ANNO SEPTIMO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

Cap. xxxiii.

An Act for the better and more effectually supplying with Water the Inhabitants of the several Parishes of *Saint Mary*, *Saint Lawrence*, and *Saint Giles*, *Reading*, in the County of *Berks*.

[11th *April* 1826.]

WHEREAS the several Parishes of *Saint Mary*, *Saint Lawrence*, and *Saint Giles*, *Reading*, in the County of *Berks*, are large and populous, and have of late Years greatly increased in Houses and other Buildings; and it would be of great Advantage to the Inhabitants thereof if the said several Parishes were regularly supplied with a constant and sufficient Supply of Water: And whereas Engines, Cisterns, Water Tower, Tanks, and other Buildings, Pipes, Aqueducts, and other Works, have been erected within the Borough of *Reading* aforesaid, and considerable Sums of Money have been expended in laying down Mains and Pipes for the supplying of Water to the Inhabitants thereof, and a further Sum will be required to complete and carry on the same; and it would be of great Advantage and Convenience if the Owners and Proprietors of the said Engines, Cisterns, Water Tower, Tanks, and other Buildings, Pipes, Aqueducts, and other Works, and their Successors, were incorporated and formed into a Joint Stock Company, with full Power and Authority to carry on and complete the Works necessary to afford a constant and regular Supply of Water to all the Inhabitants within the said Town and Borough, and the several Parishes aforesaid; but the same cannot be effected without the Aid and Authority

rity of Parliament: 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 *William Stephens* of *Padworth* in the County of *Berks*, Esquire, *William Stephens* the younger, of *Reading* in the County of *Berks*, Esquire, *John Stephens* of *Aldermaston* in the said County of *Berks*, Esquire, *Charles Stephens* of *Stonehouse* in the County of *Gloucester*, Esquire, and *John Hooper* of *Reading* aforesaid, Esquire, and their Successors, and all and every such other Person or Persons, Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate or Collegiate, who shall from Time to Time hereafter become a Proprietor or Proprietors, and be possessed of One or more Share or Shares in the Capital Stock of the said Undertaking, their respective Successors, Administrators, and Assigns, shall be and they are hereby formed into a Company for completing and maintaining the Waterworks and Conveniences hereby authorized to be done according to the Provisions hereinafter contained, and shall for that Purpose be one Body Politic and Corporate, by the Name of "The *Reading* Waterworks Company," and by that Name shall have perpetual Succession and a Common Seal, with Power to order and dispose of the Custody thereof, and the Use and Application of the same; and by that Name shall and may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, at Law and in Equity, and shall and may prefer and prosecute any Bill or Bills of Indictment for any Felony, Misdemeanor, or other Offence punishable by the Laws of this Realm; and the said Company shall have Power and Authority to purchase and hold Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, to them and their Successors and Assigns, for the Use of the said Undertaking and Works, and also to sell and dispose of the said Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments again in manner by this Act directed, without incurring any of the Penalties or Forfeitures of the Statutes of Mortmain.

Proprietors incorporated.

Their Style.

II. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Company of Proprietors and their Successors, by themselves, their Deputies, Agents, Servants, Workmen, and Assistants, to continue, make, complete, maintain, sink, lay down, fix, and keep Waterworks, Water Towers, Houses, and other Buildings, Reservoirs, Cisterns, Tanks, Aqueducts, Conduits, Steam and other Engines, Waste Gates, Stop Gates, Sluice Gates, Weirs, Banks, Bridges, Fences, Water Wheels, Pumps, Pipes, Tunnels, Valves, and other Works, Devices, and Conveniences, within the said Borough of *Reading*, and the said several Parishes of *Saint Mary*, *Saint Lawrence*, and *Saint Giles*; and from Time to Time to regulate, conduct, continue, cleanse, open, widen, enlarge, alter, amend, and use the same, and to discontinue the same, and make and maintain other Works of the like or of different Nature and Sorts, as the said Company shall think fit and proper; and shall and may bore, dig, trench, and sough, and remove Earth, Stone, Gravel, Rubbish, Trees, Roots of Trees, Gravel, Sand, and any other Matter or Thing which may be dug, or gotten, or met with, in and for the making of the said Reservoirs, Tanks, Aqueducts, or the Trenches, Sluices, Pens of Water, Drains, Watercourses, or other the Works of the said Undertaking, or which may prevent or obstruct the making, completing, maintaining, and using the same, or any of them respectively; and for the better effectuating the Purposes aforesaid, the said Company, and their Officers, Workmen,

Power to Company to make Waterworks, &c.

and Servants, are hereby empowered to go, enter, and pass in, upon, over, under, and through the Rivers, Brooks, Streams, Waters, Highways, Roads, Waste Lands, Streets, and Passages, and all other Lands and Places of or belonging to any Person or Persons, Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate whatsoever, mentioned and specified in the Plan and Book of Reference herein-after mentioned; and to set out and ascertain such Part or Parts thereof, as they the said Company shall think necessary and proper for making, completing, maintaining, improving, and using the said Waterworks, Reservoirs, Pipes, Aqueducts, and all such other Works, Matters, and Conveniences as they shall think necessary for effecting the Purposes aforesaid; and also to construct, erect, do, and perform all other Matters or Things which shall be deemed necessary and convenient for the making, completing, improving, and continuing the said Waterworks, and for conveying and bringing a sufficient Supply of Water to and through the several Streets, Lanes, Passages, and Courts of and in the Borough and Town of *Reading* aforesaid, and the said several Parishes of *Saint Mary*, *Saint Lawrence*, and *Saint Giles*, for the Use of the Inhabitants thereof respectively; and for the certain and more efficient Supply of Water for the Purposes aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the said Company, and they are hereby fully authorized and empowered to supply the said Waterworks with Water from, in, and adjoining to the River *Thames* and River *Kennet*, and the Branches thereof, within the said several Parishes of *Saint Mary*, *Saint Lawrence*, and *Saint Giles*, *Reading*, which they may by this Act be empowered to take and make use of, and to conduct the Waters thereby collected and obtained, and any other Waters, by and through Underdrains, Pipes or otherwise, into the Reservoirs, Water Towers, Tanks, Cisterns, Mains, Pipes, and other Works of the said Company, as they shall from Time to Time think proper and expedient; they the said Company, their Deputies, Agents, Servants, and Workmen, doing as little Damage as may be in the Execution of the several Powers to them hereby granted, and making full Satisfaction in manner herein-after mentioned to the Owners or Proprietors of and all Persons interested in any Lands, Tenements, or other Hereditaments which shall be taken, used, removed, diverted, or injured, for all Damages to be by them sustained in or by the Execution of all or any of the Powers hereby granted; and this Act shall be sufficient to indemnify the said Company, and their Deputies, Servants, Agents, and Workmen, and all other Persons whomsoever, for what they or any of them shall do by virtue of the Powers hereby granted, subject nevertheless to such Provisoes and Restrictions as are herein-after mentioned and contained.

Company may alter the present Sluice and Water Wheel, &c.

III. And whereas the Water now taken and used at the Works of the said Company by and through the Sluice or Gate on the said River *Kennet* is and has been ever since the Formation of the said Works taken from the Bottom or Bed of the River by a Stream or Pillar of Water not exceeding One hundred Square Inches, and it would be of great Advantage and Improvement to the said Works if the said Company were allowed to take a like Quantity of Water by and through other Parts of the said Sluice; be it therefore enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Company to make such Alterations in the said Sluice or Gate, and the present Water Wheel of the said Works, as the said Company, their Surveyor or Engineer, shall think proper, provided a greater Quantity

tity of Water be not thereby taken from the said River than the said Company now take or are entitled to take by and through the said Sluice or Gate in its present State.

Plan of intended Reservoirs and Book of Reference to remain with the Clerk of the Peace and be open to Inspection.

IV. And whereas a Map or Plan describing the Sites of the several intended Reservoirs, and Line of Pipes, Aqueducts, and Works, and the Lands and Places through which the same respectively are intended to be carried, together with a Book of Reference containing a List of the Names of the Owners and Occupiers or reputed Owners and Occupiers respectively of such Sites and Lands as aforesaid, have been deposited at the Office of the Clerk of the Peace for the said County of *Berks*, and with the Town Clerk of the Borough of *Reading* aforesaid; be it therefore further enacted, That the said Map or Plan and Book of Reference shall remain in the Custody of the said Clerk of the Peace, and with the said Town Clerk; and all Persons shall at any reasonable Time have Liberty to inspect and peruse the same, and have a Copy thereof, or such Part thereof as such Person or Persons shall require, on paying to the said Clerk of the Peace or the said Town Clerk the Sum of One Shilling for every such Inspection, and at the Rate of Sixpence for every One hundred Words of such Copies; and the said Company in making such Reservoirs, Aqueducts, Conduits, and other Works as aforesaid, shall not deviate more than One hundred Yards from the Line described in the said Map or Plan.

Company not to deviate from the Plan.

Misnomers not to prevent the Execution of this Act.

V. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Advantage shall be taken of or against the said Company of Proprietors, or any Interruption be given to the making of the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other Works hereby authorized to be made, on account of any Error or Omission in the said Map or Plan and Book of Reference, in case it shall appear to any Two or more Justices of the Peace acting for the said Borough of *Reading* or County of *Berks*, and be certified by Writing under their Hands, that such Error or Omission proceeded from Mistake only.

Company not to take any Houses, Gardens, &c. without Consent, except specified in Schedule.

