respectively removed in the usual Manner of removing Paupers or Vagrants, by a Beadle, or some Person or Persons to be appointed by the said Trustees for that Purpose, by Writing under their Hands; and every Overseer and other proper Officer of the Parish or Place to which such poor Person or Persons, Vagrant or Vagrants, shall be ordered to be removed as aforesaid, is hereby required to receive every such poor Person or Persons, Vagrant or Vagrants, in like Manner as he or they would have been bound to do if such poor Person or Persons, Vagrant or Vagrants, had been delivered to him, her, or them by one of the Overseers of the Poor of the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*; any Law, Custom, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Punishment of Persons for buying or taking into pawn.

LII. And whereas many Persons maintained and clothed in the Workhouse of the said Hamlet by the Churchwarden and Overseers thereof pawn and dispose of their Clothes and Apparel, and the Goods and Chattels deposited in or belonging to the said Workhouse; be it therefore enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall knowingly buy, receive into pawn, or secrete any of the Clothes or Wearing Apparel of any of the Poor who are or shall be received into and maintained in the Workhouse of the said Hamlet, or any of the Goods or Materials carried into the said Workhouse, or be wrought up, manufactured, or used by the Poor there,

there, or any of the Goods and Furniture of the said Workhouse, or shall receive or buy any of the Provisions allotted to or provided for the Poor in the said Workhouse, or shall be aiding or assisting therein, every Person so offending shall forfeit for every such Offence any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, one Moiety of such Penalty shall be paid to the Informer or Informers, and the other Moiety to the Overseers of the Poor of the said Hamlet, or One of them, for the Use of the Poor of the said Hamlet.

Churchwarden and Overseers to account to the Trustees.

LIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Churchwarden and Overseers of the Poor respectively of the said Hamlet, and all and every the Collector and Collectors of the Rates to be made by virtue of this Act, and each of them, from Time to Time, and they and each of them are required Four Times in every Year, or as often as ordered by the said Trustees, to pay over all such Sum and Sums of Money by them received by virtue of such several Rates or Assessments, into the Hands of the said Treasurer; and shall also make up and render to the said Trustees, as often as thereunto required, full, true, perfect, and distinct Accounts in Writing of all and every Sum and Sums of Money so collected and received by them respectively by virtue of this Act, for the respective Purposes aforesaid, and to pay over all such Monies so by them collected and remaining in Hand to the said Treasurer in manner aforesaid; and if the said Churchwarden and Overseers or Collectors, or any of them, shall refuse or neglect to give and render a just, true, and perfect Account and Accounts, or pay over the Monies remaining in his or their Hands in manner as aforesaid, then and in each of the said Cases it shall and may be lawful for any Two or more Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, on Complaint made to them by the said Trustees, and Proof thereof by the Oath of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses (which Oath the said Justices are hereby empowered to administer), by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to commit such Person or Persons so refusing to give and render just, true, and perfect Accounts, or to pay over the Monies as aforesaid, to the Common Gaol or House of Correction, there to be and remain without Bail or Mainprize for any Time not exceeding Six Calendar Months, or until he or they shall have made and delivered such Accounts as aforesaid, and satisfied and paid over to the said Treasurer all such Monies as upon fair and just Accounts shall appear to be and remain in his or their Hands, or until he or they shall compound for or satisfy the said Trustees touching the Monies in his or their Hands, or the Balance of such Accounts respectively, which Composition the said Trustees are hereby empowered to make.

Laws relating to Churchwardens to be in force where not altered by this Act.

LIV. And be it further enacted, That all and every the Laws relating to the Office of Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, and for the Relief and providing for the Poor, shall still continue in force within the said Hamlet, except where the same are altered or other Provisions are made in relation thereto by this Act.

Old Rates to be deemed good.

LV. And be it further enacted, That each and every Rate and Assessment now ordered and directed to be levied, assessed, and collected by and under the Authority of the said recited Act, so far as regards the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*, shall and may be levied, assessed, and collected by such Ways and Means, and under such Restrictions and Regulations, as

as any Rate or Assessment ordered and directed to be levied, assessed, and collected by virtue of this Act can or may be raised, levied, and collected.

Rates for lighting, &c.

LVI. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall, Four Times or oftener in every Year, meet together at the Committee Room in the said Hamlet, or at some other convenient Place within the same; and they the said Trustees so assembled, or any Five or more of them, shall then settle and ascertain the Sum of Money necessary to be raised and laid by an equal and indifferent Pound Rate upon all and every the Occupier and Occupiers of any Messuages, Shops, Warehouses, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said Hamlet, not exceeding One Shilling and Sixpence in the Pound by the Year on the annual Rent or Value of all such Messuages, Shops, Warehouses, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, for the Purpose of lighting, watching, cleansing, and repairing the Streets, Roads, and other public Passages and Places therein; and after such Rate or Assessment shall be so settled and ascertained, the same shall be raised, levied, and collected in manner by this Act directed.

Poor Rates to be made.

LVII. And be it further enacted, That the Churchwarden and Overseers of the Poor, and the said Trustees, shall assemble and meet together Four Times, or oftener, in every Year, at the Committee Room in the said Hamlet, or at some other convenient Place within the same; and they the said Overseers of the Poor and Trustees so assembled, or any Five or more of them, shall and they are hereby required then to settle and ascertain, by an equal and indifferent Pound Rate, the Sum of Money necessary to be raised and laid upon all and every the Owners and Occupiers of any Messuages, Shops, Warehouses, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said Hamlet; which Rate or Assessment shall be laid according to the annual Rent or Value of all such Messuages, Shops, Warehouses, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments respectively, and when so settled and ascertained shall be raised, levied, and collected in manner by this Act directed.

Trustees may rectify Omissions in Rates.

LVIII. And be it further enacted, That if it shall appear to the said Trustees, at any Time after making of any Rate or Assessment to be made under the Authority of this Act, that the Name of any Person liable to be included in such Rate or Assessment hath been omitted therein, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees to add or cause to be added to such Rate or Assessment the Name of the Person so omitted, together with the Sum for which he ought to be so rated, and the Amount of such Rate or Assessment in respect thereof; and every such Addition made to any of the said Rates shall be as valid and effectual in Law, to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same had been inserted in the Rate at the Time the same was first made out.

Rates to be allowed by Justices;

LIX. And be it further enacted, That no Rate or Assessment, so to be made and signed in manner aforesaid, for the Relief of the Poor of the said Hamlet, shall be valid unless allowed by Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace acting in and for the County of *Middlesex*, and Notice thereof shall be given in the Parish Church of *Saint Dunstan Stepney*, on the *Sunday* next after the same shall be allowed, or in the Church

Church of any adjoining Parish, in case the said Parish Church of *Saint Dunstan Stepney* shall be shut up for the Purpose of Repair or some unavoidable Cause.

and being allowed, to be deemed valid.

LX. And be it further enacted, That the said Rate or Assessment so made and signed by the said Trustees, and allowed by Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken to be good, valid, and effectual; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

How Rates to be levied.

LXI. And for the better and more effectually raising and levying the several Rates and Assessments by this Act directed to be made, be it further enacted, That in case any Landlord or Occupier, or any Owner or Owners, Proprietor or Proprietors, Lessee or Lessees of any Land, Ground, Dwelling House, Shop, Warehouse, Coach House, Stable, Cellar, Vault, Building, Tenement, or Hereditaments within the said Hamlet, shall refuse or neglect to pay the Money rated and assessed upon him, her, or them respectively, by virtue of this Act, and all Arrears due thereupon, or upon any former Rate or Rates, it shall be lawful for any One or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, and he or they is and are hereby authorized and directed, by Writing under his or their Hand or Hands, on Complaint made by the Churchwarden, Overseers, and Trustees of the said Hamlet, or any Five or more of them, to summon all and every Person and Persons who shall have refused or neglected as aforesaid (upon Oath being made before such Justice or Justices by the Overseers of the Poor, Collector or Collectors for the Time being, of his or their having attended upon or at the Dwelling House or last Place of Abode of all and every Person and Persons then intended to be summoned, or who are or shall be liable to the Payment of the said Rate or Rates, and having demanded the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and of the Neglect or Refusal of such Person or Persons to pay the said Rate or Rates), to appear before such Justice or Justices at a Time and Place to be mentioned in such Summons; and it shall be lawful for the Overseers of the Poor, Collector or Collectors, or for any of the Beadles of the said Hamlet, to serve all and every such Summons and Summonses upon all and every Person and Persons so neglecting or refusing to pay as aforesaid, either by delivering the same to the Person or Persons thereby intended to be summoned, or leaving the same at his, her, or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, or at the Premises for which the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments mentioned in such Summons shall remain due and owing; and if any Person or Persons so summoned shall refuse or neglect to attend at the Time and Place mentioned in such Summons, or if he, she, or they shall attend and shall not shew good and sufficient Cause to such Justice or Justices, that he, she, or they is or are not chargeable with such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, then and in every such Case every such Person or Persons shall pay the Rate or Rates in respect of which such Summons was issued, and the reasonable Costs and Charges of such Summons; and in all Cases where such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or any of them, shall not be paid upon the Return of such Summons, it shall be lawful for the Justice or Justices who shall have directed such Summons and Summonses to be issued as aforesaid, and he and they is and are hereby authorized and