VI. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to authorize or empower the said Company of Proprietors, or any Person or Persons acting by or under their Authority, to take, use, injure, or damage for the Purposes of the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other Works hereby authorized to be made, or for any other of the Purposes aforesaid, any House or other Building which was erected or built on or before the First Day of *January* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-six, or any Land or Ground which was then set apart and used as and for a Garden, Orchard, Yard, Park, Paddock, Plantation, planted Walk, or Avenue to a House, or any inclosed Ground planted as an Ornament or Shelter to a House, or planted and set apart as a Nursery for Trees, without the Consent in Writing of the Owners or Proprietors thereof, and Persons interested therein respectively, (other than and except such as are specified in the Schedule to this Act annexed): Provided always, that if the said Company of Proprietors shall not, within the Space of Five Years, to be computed from the passing of this Act, agree for or cause to be valued and paid for as herein-after is mentioned and directed, the several Houses and other Buildings, Lands, Tenements, and other Here-

Limiting Time for purchasing Premises in Schedule.

ditaments,

ditaments which they are hereby empowered to purchase as aforesaid, or so much thereof as they shall deem necessary or proper for the Purposes of this Act, then and from thenceforth the Powers and Authorities by this Act granted to them of purchasing the same, or such Part thereof as aforesaid, shall cease, determine, and be utterly void, (save and except with the Consent in Writing of the Owners and Occupiers thereof respectively).

Bodies Politic, &c. empowered to sell and convey Lands.

VII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Tenants for Life or in Tail, or for any other partial or qualified Estate or Interest, Husbands, Guardians, Trustees, and all Feoffees in Trust, Committees, Executors, Administrators, Femes Covert, and other Persons whatsoever, seised, possessed of, or interested in any Messuages, Mills, Lands, Tenements, Springs, Reservoirs, Streams, or Runs of Water, from Time to Time to contract for, sell and convey, lease or demise the same, or any Estate or Interest therein, for the Purposes of this Act, not only for and on behalf of themselves, but also for and on behalf of their Cestuique Trusts, Infants, Issue unborn, married Women, Minors, Lunatics, or Idiots, or other Persons whatsoever; and all such Contracts or Agreements, Sales, Conveyances, Leases, Demises, and other Assurances shall, without any Fine or Fines, Recovery or Recoveries, be valid and effectual in the Law to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever; and all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Tenants for Life or in Tail, or any other partial or qualified Estate or Interest, Husbands, Guardians, Feoffees in Trust, Committees, Executors, Administrators, Trustees, and all other Persons whomsoever, are hereby indemnified for what they shall respectively do by virtue or in pursuance of this Act; and all such Conveyances and Assurances as shall be made upon the Sale of any Lands, Tenements, or other Hereditaments, or Rights, Interests, or Privileges therein, shall and may be made in the following Form, or as near thereto as the Circumstances of the Case will admit; (that is to say),

Form of Conveyance.

'I of , in consideration of the Sum of to me paid by the Proprietors of the *Reading* 'Waterworks Company, do hereby grant and convey to the said Com- 'pany all [*describing the Premises to be conveyed*], and all my Right, 'Title, and Interest to and in the same and every Part thereof, to hold 'the same, with the Appurtenances, to the said Company and their Suc- 'cessors for ever, by virtue of an Act passed in the Seventh Year of the 'Reign of His Majesty King *George* the Fourth, intituled [*here insert the* '*Title of this Act.*] In witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and 'Seal this Day of in the Year

Where small Parcels of Land are intersected, Company to purchase the Whole.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That if in making the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other Works hereby authorized to be made, any Pieces or Parcels of Ground shall be cut through and divided, so that what shall be left on each or either Side thereof shall be less than Half an Acre in Quantity, or less than Fifty Yards in average Breadth throughout the whole Length thereof, and if the Owner or Owners of any such Pieces or Parcels of Ground shall not have any other Land or Ground adjoining to that which shall be so left on each or either Side thereof, then and in every such Case if the Owner or Owners or Person or Persons entitled to the

Possession or to the Rents and Profits of the same shall so require, but not otherwise, the said Company of Proprietors shall also take and purchase the Piece or Parcel or Pieces or Parcels of Ground so left on each or either Side thereof, being less than Half an Acre in Quantity, or less than Fifty Yards in average Breadth throughout the whole Length thereof as aforesaid, the Value thereof to be ascertained in the same Manner as is herein-after directed concerning any Land or Ground to be taken and used for the Purposes of this Act.

Bodies Corporate, &c. may accept Satisfaction for Damages.

IX. And be it further enacted, That all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Tenants for Life or in Tail, Trustees, and other Persons hereinbefore capacitated to sell and convey, demise and lease Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, and the Owner and Owners, and Occupier and Occupiers of any Lands, Springs, Reservoirs, Streams, Runs of Water, Tenements, or Hereditaments, through, in, or upon, over, or under which the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, or other Works hereby authorized, or any of them, are intended to be made or laid, may accept and receive Satisfaction for the Value of such Lands, Tenements, or other Hereditaments, and for the Damages to be sustained in making and completing the said Works, in such gross Sums as shall be agreed upon by and between the said Owners and Occupiers respectively, or any of them, and the said Company of Proprietors; and in case the said Company, and the several Parties interested in any such Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, cannot or do not agree as to the Amount or Value of such Satisfaction or Compensation, the same shall be ascertained and settled by the Verdict of a Jury as herein-after is directed.

Differences between the Company and Land Owners to be settled by a Jury.

X. And for settling all Differences which may arise between the said Company of Proprietors and the several Owners of or Persons interested in any Lands and Grounds, Messuages, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments which the said Company of Proprietors are by this Act enabled to take and make use of for the Purposes thereof, be it further enacted, That if any Body Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Trustee or Trustees, or any other Person or Persons so interested, entitled or empowered or capacitated to sell as aforesaid, for and on behalf of himself, herself, or themselves, or for or on behalf of his, her, or their Cestuique Trusts, or of the Person or Persons entitled in Remainder or Reversion after them as aforesaid, or of any other incapacitated Person or Persons as aforesaid, shall refuse to accept such Purchase Money, Recompence, or other Compensation as shall be offered them by the said Company, and shall give Notice thereof in Writing to the said Company within Twenty-one Days next after such Offer shall have been made, and the Party or Parties giving such Notice shall therein request that the Matter or Matters in dispute may be submitted to the Determination of a Jury; or if any Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Trustee or Trustees, or any other Person or Persons interested, entitled, or empowered to sell as aforesaid shall, for the Space of Twenty-one Days next after Notice in Writing shall have been given to the principal Officer of any such Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, or to such Trustee or Trustees, Person or Persons respectively, or left at the last or usual Place or Places of his, her, or their Abode, or with the Tenant or Tenants, Occupier or Occupiers of any Lands or Hereditaments required for the Purposes of this Act, neglect or refuse to treat, or shall not agree with the said Company for the Sale and Conveyance of their respective Estates and

Interests therein, or shall by reason of Absence be prevented from treating, or shall by reason of Non-age, or any other Impediment or Disability not provided for by this Act, be incapable of treating or making such Agreement as shall be expedient for enabling the said Company to proceed in making Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other the Works aforesaid, or shall not produce or evince a clear Title to the Premises they may be in Possession of, or to the Interest they shall claim therein, to the Satisfaction of the said Company, then and in every such Case the said Company of Proprietors shall and they are hereby empowered and required from Time to Time to issue a Warrant under their Common Seal to the Sheriff of the said County of *Berks*, commanding such Sheriff to impannel, summon, and return, and the said Sheriff is hereby accordingly authorized, empowered, and required to impannel, summon, and return a Jury of at least Twenty-four sufficient and indifferent Men of the said County of *Berks*, qualified according to the Laws of this Realm to be returned for the Trials of Issues in His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*; and the Persons to be impannelled, summoned, and returned, are hereby required to come and appear before the Justices of the Peace at some Court of General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the said County of *Berks*, or at some Adjournment thereof, as in such Warrant shall be directed or appointed, and to attend such General or Quarter Sessions from Day to Day until discharged by the said Court; and out of such Persons so to be impannelled, summoned, and returned, a Jury of Twelve Men shall be drawn by the Clerk of the Peace, or his Deputy, in such Manner as Juries for Trials of Issues joined in His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster* are by Law directed to be drawn; and in case a sufficient Number of Jurymen shall not appear at the Time and Place so to be appointed as aforesaid, the said Clerk or his Deputy shall return other honest and indifferent Men of the Standers-by, or of others that can speedily be procured to attend that Service (being so qualified as aforesaid) to make up the said Jury to the Number of Twelve; and all Parties concerned shall and may have their lawful Challenges against any of the said Jurymen, but shall not challenge the Array; and the said Clerk or his Deputy is hereby empowered and required to summon and call before the said Justices all and every Person and Persons who shall be thought necessary to be examined as a Witness or Witnesses touching the Matters in question or dispute, and may order and authorize the said Jury, or any Six or more of them, to view the Place or Places, or Matter or Matters in controversy, and such Jury shall, upon their Oaths, or being of the Society called *Quakers*, upon their solemn Affirmations, (which Oaths and solemn Affirmations, as well as the Oaths and solemn Affirmations to such Person or Persons as shall be called upon to give Evidence, the said Justices are hereby empowered and required to administer), inquire of, assess, and ascertain, and give a Verdict for the Sum or Sums of Money to be paid for the Purchase of such Lands, Grounds, Messuages, Buildings, Tenements, and Hereditaments, and also the separate and distinct Sum or Sums of Money to be paid by way of Recompence or Compensation, either for the Damages which shall or may before that Time have been occasioned and sustained as aforesaid, or for the future, temporary, or perpetual Continuance of any recurring Damages which shall have been so occasioned as aforesaid, and the Cause or Occasion of which shall have been in part only removed by the said Company, and which can or will be no further obviated, remedied, or repaired by them; and the said Justices

tices shall accordingly give Judgment for such Purchase Money, Recompence, or Compensation as shall be assessed by such Jury; which said Verdict, and the Judgment thereupon to be pronounced as aforesaid, shall be binding and conclusive to all Intents and Purposes upon all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, and all other Persons whatsoever: Provided always, that not less than Fourteen Days Notice in Writing of the Time and Place at which such Jury are so required to be returned shall be given by the said Company to the Party or Parties with whom any such Controversy shall arise, by leaving such Notice at the Dwelling House of such Person or Persons, or of the Clerk or Agent, or Head Officer of any such Body Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, or with some Tenant or Occupier of the Premises intended to be valued, or respecting which any such Question shall arise.