and required, upon Oath made before him or them of the due Service of such Summons or Summonses by the Party who shall have served the same, to grant a Warrant or Warrants under his or their Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals, authorizing or directing the said Overseers of the Poor, Collector or Collectors, or any Beadle of the said Hamlet, to collect or levy such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and all Arrears thereof, and the Costs and Charges of the Summons (if the same shall not have been paid before), and the Costs, Charges, and Expences of the said Warrant, and of executing the same, by Distress of the Goods and Chattels of the Party so neglecting or refusing, which shall be found either within the said Hamlet, or elsewhere; and if within Five Days next after any such Distress shall be made, the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, with all Arrears due thereon, shall not be paid, together with all the reasonable Charges of the said Summons and Warrant, and of making such Distress, and keeping such Goods and Chattels, the said Overseers of the Poor, Collector or Collectors, Beadle or Beadles, shall cause the said Goods to be appraised by One or more Appraiser or Appraisers, and to be sold, or such Part or Parts thereof as shall be sufficient to pay the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, together with all Arrears due thereon, and the reasonable Costs, Charges, and Expences of appraising and selling the same, returning the Overplus (if any) to the Owner or Owners of such Goods and Chattels respectively, upon Demand thereof made by him, her, or them.

LXII. And be it further enacted, That every Warrant of Distress for Nonpayment of any Rate or Assessment to be made by virtue of this Act shall be in the Words or to the Effect following:

Form of Warrant of Distress.

'Middlesex, to wit.' } To the Churchwarden, Overseers of the Poor and Collectors of the Poor Rate [*or as the Case may be*] of the Hamlet of *Ratcliff* in the County of *Middlesex*, and to all Constables and other Peace Officers for the same Hamlet.

'WHEREAS the under-mentioned Persons, now or late Inhabitants, Householders, Landlords, Tenants, Occupiers, or Enjoyers of Lands, Houses, Shops, Warehouses, Coach-houses, Stables, Cellars, Vaults, or other Buildings or Hereditaments, or Part of some Building or Tenement, within the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*, were and are rated and assessed or liable to the Rate or Rates duly made for the Purposes of an Act made in the Fiftieth Year of the Reign of His Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled [*set forth the Title of the Act*]: And whereas the said Persons have refused or neglected to pay the several Sums of Money at and against their Names hereunder respectively set down for Money due from them for or towards the Purposes in the said Act mentioned, and the said several Sum and Sums are still remaining due in arrear and unpaid, as appeareth upon Oath to of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County; and the said several Persons having been summoned to appear before to answer the Premises, as also appeareth to the said Justice [*or* Justices] upon Oath, and nor either of them having shewn any sufficient

'sufficient Cause why such Sum and Sums of Money should not be 'paid; These are therefore in His Majesty's Name to will and require 'you or either of you forthwith to levy the said several Sums due 'from the said Persons, and hereunder joined to or set against their Names 'respectively, by Distress and Sale of their respective Goods and Chattels '(such Goods and Chattels being kept for the Space of 'Days before the same are sold), rendering to them respectively the 'Overplus (if any), the reasonable Charges of such Distress, Sale, and 'Keeping being first deducted; and if no sufficient Distress can be had 'or taken, that then you certify the same to us, to the end such further 'Proceedings may be had therein as to the Law doth appertain. And 'I [*or* we] do hereby strictly charge and command all and singular 'the Constables and other His Majesty's Peace Officers for the said 'County to be aiding and assisting in all Things relating to the Premises. Given under my Hand and Seal [*or* our Hands and Seals] 'this Day of in the Year 'of our Lord .'

	Sums due.		
	£.	s.	d.
A. B. - - - - - - -			
C. D. - - - - - - -			
E. F. the Landlord for divided - -			
G. H. - - - - - - -			

For better Recovery of Rates on Tenements let at small Rents, or to weekly or monthly Lodgers.

LXIII. And whereas divers Houses, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said Hamlet are let at small Rents, or to weekly or monthly Tenants, or let out in Lodgings or separate Apartments, or let ready furnished, and the Collection of the Poor Rate and other Rates from such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments, is attended with much Difficulty, and has frequently been evaded, so that much Loss has on that Account been sustained by the said Hamlet; for Remedy whereof, be it enacted, That where the yearly Rent or Value of any such House, Tenement, or Hereditament shall not exceed Fifteen Pounds, or where the House, Tenement, or Hereditament shall be let to weekly or to monthly Tenants, or at Rents which shall become payable and be collected at any shorter Periods than quarterly, or let out in Lodgings or separate Apartments, or let ready furnished, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees (if they shall think proper) to compound with the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of all and every or any such House or Houses, Tenement or Tenements, and Hereditaments in the said Hamlet, for Payment of the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments to be made by virtue of this Act, at such reduced yearly Rental as the said Trustees shall think reasonable, so that such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments be not rated at less than Two Thirds nor more than Four Fifths of the Rack Rent at which the same shall then be let, or of the annual Value of the said Premises respectively; and the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments as shall not exceed the yearly Rent of Fifteen Pounds, and of such as shall be let to weekly or monthly Tenants, or from whence the Rents shall become due and be collected at any shorter Periods than Quarterly, or which shall be let out in Lodgings or separate Apartments, or shall be let ready furnished, is and are hereby enabled to enter into such Composition with the said

Trustees; and in case such Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners shall refuse or object to enter into such Composition, such Landlord or Landlords, Owner and Owners shall from thenceforth be deemed and taken to be the Occupier or Occupiers of such Premises, and shall thereupon be rated and assessed to and from Time to Time shall pay or cause to be paid the several Rates or Assessments charged upon the respective Premises by virtue of this Act, unto the Overseers of the Poor, Collector or Collectors for the Time being, who is and are hereby authorized and empowered to receive and collect the same, and upon Nonpayment thereof to levy the same by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of the respective Premises aforesaid, wheresoever they shall be found, or of the Person or Persons inhabiting the same respectively, in like Manner as any Rate or Assessment may be raised, levied, and collected by virtue of this Act; provided that no such Person or Persons so inhabiting the same respectively shall at any Time be required to pay or be subject or liable to pay any greater Sum for or towards the Discharge of the said Rates or Assessments or any of them, or of any Arrears thereof, than the Amount of the Rent actually due or payable by such Tenant or Tenants for and on account of the Premises so occupied by him, her, or them; and it shall and may be lawful to and for any such Person paying any such Sum and Sums of Money to deduct the same from his, her, or their Rent or Rents: Provided also, that no such Landlord or Owner shall be charged with or liable to pay for any increased Rent reserved or made payable to him, for or on account of such Landlord or Owner having agreed to pay the several Rates or Assessments heretofore chargeable upon the Occupier; and where any House, Tenement, or Hereditament shall be let out in Lodgings or separate Apartments, or ready furnished, the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of all such Premises shall be deemed and taken to be the Occupiers thereof, and shall be rated to and pay the Rates or Assessments made by virtue of this Act in respect of all such Houses, Tenements, and Hereditaments.

Rates to be repaid by Landlords to Tenants.

LXIV. And be it further enacted, That the Goods and Chattels of each and every Person renting and occupying any separate Part or Apartment of or in any House or Building, and the Goods and Chattels in every House and Building let ready furnished (though not assessed under or by virtue of this Act, or under any Act made for the Relief of the Poor, or for watching, cleansing, and lighting the said Hamlet), shall, after such Summons as is herein-before directed to be given, be liable to be distrained and sold by virtue of a Warrant under the Hand and Seal of One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, (which Warrant every such Justice of the Peace is hereby directed to issue,) for Payment of the said Rates or Assessments which accrued and became due during the Term of his, her, or their Occupancy only, and all reasonable Costs, Charges, and Expences attending thereupon; and that each and every Person who shall pay any such Rates or Assessments as ought to have been paid by his, her, or their Landlord or Landlords, or upon whose Goods or Chattels the same shall be levied in pursuance of this Act, shall and may deduct the same from and out of the Rent due and payable to his, her, or their Landlord or Landlords so letting out the same, unless there shall be some Agreement to the contrary

contrary between the Landlord and Tenant; and the Receipt and Receipts for such Payment shall be a sufficient Discharge to every such Person for so much Money as he, she, or they shall have so paid, or which shall have been so levied on his, her, and their Goods and Chattels in pursuance of this Act, and shall be allowed by such Landlord or Landlords of such Houses or Buildings in part or full Payment, as the Case may be, for the Rent due or to become due to him or them from such Person or Persons as aforesaid: Provided always, that no such Tenant or Occupier of any Part or separate Apartment of or in any House or Building shall by the Payment of such Rate or Assessment in manner aforesaid be deemed to acquire any Settlement in the said Hamlet by such Payment, but that the Landlord or Owner shall be deemed and construed to all Intents and Purposes to have paid the same; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Premises to remain charged.

LXV. And be it further enacted, That in Default or Failure of Payment of the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or of the Arrears so remaining due or unpaid, or any Part thereof as aforesaid, the same shall be and remain a Charge upon the Premises in respect whereof the same shall be so rated or assessed, and shall and may, after Fourteen Days Notice left upon the Premises, be sued for and recovered of and from such Owner or Owners, Leaseholder or Leaseholders, or Landlord or Landlords respectively, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, or in the Court of Requests for the Tower Hamlets within the County of *Middlesex*, or in any other Court of Requests within the Jurisdiction of which any such Landlord, Leaseholder, or Owner shall reside respectively, to be commenced and prosecuted in the Name of the Clerk to the said Trustees; in which Action no Protection, Essoign, or Wager of Law, nor more than one Imparlance, shall be allowed; and if the Plaintiff shall recover in any such Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, he shall have full Costs, to be levied and recovered as other Monies upon Judgment are now by Law levied and recovered.

Rates to be demanded before Quarter-day.