Value of Land and Damages to be ascertained separately.

XI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in ascertaining the Sum or Sums of Money to be paid for the Purchase of any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to be taken or made use of for the Purposes of this Act, the Jury shall also ascertain and assess the Compensation and Satisfaction to be made by the said Company for any Damages which shall or may at any Time or Times hereafter be sustained by any Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, or by any Person or Persons respectively, being Owner or Owners of or interested in such Lands, Tenements, or other Hereditaments, for or by reason of the severing or dividing the same from other Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, belonging to such Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, or to any such Person or Persons aforesaid, and for or on account of the Detriment, Injury, Loss, and Damage, or Prejudice which shall or may accrue to or be sustained by any such Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Owner or Owners, or other Person or Persons interested in such Lands, Tenements, or other Hereditaments, or any of them, by reason of the making, using, repairing, or maintaining the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other Works and Conveniences belonging thereto, or by reason or means of the Execution of any of the Powers given to the said Company of Proprietors; such Damages and Compensation to be settled and ascertained separately and distinctly from the Value of the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments so to be taken and used as aforesaid.

Juries to determine what Portion of Compensation shall be paid to the Tenant.

XII. And be it further enacted, That the said Juries shall and they are hereby respectively empowered to settle what Shares and Proportions of the Purchase Money or Compensation for Damages which shall be assessed as aforesaid shall be allowed to any Tenant or other Person or Persons having a particular Estate, Term, or Interest in the Premises, for such his, her, or their Interest or respective Interests therein.

Verdict of Juries to be recorded.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That all the said Verdicts and Judgments, being first signed by the Clerk of the Peace for the said County of *Berks*, or his Deputy, present at the taking of such Verdict and pronouncing of such Judgment respectively, shall by such Clerk of the Peace be registered among the Records of the Quarter Sessions for such County, and shall be deemed Records to all Intents and Purposes, and the same or true Copies thereof shall be allowed to be good Evidence in all Courts whatsoever;

whatsoever; and all Persons shall have Liberty to inspect the same, paying for such Inspection the Sum of One Shilling and no more, and also to take and make Copies thereof, paying for every Copy after the Rate of Sixpence for every One hundred Words.

Fine on Sheriff, Jurymen, or Witnesses making Default.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That if such Sheriff, or his Deputy, shall make Default in the Premises, he shall for every such Offence forfeit the Sum of One hundred Pounds; and if any Person so to be summoned and returned upon any such Jury as aforesaid, shall not appear without sufficient Excuse, or appearing shall refuse to be sworn, or being of the Society of Persons called *Quakers*, to make his solemn Affirmation, or to give his Verdict, or shall in any other Manner wilfully neglect his Duty, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act; or if any Person so to be summoned to give Evidence as aforesaid shall not appear, on being paid or tendered a reasonable Sum for his, her, or their Costs and Expences, or appearing shall refuse to be sworn, examined, or to give Evidence, then and in every such Case every such Person so offending, having no reasonable Excuse, (to be allowed by the said Justices), shall forfeit and pay for every such Offence, for the Benefit of the Party for whom or on whose account such Jury or Witness shall be summoned, any Sum not exceeding Twenty Pounds, to be levied by virtue of any Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any one of the said Justices, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Person so offending, rendering to him, her, or them the Overplus of the Money they produced, after such Penalty and the Charges and Expences of such Distress and Sale shall have been deducted.

Jury to be subject to the same Regulations as Juries in Courts of Record.

XV. And be it further enacted, That every such Jury and Juryman as aforesaid shall also be liable and subject to the same Regulations, Pains, and Penalties, as if such Jury and Juryman had been returned for the Trial of any Issue joined in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*; and all and every Person and Persons who in any Examination to be taken by virtue of this Act upon their Oath, or being of the Society of Persons called *Quakers*, upon their solemn Affirmation, shall wilfully and corruptly give false Evidence before any Justice of the Peace acting as such in the Execution of this Act, shall and may be prosecuted for the same, and upon Conviction thereof shall be subject and liable to the same Pains and Penalties to which Persons guilty of Perjury are by the Laws in being subject and liable.

By whom Expences of Juries shall be paid.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That in every Case where a Verdict shall be given by any such Jury for more Money than shall have been previously offered for or on behalf of the said Company of Proprietors as a Recompence or Satisfaction for any such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments as aforesaid, or for any such Estate, Right, or Interest therein, or for any Damages that may have been sustained by any Person or Persons as aforesaid, all the Costs and Charges incurred in summoning, impannelling, and returning such Jury, taking such Inquisition, and the Attendance of Witnesses, and recording the Verdict or Judgment thereon, shall be borne by the said Company of Proprietors out of the Monies to be raised by virtue of this Act; and in case such Costs and Expences shall not be paid to the Party or Person entitled to receive the same within Ten Days after Demand made thereof from the said Company, then the same

same shall and may be levied and recovered by Distress and Sale of any Goods or Chattels vested in the said Company, or of any Goods or Chattels of the Treasurer or Treasurers of the said Company, (unless such Treasurer or Treasurers shall pay such Costs and Charges out of the Monies received by him or them by virtue of this Act, which he or they is and are hereby authorized to do), under a Warrant to be issued for that Purpose by any Justice of the Peace for the said Borough of *Reading*, or County of *Berks*, which Warrant any such Justice is hereby authorized and required to issue under his Hand and Seal, on Application made to him for the Purpose by the Party or Person entitled to receive such Costs and Expences; and in every Case where a Verdict shall be given by any such Jury for no more or for less Money than shall have been previously offered by or on behalf of the said Company as such Recompence or Satisfaction as aforesaid, all the Costs and Charges incurred as aforesaid shall be borne in equal Proportions by the Party or Parties refusing or neglecting to treat or agree as before mentioned, and by the said Company; but in Cases where any Person or Persons, Party or Parties, shall have been prevented by Absence from entering into any Treaty with the said Company, the Costs and Charges so incurred shall be borne by the said Company in manner aforesaid; and in all Cases where any Difference shall arise touching the Amount of the said Costs and Charges, the same shall be settled and ascertained by any Justice of the Peace for the said Borough of *Reading*, or County of *Berks*, not interested in the Matter in question, who is hereby authorized and required to examine into and settle the same, and to appoint a Time and Place for Payment thereof; and where the Costs shall be payable by the Party or Parties having had any such Disagreement or Dispute with the said Company as aforesaid, the Amount thereof, having been first paid by the said Company, may be deducted by them out of the Monies awarded to be paid to such Party or Parties, as so much Money advanced for his, her, or their Use, and the Payment or Tender of the Balance of such Money shall be deemed and taken, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, to be a Payment or Tender of the whole Money awarded and adjudged to such Party or Parties; or otherwise, if such Costs and Charges be not paid upon Demand, after being so ascertained as aforesaid, the same may be recovered by the said Company from the Party or Parties liable to the Payment thereof, by Action of Debt or on the Case, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, together with full Costs of Suit.

Persons requesting Juries to enter into Bonds to prosecute.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That all and every Person or Persons who shall refuse to accept such Purchase or Compensation Money as shall have been offered them by the said Company, and shall request that the Matter in dispute shall be referred to the Determination of a Jury, shall, before the said Company shall be obliged to issue out their Warrant or Warrants for the summoning of such Jury, first enter into a Bond with Two sufficient Sureties to the Treasurer or Treasurers of the said Company, in a Penalty of One hundred Pounds, to prosecute such his, her, or their Complaint, and to bear and pay all the Costs and Expences of summoning and returning such Jury and taking such Verdict, and of the summoning and of the Attendance of Witnesses, in case such Costs and Expences shall fall upon him, her, or them, to be paid according to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act.

XVIII. And

Where Persons Lands are damaged, Compensation to be made.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That if at any Time or Times hereafter any Person or Persons shall sustain any Damage in his, her, or their Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, or Property, by reason of the Execution of any of the Powers given by this Act, and for which a Compensation is not herein-before provided, then and in every such Case such Damages shall from Time to Time be settled and ascertained or assessed by a Jury; and the Sum or Sums of Money to be paid for the same shall be recovered, levied, and applied in such and the same Manner as is herein directed with respect to such Damages as are herein-before provided for, and the Money to be paid as a Recompence for the same.

Notice of Injury to be given to Company.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That the said Company shall not be obliged, nor shall any Jury to be summoned by virtue of this Act be allowed to receive and take notice of any Complaint or Complaints to be made by any Person or Persons whomsoever, for any Injury or Damage by him, her, or them sustained or supposed to be sustained by virtue or in consequence of the Execution of any of the Powers of this Act, unless Notice in Writing, stating the Particulars of such Injury or Damage, and the Amount of the Compensation claimed in respect thereof, shall have been given by or on behalf of such Person or Persons, to the said Company, within the Space of Three Calendar Months after the Time of such Injury or Damage or supposed Injury or Damage shall have been sustained, or the doing or committing thereof shall have ceased.