LXVI. And be it further enacted, That in order to avoid the Loss which frequently happens by Tenants or Occupiers of Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments quitting and removing from the same before the Quarter on which the Rates or Assessments charged by virtue of this Act on the said Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments shall become due and payable, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Overseer or Overseers of the Poor of the said Hamlet, and the Collector or Collectors of the said Rates for the Time being, to demand and receive, Twenty-one Days before every such Quarter, or at any other subsequent Time, the respective Rates and Assessments which would be due and payable on such Quarter-day, and in case of Nonpayment thereof to enforce the Payment of such Rates and Assessments in the same Manner and with the same Powers as in case of the Nonpayment of such Rates and Assessments upon or after the Quarter-day on which the same would have become due and payable.

Recovery of Rates from Persons removing.

LXVII. And whereas it may happen that many Persons liable to and who may be rated and assessed for the watching, cleansing, lighting, and otherwise improving the same Hamlet, and for the Relief, Lodging, and Maintenance

Maintenance of the Poor thereof, may before the Payment of the Sum which may be rated on them respectively quit and leave their Grounds, Dwelling Houses, Shops, Warehouses, Coach Houses, Stables, Cellars, Vaults, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, and remove out of the said Hamlet; be it therefore further enacted, That when any Person or Persons who hath or have been so rated and assessed shall quit or be about to quit his or their Lands, Grounds, Houses, Shops, Warehouses, Coach Houses, Stables, Cellars, Vaults, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, before he, she, or they shall have paid such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and shall afterwards refuse to pay the same when due and demanded by the Overseer or Overseers, Collector or Collectors authorized and appointed to receive the same as aforesaid; then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for the said Overseer or Overseers, Collector or Collectors, or any One of them (Oath being made by him or them that he or they hath or have Cause to suspect that such Person or Persons is or are removing, or hath or have removed, his or their Goods and Chattels), by Warrant under the Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals of any One or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Middlesex*, (which Warrant such Justice or Justices is or are hereby authorized and required to grant,) and in case such Person or Persons shall have removed, such Warrant being first backed and countersigned by some Magistrate of the County, City, or Liberty to which such Person or Persons shall have removed, (which Warrant such Magistrate is hereby required to back or countersign,) to distrain the Goods and Chattels of such Person or Persons so refusing or neglecting to pay the said Rates or Assessments, or any of them, and to sell the same, rendering the Overplus (if any), after having deducted the reasonable Costs, Charges, and Expences attending such Distress and Sale, upon Demand, to the Owner or Owners of such Goods and Chattels respectively.

Goods may be followed into any other County.

LXVIII. And, for the more effectual levying the Money rated and assessed for the several Purposes of this Act, be it further enacted, That the Goods and Chattels of any Person or Persons rated or assessed as aforesaid, and neglecting or refusing to pay the Sum or Sums by him, her, or them respectively payable as aforesaid, shall and may be distrained in manner aforesaid, not only in the Hamlet where such Rate or Assessment was made, but at any other Place within the said County; and if sufficient Distress cannot be found within the same County, then upon Oath thereof made before One or more Justice or Justices of any other County, City, Liberty, or Place, (which Oath shall be certified, under the Hand of the said Justice or Justices, on the Warrant made out for such Distress of the Goods and Chattels of the Person or Persons so neglecting or refusing to pay,) shall be subject and liable to such Distress and Sale in such other County, Liberty, or Place where the same shall be found, and may by virtue of such Warrant or Certificate be distrained in the same Manner as if the same had been found within the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*.

For apportioning Rates.

LXIX. And be it further enacted, That in case any Person shall remove out of or from or quit the Possession of any House, Building, Tenement, Ground, or Hereditament within the said Hamlet, before any Rate or Assessment charged thereon by virtue of this Act, or made or to be made for the watching, cleansing, lighting, and otherwise improving of the said Hamlet, and for the Relief of the Poor thereof, shall be paid, or if any Person shall enter into the Occupation of any House, Building, Tenement, Ground, or Hereditament, out of or from which any other

Person shall have so removed, before Payment of any such Rate or Assessment, or which at the Time of rating or assessing the same shall be empty or unoccupied, then the Person so removing out of or from or quitting the Possession, and the Person entering into the Occupation of any such House, Building, Tenement, Ground, or Hereditament, shall be respectively liable to the Payment of every Rate or Assessment in proportion to the Time such Person or Persons possessed or occupied the same respectively, in like Manner as if the Person or Persons so removing or quitting as aforesaid had remained in the Possession and Occupation of such House, Building, Tenement, Ground, or Hereditament, or the Person or Persons so entering into the Occupation thereof had been originally rated or assessed; which Proportion (in case of Dispute) shall be ascertained by any Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Middlesex*.

Houses partly within and partly without the Limits of this Act, how to be rated.

LXX. And be it further enacted, That if any House or Premises within the said Hamlet, or any Part of such House or Premises, shall stand or abut upon any Street or Place not within the Limits of the said Hamlet, and shall be partly within and partly without the Limits of this Act, such Houses and Premises shall be assessed to the Rates to be raised by virtue of this Act, for a proportionate Part only of the Rent or Value thereof; and it shall be lawful for the Churchwarden, Overseers of the Poor, and Trustees, at some Meeting to be holden for that Purpose, and they are hereby authorized and required, to apportion and settle at how much and what Part of the Rent or Value of such House or Premises the same shall be assessed; and if any Person or Persons occupying such House or Premises shall be dissatisfied therewith, he, she, or they may appeal to the General or Quarter Sessions, within the Time and in the Manner herein-after mentioned, and the Determination of such Justices at their General or Quarter Sessions therein shall be final and conclusive.

Rates to be applied for the Purposes of this Act.

LXXI. And be it further enacted, That all the Monies to be raised by the Rates or Assessments in manner as aforesaid shall be issued, paid, and applied for the respective Uses and Purposes in and by this Act directed and prescribed, in such Manner as the said Trustees shall from Time to Time at any of their weekly or adjourned Meetings order, direct, and appoint; and in case the Money assessed or collected in any One Year, by virtue of this Act, shall not be sufficient to answer the respective Purposes for which the same was so rated or assessed, such Deficiency shall be supplied out of the Rates or Assessments of the next ensuing Year; and in case there shall remain at the End of any One Year any Surplus of any or either of the respective Rates, such Surplus shall from Time to Time, as the same shall happen to arise, be applied in aid of the succeeding Year's Expence, in putting in execution the Purposes of this Act respectively.

Powers in Trustees to remit a Part of the Rates.

LXXII. And whereas it may be reasonable to excuse some Persons from the Payment of the said Rates or Assessments on account of their Poverty; be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Trustees, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to grant to such Person or Persons such Relief in the Payment of any Rate or Assessment as they the said Trustees shall think proper.

Penalty on Persons assaulting

LXXIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall at any Time or Times obstruct, hinder, or molest any of the Trustees,

or any Treasurer, Clerk, Collector, Receiver, Surveyor, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, Beadle, or other Officer or Officers, Workman, Person or Persons whomsoever, who is, are, or shall be employed by virtue of this Act in the Performance or Execution of his, her, or their Duty, or of any of the Measures or Things to be done in virtue or in pursuance thereof, every such Person so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds.

and interrupting Trustees, &c.

LXXIV. And be it further enacted, That all Penalties and Forfeitures by this Act imposed and incurred (for the Recovery whereof no other Method hath been directed by this Act) shall be levied by Distress and Sale of the Offender's Goods and Chattels, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any Justice of the Peace for the said County of *Middlesex*, which Warrant such Justice is hereby empowered and required to issue upon Confession of the Party or Parties, or upon the Evidence of any credible Witness upon Oath, (which Oath such Justice is hereby authorized and required to administer,) and the Overplus of the Money (if any) arising by such Distress and Sale shall be returned, upon Demand, to the Owners of such Goods and Chattels, after deducting the Costs and Charges of such Distress and Sale; and all such Penalties and Forfeitures when recovered shall, if not herein directed to be otherwise applied, be paid to the Treasurer to the said Trustees, and be applied by him for such of the Purposes of this Act as the said Trustees shall think fit; and in case sufficient Goods and Chattels cannot be found, or such Penalties and Forfeitures shall not be forthwith paid, it shall and may be lawful to and for such Justice, and he is hereby authorized and required, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to commit such Offender or Offenders to the Common Gaol or House of Correction of and for the said County, for any Time not exceeding Six Calendar Months, unless such Penalties and Forfeitures, and all reasonable Charges attending the same, shall be sooner paid or satisfied.

Mode for recovering and Application of Penalties and Forfeitures.

LXXV. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where any Person or Persons shall be convicted of any Offence against this Act, or any Misdemeanor in pursuance thereof, the Conviction shall be in the Words or to the Effect following;

'Middlesex to wit. } BE it remembered, That on the Day of in the Year of our Lord *A. B.* is duly convicted before of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, of having [*here state the Offence against the Act, as the Case may be*], contrary to the Form of the Statute in that Case made and provided; and I [*or* we, *as the Case may be*,] do declare and adjudge that the said *A. B.* hath forfeited for his [*or* her, *as the Case may be*,] said Offence the Sum of . Given under my Hand [*or* our Hands, *as the Case may be*,] the Day and Year above written.'

Form of Conviction of Offenders.

LXXVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any Justice or Justices of the Peace before whom any Person or Persons shall be convicted of any Offence or Offences for which any pecuniary Penalty is imposed by this Act, where he or they shall see Cause, to mitigate or lessen any of the Forfeitures incurred by

Power to mitigate Penalties.

Penalties

Penalties inflicted as aforesaid, as he or they shall in their Discretion think fit; and every such Mitigation shall be a sufficient Discharge to the Person or Persons so offending respectively for so much of the said Penalties or Forfeitures as shall be so lessened, mitigated, or remitted.

Provision for the bringing and defending Actions in the Name of the Clerk.