Power to enter Lands on Payment or Tender of Purchase Money.

XX. And be it further enacted, That upon Payment or legal Tender of such Sum or Sums of Money as shall have been contracted or agreed for between the Parties, or assessed by any Jury or Juries in manner aforesaid, for the Purchase of any such Lands, Tenements, or other Hereditaments, or as a Recompence for the yearly Produce or Profits thereof, or as a Compensation for Damages as herein-before mentioned, to the Proprietor or Proprietors of such Lands, Tenements, or other Hereditaments, or to such other Person or Persons as shall be interested therein, or entitled to receive such Money or Compensation respectively, within One Calendar Month after the same shall be so agreed for, determined, or assessed; or if the Person or Persons entitled or interested as aforesaid, or any of them cannot be found, or shall refuse to receive the same, or shall not be able to make a good Title to, or shall refuse to execute a Conveyance or Conveyances of the Premises which shall be required for the Purposes of this Act, then upon Payment of the said Sum or Sums of Money into the Bank of *England* as herein-after directed and required for the Use of the Person or Persons entitled thereto, it shall be lawful for the said Company, and their Agents, Workmen, and Servants, immediately to enter upon such Lands, Tenements, and other Hereditaments respectively, and then and thereupon such Lands and Grounds, Tenements, and other Hereditaments, and the Fee Simple and Inheritance thereof, together with the yearly Profits thereof, and all the Estate, Use, Trust, and Interest of any Person or Persons therein, shall thenceforth be vested in and become the sole Property of the said Company of Proprietors to and for the Purposes of this Act for ever; and such Payment, Tender, or Investment shall not only bar all Right, Title, Interest, Claim, and Demand of the Person or Persons to whom the same shall or ought to have been made, but also shall extend to and be deemed and construed to bar the Dower of the Wife of every such Person, and all Estates Tail and other Estates in Reversion

Reversion and Remainder of his, her, or their Issue, and of every other Person whomsoever therein: Provided nevertheless, that before such Payment, Tender, or Investment in the Bank of *England* as aforesaid, it shall not be lawful for the said Company, or any Person acting under their Authority, to dig or cut into such Lands or Grounds, Tenements or Hereditaments, for the Purpose of making the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other Works hereby authorized to be made, without the Leave of the respective Owners and Occupiers thereof in Writing given under their respective Hands.

Tenants at Will, &c. to quit after Notice.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That every Tenant at Will, Lessee for a Year, and other Person or Persons in Possession of any Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments which shall be taken or used for the Purposes of this Act, and who shall have no greater Interest in the Premises than as Tenant at Will, or Lessee for a Year, or from Year to Year, shall deliver up the Possession of such Premises to the said Company, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint to take Possession of the same, at the Expiration of Six Calendar Months next after Notice to that Effect shall have been given by the said Company, or left upon the said Premises, whether such Notice be given with Reference to the Time or Times of such Tenant's holding or not; and in case any such Tenant or Lessee, or Persons so in Possession as aforesaid, shall refuse to give such Possession as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the said Company to issue their Precept or Precepts to the Sheriff of the said County of *Berks*, to deliver Possession of the said Premises to such Person or Persons as shall in such Precept or Precepts be nominated to receive the same, and the said Sheriff is hereby required to deliver Possession of the said Premises accordingly, and to levy such Costs as shall accrue from the issuing and Execution of such Precept or Precepts on the Person or Persons so refusing to give Possession as aforesaid, by Distress and Sale of his, her, or their Goods.

Interest of such Tenants may be settled by a Jury.

XXII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That where any such Tenant or Lessee shall be required to deliver up the Possession of any Premises so occupied by him or her to the said Company, or to the Person or Persons authorized by them to take Possession thereof as aforesaid, before the Expiration of the Term or Interest of such Tenant or Lessee as aforesaid in the said Premises, the said Company shall and they are hereby directed to make or tender unto such Tenant or Lessee Satisfaction or Compensation for the Value of his or her unexpired Term or Interest in the said Premises, which Satisfaction or Compensation, in case of Difference, shall be settled and ascertained in the same Manner as any other Satisfaction or Compensation for Lands intended to be taken or made use of is in and by this Act directed to be made and assessed.

Mortgages to be conveyed to the Company after Tender of Money due and Interest.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That all and every Person and Persons having any Mortgage or Mortgages on any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to be taken or used for the Purposes of this Act (not being in Possession thereof by virtue of such Mortgage or Mortgages,) shall, on Tender of the Principal Money and Interest due thereon, together with the Amount of Six Calendar Months Interest on the said Principal by the said Company, immediately convey, assign, and transfer such Mortgage or Mortgages to the said Company; or in case such Mortgagee or Mortga-

gees shall have Notice in Writing from the said Company that they will pay off and discharge the Principal Money and Interest which shall be due on the said Mortgage or Mortgages at the End or Expiration of Six Calendar Months (to be computed from the Day of giving such Notice), then and at the End of such Six Calendar Months, on Payment of the Principal and Interest so due, such Mortgagee or Mortgagees shall convey, assign, and transfer his, her, or their Interest in the Premises to the said Company; and in case such Mortgagee or Mortgagees shall refuse to convey and assign as aforesaid on such Tender or Payment, then all Interest on every such Mortgage shall from thenceforth cease and determine: Provided always, that in case the Sum due for Principal and Interest upon any such Mortgage or Mortgages shall amount to more than the real Value of the Premises to be taken and made use of for the Purposes of this Act, and which shall be ascertained in manner herein-before directed, then the said Company shall not be liable to pay to the said Mortgagee or Mortgagees more than the real Value of such Premises so ascertained as aforesaid, or the Residue thereof after such Allowance and Payment thereout to any Lessee or Tenant as herein-before directed: Provided also, that in case any such Mortgagee or Mortgagees shall neglect or refuse to convey or assign as aforesaid, then upon Payment of the Principal Money and Interest due on any such Mortgage or Mortgages as aforesaid into the Bank of *England*, at the End of Six Calendar Months from the Day of giving such Notice as aforesaid, for the Use of such Mortgagee or Mortgagees, the Cashier or Cashiers of the said Bank shall give a Receipt or Receipts for the said Money in like Manner as is by this Act directed in Cases of other Payments into the Bank; and thereupon all the Estate, Right, Title, Interest, Use, Trust, Property, Claim, and Demand of the said Mortgagee or Mortgagees, and of all and every Person and Persons in Trust for him, her, or them, shall vest in the said Company, and they shall be deemed to be in the actual Possession of the Premises comprized in such Mortgage or Mortgages to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever: Provided also, that if such Mortgage or Mortgages shall comprize any other Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments than those which shall be so taken by the said Company, such Mortgagee or Mortgagees shall, upon Payment or Tender of the Sum so ascertained as the Value of the said Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments as aforesaid, forthwith convey, assign, and transfer his, her, or their Interest in such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to the said Company; and in default of such Conveyance, Assignment, or Transfer, and on Payment of such Money into the Bank of *England* for the Use of such Mortgagee or Mortgagees, the Cashier or Cashiers of the Bank shall give such Receipt or Receipts as above-mentioned, and thereupon all the Estate, Right, Title, Interest, Use, Trust, Property, Claim, and Demand of the said Mortgagee or Mortgagees, and of all and every Person and Persons in Trust for him, her, or them, in the said Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, the Value whereof shall have been so ascertained and paid into the Bank as aforesaid, shall vest in the said Company, and they shall be deemed to be in the actual Possession of the said Premises to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, and such Sums of Money shall be deducted from the Amount of the Principal and Interest due to such Mortgagee or Mortgagees by virtue of such Mortgage or Mortgages.

Application of Compensation Money when exceeding 200*l.*

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That if any Money shall be agreed or awarded to be paid for the Purchase of any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to be purchased, taken, or used by virtue of the Powers of this Act, which shall belong to any Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Tenants for Life or in Tail, Trustee or Trustees, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, Committees, or other Person or Persons, for or on behalf of any Lunatics, Idiots, Femes Covert, or other Cestuique Trusts, or to any Person or Persons whose Lands or Estates are limited in strict or other Settlement, or to any Person under any other Disability or Incapacity whatsoever, such Money shall, in case the same shall amount to or exceed the Sum of Two hundred Pounds, with all convenient Speed be paid into the Bank of *England* in the Name of and with the Privity of the Accountant General of the Court of Exchequer, to be placed to his Account *ex parte* the *Reading* Waterworks Company, pursuant to the Method prescribed by an Act passed in the First Year of His present Majesty *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for the better securing Monies and Effects paid into the Court of Exchequer at* Westminster *on account of the Suitors of the said Court, and for the Appointment of an Accountant General and Two Masters of the said Court, and for other Purposes,* and the General Orders of the said Court, and without Fee or Reward; to the Intent that such Money shall be applied, under the Direction and with the Approbation of the said Court, to be signified by an Order made upon a Petition to be preferred in a summary Way by the Person or Persons who would have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the said Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, in the Redemption or Purchase of the Land Tax, or towards the Discharge of any Debt or Debts, or such other Charge or Incumbrance, or Part thereof, as the said Court shall authorize to be paid, affecting the same Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or affecting other Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments standing settled to the same or the like Uses, Intents, or Purposes; or where such Money shall not be so applied, then the same shall be laid out and invested, under the like Direction and Approbation of the said Court, in the Purchase of other Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, which shall be conveyed and settled to, for, or upon such and the like Uses, Trusts, Intents, and Purposes, and in the same Manner as the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments which shall be so purchased, taken, or used as aforesaid stood settled or limited, or such of them as at the Time of making such Conveyance and Settlement shall be existing and undetermined and capable of taking effect; and in the meantime and until such Purchase shall be made, the said Money shall, by Order of the said Court of Exchequer, upon Application thereto, be invested by the said Accountant General in his Name in the Purchase of Three Pounds *per Centum* Consolidated or Three Pounds *per Centum* Reduced Bank Annuities; and in the meantime and until the said Bank Annuities shall be ordered by the said Court to be sold for the Purposes aforesaid, the Dividends and Annual Produce of the said Consolidated or Reduced Bank Annuities shall from Time to Time be paid, by Order of the said Court, to the Person or Persons who would for the Time being have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the said Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments so hereby directed to be purchased, in case such Purchase and Settlement were made.

1 G. 4. c. 35.

XXV. And

When less than 200*l.* and amounting to 20*l.*

XXV. And be it further enacted, That if any Money so agreed or awarded to be paid for any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to be purchased, taken, or used for the Purposes of this Act, and belonging to any Corporation, or to any Person or Persons under any Disability or Incapacity as aforesaid, shall be less than the Sum of Two hundred Pounds, and shall amount to or exceed the Sum of Twenty Pounds, then and in all such Cases the same shall, at the Option of the Person or Persons for the Time being entitled to the Rents and Profits of the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments so purchased, taken, or used, or of his, her, or their Guardian or Guardians, Committee or Committees, in case of Infancy, Idiotcy, Lunacy, or other Incapacity, with the Approbation of the said Company, signified in Writing under their Common Seal, be paid into the Bank in the Name and with the Privity of the said Accountant General of the Court of Exchequer, and be placed to his Account as aforesaid, in order to be applied in manner herein-before directed; or otherwise the same shall be paid at the like Option to Two Trustees, to be nominated by the Person or Persons making such Option, and approved by the said Company, (such Nomination and Approbation to be signified in Writing under the Hands of the nominating and approving Parties), in order that such Principal Money, and the Dividends arising therefrom, may be applied in manner herein-before directed, so far as the Case may be applicable, without obtaining or being required to obtain the Direction or Approbation of the Court of Exchequer.

Where less than 20*l.*

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That where such Money so agreed or awarded to be paid as herein-before mentioned shall be less than Twenty Pounds, then and in all such Cases the same shall be applied to the Use of the Person or Persons who would for the Time being have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments so purchased, taken, or used for the Purposes of this Act, for his, her, or their own Use and Benefit; or in case of Infancy, Idiotcy, Lunacy, or other Incapacity, then such Money shall be paid to his, her, or their Guardian or Guardians, Committee or Committees, Trustee or Trustees, to and for the Use and Benefit of such Person or Persons respectively entitled thereto.

In case of not making out Titles, &c. the Money to be paid into the Bank.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That in case the Person or Persons to whom any Sum or Sums of Money shall be awarded for the Purchase of any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to be purchased, taken, or used under or by virtue of the Powers of this Act, shall refuse to accept the same, or shall not be able to make a good Title to the Premises to the Satisfaction of the said Company, or in case the Person or Persons to whom such Sum or Sums of Money shall be awarded as aforesaid cannot be found, or if the Person or Persons entitled to such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments be not known or discovered, then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for the said Company to order the said Sum or Sums of Money so awarded as aforesaid to be paid into the Bank of *England* in the Name and with the Privity of the Accountant General of the said Court of Exchequer, to be placed to his Account to the Credit of the Parties interested in the said Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments (describing them), subject to the Order, Controul, and Disposition of the said Court; which said Court, on the Application of any Person making claim to such Sum or Sums of Money, or any Part thereof, by Motion or Petition, shall be and is hereby empowered, in a summary Way of Proceeding

Proceeding or otherwise, as to the same Court shall seem meet, to order the same to be laid out and invested in the Public Funds, and to order Distribution thereof, or Payment of the Dividends thereof, according to the respective Estate or Estates, Title or Interest of the Person or Persons making claim thereunto, and to make such other Order in the Premises as to the said Court shall seem just and reasonable; and the Cashier or Cashiers of the Bank of *England* who shall receive such Sum or Sums of Money is and are hereby required to give a Receipt or Receipts for such Sum or Sums of Money, mentioning and specifying therein for what and for whose Use the same is or are received, to such Person or Persons as shall pay any such Sum or Sums of Money into the Bank as aforesaid.

Where any Question shall arise touching the Title to Money.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That where any Question shall arise touching the Title of any Person to any Money to be paid into the Bank of *England* in the Name and with the Privity of the Accountant General of the said Court of Exchequer, in pursuance of this Act, for the Purchase of any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or of any Estate, Right, or Interest in any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to be purchased in pursuance of this Act, or to any Bank Annuities to be purchased with any such Money, or to the Dividends or Interest of such Bank Annuities, the Person or Persons who shall have been in Possession of such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments at the Time of such Purchase, and all Persons claiming under such Person or Persons, or under the Possession of such Person or Persons, shall be deemed and taken to have been lawfully entitled to such Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments according to such Possession, until the contrary shall be shown to the Satisfaction of the said Court of Exchequer; and the Dividends or Interest of the Bank Annuities to be purchased as aforesaid, and also the Capital of such Bank Annuities, shall be paid, applied, and disposed of accordingly, unless it shall be made appear to the said Court that such Possession was a wrongful Possession, and that some other Person or Persons was or were lawfully entitled to such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or to some Estate or Interest therein.

Court may order reasonable Expences to be paid by the Company.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That where by reason of any Disability or Incapacity of the Person or Persons, or Corporation, entitled to any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to be purchased under the Authority of this Act, the Purchase Money for the same shall be required to be paid into the said Court, and to be applied in the Purchase of other Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, to be settled to the like Uses in pursuance of this Act, it shall be lawful for the said Court to order the Expences of all Purchases from Time to Time to be made in pursuance of this Act, or so much of such Expences as the Court shall deem reasonable, to be paid by the said Company, who shall from Time to Time pay such Sums of Money for such Purposes as the said Court shall direct.

Resale of Land not wanted.

XXX. And whereas by means of the Purchases which the said Company of Proprietors are empowered and required to make by virtue of this Act, they may happen to be seised of more Land or Ground than will be necessary for effecting the Purposes of this Act; be it therefore further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Company to sell and dispose of any Piece or Pieces of such Land or Ground, either together or in Parcels, by public Auction or private Contract as they shall find most

most convenient and advantageous, to such Person or Persons as shall be willing to contract for and purchase the same, and such Conveyances from the said Company shall be valid and effectual, any thing in this Act contained, or any other Law, Statute, or Custom to the contrary thereof notwithstanding: Provided always, that the said Company, before they shall sell and dispose of any such Piece or Pieces of Land or Ground, shall first offer to resell the same to the Owner or Owners of the adjoining Lands, and in case such Person or Persons shall be desirous of purchasing the same, and shall signify such his, her, or their Desire and Intention in that Behalf to the said Company within Fourteen Days after such Offer of Resale shall have been made; and in case such Person or Persons shall refuse or decline to avail himself, herself, or themselves of such Offer, or shall neglect or omit to signify his, her, or their Desire and Intention to repurchase such Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, for the Space of Fourteen Days, then and in every such Case an Affidavit made and sworn to before a Master or Master Extraordinary in the High Court of Chancery, or before One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said Borough of *Reading* or County of *Berks*, by some Person or Persons not interested in the same Piece or Pieces of Land or Ground, stating that such Offer was made by or on the Behalf of the said Company, and that such Offer was refused or declined, or was not accepted or agreed to by the Person or Persons to whom the same was made, within the said Space of Fourteen Days from the Day or Time of making the same, shall in all Courts whatever be sufficient Evidence and Proof that such Offer was made, and was refused or declined, or was not accepted and agreed to within the Time aforesaid by the Person or Persons to whom such Offer was made, as the Case may be; and in case such Person or Persons shall be desirous of purchasing or repurchasing the same, and he, she, or they, and the said Company shall differ and not agree with respect to the Price thereof, then and in such Case the Price or Prices thereof shall be ascertained by a Jury, in the Manner in this Act directed with respect to the disputed Value of Premises to be purchased by the said Company in pursuance thereof, and the Expence of hearing and determining such Difference shall be borne and paid in like Manner as in and by this Act is directed with respect to Purchases made by the said Company *mutatis mutandis*; and the Money produced by the Sale or Sales which may be made by the said Company of such Piece or Pieces of Land or Ground as aforesaid shall be applied to the Purposes of this Act.

Receipt of Treasurer for Money received from the Sale of Land sufficient.

XXXI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That upon Payment of the Money which shall arise by the Sale or Sales of such Lands or Hereditaments as last aforesaid, or any Parts or Parcels thereof, it shall be lawful for the Treasurer or Treasurers for the Time being to the said Company to sign and give Receipts for the Money for which the same shall be sold, which Receipts shall be sufficient Discharges to any Person or Persons for the Purchase Money for such Lands or Hereditaments, or any Parts or Parcels thereof as shall be sold, or for so much thereof as in such Receipts respectively shall be expressed to be received; and such Person or Persons shall not afterwards be answerable or accountable for any Loss, Misapplication, or Nonapplication of such Purchase Money, or any Part thereof.

Restraining the Company from purchasing more than One Acre of Land from incapacitated Persons.