LXXVII. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees may sue and be sued in the Name of their Clerk for the Time being, and that all Actions or Suits that may be necessary or expedient to be brought for the Recovery of any Penalty or Sum of Money due or payable by virtue of this Act, or for or in respect of any other Matter or Thing relating to this Act, may be brought in the Name of such Clerk; and that no Action or Suit which may be brought, commenced, or prosecuted by or against the said Trustees, or any of them, by virtue or on account of this Act, in the Name of such their Clerk, shall abate or be discontinued by the Death, Suspension, or Removal of such Clerk, or by any Act or Default of such Clerk done or suffered without the Consent or Direction of the said Trustees; but the Clerk to the said Trustees for the Time being shall be always deemed Plaintiff or Defendant in every such Action or Suit (as the Case may be), except in such Action or Actions as shall be prosecuted between the said Trustees and their Clerk for the Time being, in which Action or Suit any one of the said Trustees shall or may be Plaintiff or Defendant, as the Case may be.

Indemnity of Clerks.

LXXVIII. Provided always, That every such Clerk or Trustee in whose Name any Action or Suit shall be commenced, prosecuted, or defended in pursuance of this Act, shall always be reimbursed and paid, out of the Monies to arise by virtue of this Act, all such Costs, Charges, and Expences as such Clerk or Trustee shall be put to or become chargeable with by reason of his being so made Plaintiff or Defendant therein; but no such Clerk or Trustee shall be personally answerable or liable for the Payment of the same or any Part of the same, unless such Action or Suit shall arise in consequence of his own wilful Neglect or Default, or have been brought or commenced without the Order or Direction of the said Trustees, as the Case may be.

Inhabitants allowed to give Evidence.

LXXIX. And be it further enacted, That no Inhabitant of the said Hamlet shall be deemed incompetent to give Evidence before any Justice or Justices of the Peace, or upon any Trial, Hearing, Examination, or otherwise, in, about, touching, or concerning this Act, or any Matter or Thing herein contained, on account of his, her, or their paying the Rates of the said Hamlet; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Proceedings not to be quashed or removed by Certiorari.

LXXX. And be it further enacted, That no Order, Verdict, Judgment, Conviction, or other Proceedings touching or concerning any of the Matters aforesaid, or touching or concerning any Offence against this Act, shall be quashed or vacated for Want of Form only, or be removed or removable by Certiorari, or any other Writ or Process whatsoever, into any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*; any Law or Statute to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

To prevent vexatious Suits.

LXXXI. And be it further enacted, That where any Distress shall be made for any Sum or Sums of Money justly due for any of the Purposes

poses of this Act, the Distress itself shall not be deemed unlawful, nor the Party or Parties making the same be deemed a Trespasser or Trespassers on account of any Defect or Want of Form in the Warrant of or for the Appointment of such Overseers of the Poor, Collector or Collectors, Beadle, or other Officer, or in the Rate or Assessment, or in any Warrant of Distress thereupon, nor shall the Party or Parties distraining be deemed a Trespasser or Trespassers *ab initio* on account of any Irregularity which shall be afterwards done by the Party or Parties distraining, but the Party or Parties aggrieved by such Irregularity shall or may recover full Satisfaction for the Special Damages he, she, or they shall have sustained thereby, and no more, in any Action of Trespass or on the Case, at the Election of the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs: Provided always, that no Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall recover in any such Action or Actions for any Irregularity as aforesaid, if Tender of Amends hath been made by the Party or Parties making the Distress before such Action or Actions was or were brought, nor if Tender of Amends shall be made at any Time after the said Action or Actions shall have been brought, and before the Trial thereof, together with the Costs of Suit to the Time of such last-mentioned Tender.

Plaintiff not to recover if Tender of Amends made.

Appeal.

LXXXII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by any Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments made by virtue of this Act, or by any Rule, Order, or Regulation, Judgment or Determination of the said Trustees, or by any other Matter or Thing done or directed to be done or committed by or by Order of the said Trustees, such Person or Persons may appeal to the said Trustees at any Meeting to be holden within Three Calendar Months next after the Cause of Complaint shall have arisen, or any Matter or Thing done or committed by or by the Order of the said Trustees; and such Trustees are hereby authorized and empowered, if they shall think such Person or Persons aggrieved, to give such Relief in the Premises as to them shall seem necessary; and if any such Person or Persons shall not be satisfied with the Determination of the said Trustees, or if any Person or Persons shall think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by reason of any Judgment, Order, or Determination of any Justice or Justices of the Peace acting in the Execution of this Act, then and in every such Case he, she, or they may appeal to the General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the said County, within Three Calendar Months next after such Determination of the said Trustees, or after the Cause of Complaint shall have arisen, such Appellant or Appellants first giving, or causing to be given, Ten Days Notice at the least, in Writing, of his, her, or their Intention to bring such Appeal, and of the Matter thereof, to the Clerk to the said Trustees, or to such Justice or Justices, and within Two Days next after such Notice entering into a Recognizance in the Sum of Twenty Pounds before some Justice of the Peace for the said County, conditioned for prosecuting such Appeal, and to abide the Order thereon, and to pay such Costs as shall be awarded by the Justices at such General or Quarter Sessions; and the said Justices, at such General or Quarter Sessions, upon due Proof of such Notice given as aforesaid, and of entering into such Recognizance, shall hear and determine the Causes and Matters of such Appeal in a summary Way, and award such Costs to the Parties appealing or appealed against, as they the said Justices shall think proper;