XXXII. And whereas the said Company of Proprietors are enabled to purchase Land by virtue of this Act for the Purposes thereof, and all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, and all other Persons whomsoever, are empowered to sell Land to the said Company: And whereas it is expedient to restrain the said Company from selling any such Lands so purchased from any Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Tenants for Life or in Tail, or for any other partial or qualified Estate or Interest, Husbands, Guardians, Feoffees in Trust, Executors, Administrators, Trustees, or other Persons being under legal Disability or Incapacity, and again purchasing other Lands from the same or any other Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Tenants for Life or in Tail, or for any other partial or qualified Estate or Interest, Husbands, Guardians, Feoffees in Trust, Committees, Executors, Administrators, Trustees, and other Persons being under legal Disability or Incapacity, in lieu or stead of the Lands so sold; be it therefore enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the said Company of Proprietors to purchase from any Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Tenants for Life or in Tail, or for any other partial or qualified Estate or Interest, Husbands, Guardians, Feoffees in Trust, Committees, Executors, Administrators, Trustees, and other Persons being under legal Disability or Incapacity, more than One Statute Acre; and in case the said Company shall afterwards sell the Whole or any Part of such Statute Acre so purchased, it shall not be lawful for the said Company to purchase of, or for the same or any other Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Tenants for Life or in Tail, or for any other partial or qualified Estate or Interest, Husbands, Guardians, Feoffees in Trust, Committees, Executors, Administrators, Trustees, and other Persons being under legal Disability or Incapacity, to sell to the said Company any other Lands in lieu or stead of such Statute Acre, or any Part thereof, so sold or disposed of by the said Company.

Whole Expence being subscribed, Act to be put in force immediately.

XXXIII. And whereas the probable Expence of making the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other Works hereby authorized to be made, supported, and maintained, will, including the Sums already expended for that Purpose, amount to the Sum of Twenty-one thousand Pounds, and the whole whereof has been already subscribed by several Persons under a Contract, binding themselves, their Heirs, Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, for the Payment of the several Sums by them subscribed respectively; be it therefore further enacted, That the Powers and Provisions given by this Act shall be put in force immediately after the passing hereof.

Proprietors to apply Money to carry on the Works, and to divide the Capital into Shares.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Company to apply such Money, or a competent Part thereof, for making and completing the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other Works and Conveniences hereby authorized to be made, not exceeding in the whole the said Sum of Twenty-one thousand Pounds, except as herein-after mentioned; and the same shall be divided into Shares of Ten Pounds each, and such Shares shall be numbered, beginning with Number One, in regular or Arithmetical Progression ascending, whereof the common Excess or Difference shall always be One, and every such Share shall

always be distinguished by the Number to be applied to the same, and the said Shares shall be and are hereby vested in the several Persons so raising and contributing to the same, and their several and respective Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, to their and every of their proper Use and Benefit, proportionably to the Sum they shall severally raise and contribute; and all Bodies Politic, Corporate, and Collegiate, and all Persons, their several and respective Successors, Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, who shall severally subscribe for One or more Share or Shares, or such Sum or Sums as shall be demanded in lieu thereof, towards carrying on and completing the said Undertaking, and other the Purposes of the said Subscription, shall be entitled to and receive, at such Time and Times as the said Company, at a General or Special Meeting to be convened for that Purpose as Meetings on other Occasions are directed to be convened, direct and appoint, the entire and net Distribution of an equal proportionable Part, according to the Money so by them respectively paid, of the net Profits and Advantages that shall and may arise and accrue by the Rates and other Sums of Money to be raised, recovered, or received by the said Company by the Authority of this Act; and every Body Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Person and Persons, having such Property in the said Undertaking as aforesaid, shall bear and pay a proportionable Sum towards carrying on the same in manner herein directed and appointed.

Shares to be Personal Property.

XXXV. And be it further enacted, That all and every the Shares and Proportions of all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, and of all and every other Person or Persons of and in the said Undertaking, or the Joint Stock or Fund of the said Company, shall be deemed Personal Estate, and be transmissible as such, and not of the Nature of Real Property.

For compelling Payment of Subscriptions.

XXXVI. And be it further enacted, That the several Persons who have subscribed, or who shall hereafter subscribe to advance any Money for or towards making and maintaining the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other Works hereafter authorized to be made, and for other the Purposes of this Act, shall and they are hereby required to pay the Sum or Sums of Money by them respectively subscribed, or such Parts or Proportions thereof as shall from Time to Time be called for by the Company under and by virtue of the Powers and Directions of this Act, at such Times and Places as shall be directed by the said Company, in manner herein-after mentioned; and in case any Person or Persons shall refuse or neglect to pay the same at the Time and in the Manner required for that Purpose, it shall be lawful for the said Company to sue for and recover the same in any Court of Law or Equity.

Subscribers to be deemed Proprietors.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That all and every Body and Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, or other Person or Persons, who shall by virtue of this Act have subscribed for, or shall become entitled to and be in the actual Possession of One or more Share or Shares in the said Undertaking, his, her, or their respective Successors, Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, shall be deemed a Proprietor of every such Share, and shall have a Vote for and in respect of every Ten Shares in the stated and special General Meetings to be held as herein-after appointed for carrying on the said Undertaking, or relative thereto: Provided

vided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to authorize or empower any Proprietor of Shares in the said Undertaking to give more than Five Votes at any such Meeting as aforesaid, although he may be possessed of more than Fifty Shares; and every Question, Matter, and Thing whatsoever which shall be proposed, discussed, or considered in any General or Special Meeting of the said Company, to be held by virtue of this Act, shall be finally determined by the Majority of Votes then present; and at every such Meeting One of the Proprietors then present shall be appointed Chairman, who shall not only be entitled to vote as a Proprietor, but in case of an Equality of Votes shall also have the decisive or casting Vote.

All Questions to be decided by the Majority of Votes.

Names of Proprietors to be entered, and Certificates of their Shares delivered to them.

XXXVIII. And for the better securing to the several Proprietors of the said Undertaking their respective Shares therein, be it further enacted, That the said Company shall, and they are hereby required, at their First or some subsequent General Meeting, to cause the Names and proper Additions of the several Persons who shall then be entitled to Shares in the said Undertaking, with the Number of the Shares, or the Amount of all the Subscriptions which they are then respectively entitled to hold, and also the proper Number by which every Share shall be distinguished, to be fairly and distinctly entered in a Book to be kept by the Clerk of the said Company, and after such Entry made to cause their Common Seal to be affixed thereto; and also shall cause a Certificate or Ticket, with the Common Seal of the said Company to be affixed thereto, to be delivered to every such Subscriber on Demand, specifying the Share or Shares to which he, she, or they is or are entitled in the said Undertaking, every such Proprietor paying the Clerk of the said Company Two Shillings and Sixpence, and no more, for every such Certificate or Ticket; and such Certificate or Ticket shall be admitted in all Courts whatsoever as Evidence of the Title of such Subscriber, his or her Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, to the Share or Shares therein specified, but the Want of such Certificate or Ticket shall not hinder or prevent the Owner of any of the said Shares from selling or disposing thereof; and which said Certificate or Ticket may be in the Words or to the Effect following; (that is to say),

'The *Reading* Waterworks.

Form of Certificate.

'Number

'THESE are to certify, That is a 'Proprietor of the Share Number of the *Reading* 'Waterworks, subject to the Rules, Regulations, and Orders of the said 'Company; and that the said his or her 'Executors, Administrators, or Successors and Assigns, is and are entitled to the Profits and Advantages of such Share. Given under the 'Common Seal of the said Company the Day of 'in the Year of our Lord .'

Shares may be sold.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the several Proprietors, his, her, or their respective Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, to transfer, sell, and dispose of any Share or Shares to which he, she, or they may be entitled, subject to the Rules and Conditions herein-after mentioned, the Conveyance of which Share or Shares may be in the Form and to the Effect following; (that is to say),

'The

'The *Reading* Waterworks.

Form of Transfer.

'I *A. B.* of in consideration of paid to me by *C. D.* of 'do hereby bargain, sell, assign, and transfer to the said *C. D.* the Sum 'of Capital Stock of and in the said 'Company, being One Share, Number [*or so many* '*Shares*, Numbers *as the Case may be*] in the 'said Waterworks, to hold to the said *C. D.* 'Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, subject to the same Rules, 'Orders, and Restrictions, and on the same Conditions that I held the 'same immediately before the Execution hereof; and I the said *C. D.* do 'hereby agree to take and accept the said Capital Stock or Share [*or* 'Shares] subject to the same Rules, Orders, Restrictions, and Conditions. 'In witness whereof we have subscribed these Presents this 'Day of One thousand eight hundred .

'Witness, *E. F.* of .'

Certificates and Transfers to be entered.

'XL. And be it further enacted, That Copies of such Transfers and of the Certificates herein-before mentioned shall be entered in a Book or Books to be kept for that Purpose, which Book or Books all Persons interested shall at all reasonable Times have Access to and free Liberty to inspect without Fee or Reward; and for the Entry of every such Certificate or Transfer there shall be paid to the Clerk the Sum of Two Shillings and Sixpence, and no more, by the Person or Persons requiring such Entry, or for whose Benefit such Certificate or Transfer shall be made; and after such Entry made, such Certificates and Transfers shall be admitted in all Courts whatsoever as Evidence of the Title of such Proprietor, his or her Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, to the Share or Shares therein specified.

Power to raise a further Sum of Money by Mortgage of the Works.

XLI. And be it further enacted, That in case the Money hereby authorized to be raised shall be found insufficient for the making, completing, and maintaining of the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other the Works hereby authorized to be made, and for defraying all necessary Charges and Expences relating thereto, then and in such Case it shall be lawful for the said Company to raise any further or other Sum of Money for completing and perfecting the said Undertaking, not exceeding the Sum of Nine thousand Pounds, by Mortgage of the said Undertaking; and it shall be lawful for the said Company of Proprietors, by an Order of any General Assembly of the said Company, to borrow and take up at Interest all or any Part of the said Sum of Nine thousand Pounds on the Credit of the said Undertaking, as to them shall seem meet and convenient; and the said Company of Proprietors, after an Order of any General Assembly, are hereby fully authorized and empowered to assign the Property of the said Waterworks, and the Rates arising or to arise by virtue of this Act, or any Part thereof, (the Costs and Charges of assigning the same to be paid out of such Rates), as a Security for any Sum or Sums of Money to be borrowed as aforesaid, with Interest, to such Person or Persons, or to his, her, or their Trustee or Trustees, who shall advance the same; all which said Mortgages or Assignments shall be made under the Common Seal of the said Company, in the Words or to the Effect following; (that is to say),

Form of Mortgage.

'BY virtue of an Act passed in the Seventh Year of the Reign of King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act, &c.* [*here set forth the Title of this Act*] we, the Company of Proprietors of the *Reading* Waterworks, incorporated by the said Act, in consideration of the Sum of to us in hand paid by *A. B.* of do assign unto the said *A. B.* his [*or* her] Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, the said Waterworks, and all and singular the Rates arising by virtue of the said Act, and all the Estate, Right, Title, and Interest of us, the said Company of Proprietors, of, in, and to the same, to hold unto the said *A. B.* his [*or* her] Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, until the said Sum of together with Interest for the same after the Rate of for every One Hundred Pounds for a Year, shall be fully paid and satisfied. Given under our Common Seal this Day of in the Year of our Lord .'

And all and every Person and Persons to whom such Mortgage or Assignment shall be made shall be equally entitled one with the other to his, her, or their Proportion or Proportions of the said Rates and Premises, according to the respective Sums in such Assignments mentioned to be advanced, without any Preference by reason of Priority of any such Assignments, or on any other Account whatsoever; and a Memorial of every such Assignment, containing the Date, Name or Names of the Person or Persons to whom made, the Sum of Money borrowed, and Rate of Interest, shall be entered in a Book or Books to be kept by the Clerk or Clerks to the said Company of Proprietors, which said Book or Books shall and may be perused at all seasonable Times by any of the Proprietors or Creditors of the said Waterworks, or other Persons interested therein, without Fee or Reward.

Power to transfer Mortgages.

XLII. And be it further enacted, That all and every Person or Persons to whom any such Mortgage or Mortgages, Assignment or Assignments shall be made as aforesaid, or who shall be entitled to the Money due thereon, shall and may from Time to Time transfer his, her, or their Right or Interest therein to any Person or Persons whomsoever; which Transfer shall and may be made in the Words or to the Effect following; (that is to say),

Form of Transfer.

'I [*or* we] of in consideration of the Sum of paid by of do hereby transfer a certain Mortgage made by the Company of Proprietors of the *Reading* Waterworks to bearing Date the Day of for securing the Sum of and Interest, and all my [*or* our] Right and Property therein, to the said his [*or* her, *or* their] Executors, Administrators, and Assigns. Dated this Day of in the Year of our Lord .'

And every such Transfer shall, within Twenty-one Days after the Date thereof, be produced to the Clerk or Clerks to the said Company, who shall cause a Memorial to be made thereof in like Manner as the original Mortgages or Assignments, for which the said Clerk or Clerks shall be paid such Sum as the said Company of Proprietors shall appoint, not exceeding the Sum of Five Shillings; and after such Entry made, every such Transfer shall entitle such Assignee or Assignees, his, her, or their Exe-

cutors, Administrators, and Assigns, to the full Benefit thereof; and it shall not be in the Power of any Person or Persons who shall have made such Transfer to make void, release, or discharge the same, or any Sum or Sums of Money thereon due, or thereby secured, or any Part thereof.

Interest on Mortgages to be paid in preference to Dividends.

XLIII. And be it further enacted, That the Interest of the Money which shall be borrowed by Mortgage as aforesaid shall be paid Half-yearly to the several Persons entitled thereto, in preference to any Interest or Dividends due and payable by virtue of this Act to the said Company of Proprietors, or any of them, and shall from Time to Time be fully paid and discharged or provided for before the yearly or other Interest or Dividends due to the said Proprietors, or any of them, shall be paid, made, or divided; and in case the same or any Part thereof shall be behind and unpaid for the Space of Twenty-one Days next after the same shall become due and payable as aforesaid, and after Demand thereof made, then it shall be lawful for any Two or more Justices within their Jurisdiction, and they are hereby required, on Request to them made by any Creditor whose Interest shall be so in Arrear, by an Order under their Hands, to appoint One or more Person or Persons to receive the Whole or such Part or Parts of the said Rates as are liable to pay such Interest so due and unpaid as aforesaid; and the Money so to be received by such Person or Persons is hereby declared to be so much Money received by or to the Use of such Person or Persons to whom such Interest shall be then due, until the same, together with the Costs and Charges of recovering and receiving the said Rates, shall be fully paid and satisfied; and after such Interest and Costs shall be paid and satisfied, the Power and Authority of such Receiver or Receivers for the Purposes aforesaid shall cease and determine; or otherwise the Interest so due and unpaid as aforesaid shall be sued for and recovered, with Costs, by Action of Debt, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*.

Mortgagees not to be deemed Proprietors.

XLIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Person to whom any such Assignment shall be made or transferred as aforesaid shall be deemed a Proprietor of any Share, or shall be capable of acting or voting as such at any Meeting of the said Company of Proprietors, for or on account of his or her having lent or advanced any Sum or Sums of Money on the Credit of such Assignment.

Application of Money to be raised.

XLV. And be it further enacted, That all the Money to be raised by the said Company by virtue of this Act shall be laid out and applied in the first Place, and in preference to all other Payments whatsoever, for and towards the Payment, Discharge, and Satisfaction of all Costs, Charges, and Expences in applying for, obtaining, and passing this Act, and all other Expences preparatory and relating thereto; and all the Residue and Remainder of such Money for and towards purchasing Lands and Grounds, making, completing, and maintaining the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other Works, and other the Purposes of this Act.

First Meeting of the Proprietors.

XLVI. And be it further enacted, That the First General Meeting of the said Company of Proprietors for putting this Act into Execution shall be held at the *Water Tower*, or at some other convenient Place in *Reading* aforesaid,

aforesaid, on the Fourth *Thursday* next after the passing of this Act, or as soon after as conveniently may be, between the Hours of Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon and Two of the Clock in the Afternoon; and the said Company shall also hold a General Quarterly Meeting on the last *Thursday* in the Months of *January*, *April*, *July*, and *October*, in every Year, and also such and so many Special General Meetings of the said Proprietors as shall be called as herein-after provided; of which said General Meetings and Special General Meetings Notice shall be given in manner herein-after mentioned; and all such General Meetings and Special General Meetings may be adjourned from Time to Time and from Place to Place as shall be found expedient.

Special General Meetings may be called.

XLVII. And be it further enacted, That Three or more Proprietors of the said Company, holding in the Aggregate One hundred and fifty Shares or upwards in the said Undertaking, may at any Time, by Notice in Writing under their Hands, to be given as herein mentioned, call a Special General Meeting, so as such Requisition fully expresses the Objects for which such Special General Meeting is required to be called, and the said Company are hereby authorized to meet in pursuance of such Notice; and such of them as shall be present shall proceed to the Execution of the Powers by this Act given to the said Company with respect to the Matters so specified only; and all such Acts of the Proprietors, or the major Part of them met together at every such Special General Meeting, shall be as valid with respect to the Matters specified in such Notice as if the same had been done at a General Meeting at the Time herein-before appointed for holding the same.

Proprietors holding 150 Shares to be present at the making or altering Bye Laws, &c.

XLVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if at any General Meeting there shall not be Persons present who shall be possessed of or entitled to at least One hundred and fifty Shares, or Subscriptions of One thousand five hundred Pounds or upwards in the said Undertaking, no Bye Law, Rule, or Regulation shall be made or altered at that Time; but in such Case such Meeting shall be deemed to be adjourned to the then next Day, unless such next Day shall happen to be *Sunday*, and then to the following *Monday*, and so *toties quoties*, until a sufficient Number of the said Company shall attend at such or any other Meeting of the said Company to be holden for the Purposes of this Act.

Power for General or Special Meetings to make Bye Laws.

XLIX. And be it further enacted, That the said Company shall have full Power and Authority from Time to Time, at any such General or Special Meeting as aforesaid, to make such Rules, Orders, and Bye Laws as to them shall seem right and proper for the good Government of the said Undertaking, and for the Regulation of all Officers, Workmen, and Servants to be employed in or about the Affairs of the said Company, and for the Superintendence, Regulation, and Management of the said Undertaking in all respects whatsoever, and from Time to Time to alter or repeal such Bye Laws, Orders, and Regulations, or any of them, and to make others, and to impose and inflict such reasonable Fines and Forfeitures upon all Persons offending against the same, as the major Part of the said Company present at such Meetings shall deem meet, not exceeding the Sum of Five Pounds for any Offence, such Fines and Forfeitures to be levied and recovered by such Ways and Means as herein-after mentioned; which said Rules, Bye Laws, and Orders, being reduced into Writing

Writing under the Common Seal of the said Company, shall be affixed upon some conspicuous Part of the said Waterworks, and shall from Time to Time be renewed as often as the same or any Part thereof shall be obliterated, defaced, or destroyed; and such Rules, Bye Laws, and Orders shall be binding upon and observed by all Parties, and shall be sufficient in any Court of Law or Equity to justify all Persons who shall act under the same, provided they be not repugnant to the Laws of that Part of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* called *England*, or to any of the Provisions in this Act contained; and such Rules, Bye Laws, and Orders shall be subject to Appeal in manner herein-after mentioned.