and the said Justices may, if they see Cause, mitigate any Fine, Penalty, or Forfeiture, and may order any Money to be returned which shall be levied in pursuance of such Rule, Order, Regulation, Judgment, or Determination, and may also order and award such further Satisfaction to be made to the Party injured as they shall think reasonable; and the Determination of such Justices at their General or Quarter Sessions shall be final and conclusive.

This Act not to extend to repeal former Acts further than as to the Hamlet of Ratcliff.

LXXXIII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend so as to prejudice, destroy, alter, vary, or affect any of the Clauses, Powers, Articles, Matters, and Things expressed and contained in the said recited Act of the Twenty-ninth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty *George* the Second, of and concerning the several Parishes of *Saint John Wapping*, *Saint Paul Shadwell*, the Parish of *Saint Anne* in the County of *Middlesex*, and the Precinct of *Well Close* in the Liberty of the Tower of *London*, or any of them, but that the said recited Act, and all and every the Clauses, Powers, Articles, Matters, and Things therein contained, shall (except as to the said Hamlet of *Ratcliff*) be as good, valid, and effectual as if this Act had not been made.

The Act not to affect the Commercial Road Act.

LXXXIV. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend, or be construed, deemed, or taken to extend, to prejudice, prohibit, defeat, alter, or diminish any Power, Authority, or Jurisdiction given to or vested in the Trustees acting under and by virtue of an Act of Parliament made and passed in the Forty-second Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for making and maintaining, and for watching, lighting, and watering a Road from the* West India Docks *in the* Isle of Dogs, *to communicate with a Street called* Church Lane *or* Church Street Whitechapel, *and for making and maintaining a Branch of Road therefrom to communicate with* Queen Street *in the Parish of* Saint Anne, *all in the County of* Middlesex; *for opening, widening, and improving certain Streets and Passages therein mentioned; and for more effectually amending and keeping in repair a Road from* Ratcliff Highway, *through* Cannon Street, *in the County of* Middlesex, *into the Road leading into the County of* Essex; *and also from the West End of* Brook Street *into* Cable Street, *and from* Upper Shadwell Street *into the* Back Lane, *in the said County of* Middlesex, or under and by virtue of any other Act or Acts of Parliament relating to the said Roads, or any of them.

Limitations of Actions.

LXXXV. And be it further enacted, That no Action shall be commenced against any Person or Persons for any thing done in pursuance of this Act, unless Thirty Days Notice thereof, signed by the intended Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, shall be given in Writing to the Churchwarden or Clerk to the said Trustees, or after sufficient Satisfaction or Tender of Amends hath been made to the Party or Parties aggrieved, or after Three Calendar Months next after the Fact committed for which such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall be so brought; and every such Action shall be brought, laid, and tried in the County of *Middlesex*, and not in any other County or Place; and the Defendant or Defendants in such Actions and Suits, and every of them, may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the Special Matter in Evidence at any Trial or

Trials which shall be had thereupon, and that the Matter or Thing for which such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall be so brought, was done in pursuance and by the Authority of this Act; and if such Matter or Thing shall appear to have been so done, or if it shall appear that such Action or Suit was brought before Thirty Days Notice thereof given as aforesaid, or that sufficient Satisfaction or Tender of Amends was made or tendered as aforesaid, or if any such Action or Suit shall not be commenced within the Time before for that Purpose limited, or shall be laid in any other County or Place than as aforesaid, then the Jury or Juries shall find for the Defendant or Defendants therein; and if a Verdict shall be found for such Defendant or Defendants, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs in such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall become nonsuited, or suffer a Discontinuance of such Action or Actions, or if upon any Demurrer or Demurrers in such Action or Actions Judgment shall be given for the Defendant or Defendants therein, then and in any of the Cases aforesaid such Defendant or Defendants shall have Double Costs, and shall have such Remedy for recovering the same as any Defendant or Defendants may have for his, her, or their Costs in any other Cases by Law.

Expences of Act how to be paid.

LXXXVI. And be it further enacted, That all the Costs, Charges, and Expences incident to or attending the obtaining and passing this Act shall be borne, paid, and defrayed out of the Rates or Assessments raised, levied, or collected, or to be raised, levied, and collected, by virtue of this Act.

Public Act.

LXXXVII. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a Public Act, and shall be judicially taken notice of as such by all Judges, Justices, and others, without being specially pleaded.

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