General Meetings may appoint Treasurer, Collector, and Clerk.

L. And be it further enacted, That the said Company of Proprietors may and they are hereby authorized, at their said first or any other General Meeting or Special General Meeting to be held under or by virtue of this Act, or at some Adjournment thereof, to elect and choose a Treasurer or Treasurers, Collector or Collectors, and a Clerk or Clerks, for transacting the Business of the said Company; and it shall be lawful for the said Company, at any subsequent General or Special Meeting to be holden as herein-before directed, from Time to Time to remove and displace such Treasurer, Collector, and Clerk, or either of them, or any other Person or Persons who shall be hereafter elected and appointed to their respective Offices, and shall also from Time to Time elect, choose, and appoint, in manner aforesaid, any other Person or Persons to act as Treasurer, Collector, and Clerk of the said Company, in the Room of such of the said Officers as shall happen to die, or to resign, or be removed from their respective Offices; and it shall be lawful for the said Company to allow such Salaries and other Emoluments to the said Officers, or any of them, as at any such General or Special Meeting shall from Time to Time be fixed upon and determined: Provided always, that the said Company of Proprietors shall and they are hereby required to take sufficient Security from every Person who shall be appointed Treasurer and Collector of the said Company, for the faithful Execution of his Office, before he shall enter thereupon.

Treasurer and Collector to give Security.

Treasurer and Clerk not to be the same Person.

LI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the said Company of Proprietors to appoint the Person who may be appointed to act as their Clerk in the Execution of this Act, or the Partner of any such Clerk, or the Clerk of or other Person in the Service or Employ of any such Clerk or of his Partner, the Treasurer for the Purposes of this Act, or to appoint the Person who may be appointed Treasurer, or the Partner of any such Treasurer, or the Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of any such Treasurer or of his Partner, the Clerk to the said Company; or if any Person shall act in both the Capacities of Clerk and Treasurer for the Purposes of this Act, or if any Person being the Partner of any such Clerk, or the Clerk of or other Person in the Service or Employ of such Clerk or of his Partner, shall act as Treasurer, or being the Partner of any such Treasurer, or the Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of such Treasurer, or the Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of the Partner of such Treasurer, shall act as Clerk in the Execution of this Act, or if any Treasurer shall hold any Place of Profit or Trust under the said Company other than that of Treasurer, every Person so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of One hundred

Pounds to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same, to be recovered, together with full Costs of Suit, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, by Action of Debt or on the Case, or by Bill, Suit, or Information, wherein no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, nor more than one Imparlance, shall be allowed.

Officers to account.

LII. And be it further enacted, That every Officer and Person who may be appointed or employed by virtue of this Act shall and may from Time to Time, when thereunto required by the said Company, make out and deliver to the said Company, or to such Person or Persons as they shall for that Purpose appoint, a true and perfect Account in Writing, under his or her Hand, of all Monies which shall have been by him or her had, collected, or received, and how, and to whom, and for what Purpose the same and every Part thereof hath or have been disposed of, together with Vouchers and Receipts for such Payments; and every such Officer or Person shall and is hereby required to pay all such Monies as upon the Balance of such Account shall appear to be owing from him or her, to such Person or Persons as the said Company shall appoint to receive the same; and if any such Officer or Person shall refuse or neglect to render and deliver such Account, or to produce and deliver up the Vouchers and Receipts relating to the same, or to pay the Balance thereof when thereunto required in manner aforesaid, or shall refuse or neglect to deliver up to the said Company, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint, within Three Days after being thereunto required by the said Company, or by such Person or Persons, all Books, Papers, and Writings in his or her Custody or Power relating to the Execution of this Act, then and in every such Case, Complaint being made thereof by any of the said Company, or by any Person on their Behalf, to any Justice of the Peace for the Town and Borough of *Reading* or County of *Berks*, such Justice may and he is hereby authorized and required, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to cause such Officer or Person to be brought before him, and upon his or her appearing, or not being to be found, to hear and determine the Matter of such Complaint in a summary Way, and to settle the said Account, if produced, in such Manner as the said Company might have done; and if, upon the Confession of the Officer or Person against whom such Complaint shall be made, or by the Oath of any credible Witness, it shall appear to such Justice that any of the Monies which shall have been collected or received shall be in the Hands of or be owing from such Officer or Person, such Justice may and he is hereby empowered, upon Nonpayment thereof, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, 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 shall be found sufficient to answer and satisfy the said Monies, and the Charges of taking and making such Distress, and of selling the same, or if such Officer or Person shall not appear before such Justice at the Time and Place appointed for that Purpose, or if appearing shall refuse or neglect to make out and deliver to such Justice such Account in Writing as aforesaid, or to produce and deliver to the said Justice the several Vouchers and Receipts relating to such Accounts, or to deliver up such Books, Papers, and Writings as aforesaid, then and in any of the Cases aforesaid the said Justice may and he is hereby authorized and required, by Warrant under his Hand, to commit such Officer or Person to the Common Gaol or House of Correction of the said Town and Borough of *Reading*, or to the Com-

mon Gaol or House of Correction for the said County of *Berks*, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until he or she shall have delivered up the Vouchers and Receipts relating thereto, and shall have paid all the Money which shall appear to be in the Hands of or owing from him or her, and the reasonable Charges of such Distress and Sale, if any, as shall in that respect have been made, or until he or she shall have compounded with the said Company for such Money and Charges, and paid the Composition Money to the said Company, and which Composition the said Company are hereby empowered to make, and shall have delivered up all such Books, Papers, and Writings as aforesaid, or have given Satisfaction in respect thereof to the said Company: Provided always, that no Person who shall be committed for Want of sufficient Distress shall be detained in Prison for any longer Space of Time than Three Calendar Months.

Books of Account, &c. to be kept.

LIII. And be it further enacted, That the said Company shall keep or cause to be kept a full and true Account of all Monies disbursed, and Payments made by the said Company, and by all and every Person and Persons employed by or under them, and of all and every Sum and Sums of Money which they shall receive on behalf of or in respect of such Undertaking from any Collector or Collectors of the said Rates, or other Officer or Officers, or from any other Person or Persons whomsoever employed in or having any Concerns, Dealings, or Transactions with the said Undertaking, or in or with any Part or Parts thereof, and shall regularly write, insert, and enter, or cause to be written, inserted, and entered, in a Book or Books to be from Time to Time provided at the Expence of the said Company for that Purpose, Notes, Minutes, or Copies (as the Case shall require), of every such Contract, Bargain, Receipt, and Disbursement, and other their Orders and Proceedings, which Book or Books shall be deposited with and kept locked up under the Care and Direction of the said Company: Provided always, that every Proprietor shall have free Access thereto for his, her, or their Inspection, without paying any thing for the same.

Proceedings of Meetings to be entered in a Book.

LIV. And be it further enacted, That the Orders and Proceedings of the General and Special General Meetings of the Company shall be entered in a Book or Books to be provided and kept for that Purpose, and shall be signed by the Chairman of each respective Meeting; and such Orders and Proceedings, when so entered and signed, shall be deemed and taken to be original Orders and Proceedings, and shall be allowed to be read in Evidence in all Courts, and before all Judges, Justices, and others.

Directing what Notice shall be given of General Meetings.

LV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That all Notices herein directed to be given of any General or Special General Meeting of Proprietors, or of any Adjournment thereof respectively, or to any of the said Proprietors, and not herein otherwise provided for, shall be given by Advertisement, to be inserted in some one or more Newspaper or Newspapers printed or circulated in *Reading*, or by Letters from the Clerk of the said Company, sent by the Post to or left at the usual Place of Abode of the Proprietors respectively; and such Notices, when so published or given, shall be deemed and considered as personal Notices.

LVI. And

Names of Proprietors to be entered in a Book, which shall be open to their Inspection.

LVI. And be it further enacted, That the Clerk of the said Company shall, in a proper Book or Books to be provided by the said Company for that Purpose, enter and keep a perfect and true Account of the Names and Places of Abode of the several Proprietors of the said Undertaking, and of the several Persons who shall from Time to Time become Owners and Proprietors of or entitled to any Share or Shares therein; and every Proprietor of the said Undertaking shall and may at all convenient Times have recourse to and peruse and inspect the same *gratis*, and may demand and have Copies thereof, or any Part thereof, paying at and after the Rate of Sixpence for every One hundred Words so to be copied; and if any such Clerk to the said Company shall refuse to permit any Proprietor to inspect or peruse any such Book or Books at all convenient Times and Seasons, or refuse to make any such Copy or Copies within the Space of Five Days after being thereunto required, at the Rate or Price aforesaid, he shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds, for the Benefit of the said Undertaking.

Power to make Calls.

LVII. And be it further enacted, That the said Company shall have Power from Time to Time to make such Call or Calls of Money from the Subscribers to and Proprietors of the said Undertaking, to defray the Expences of or to carry on the same, as they from Time to Time shall find wanting and necessary for those Purposes, so that no such Call shall exceed the Sum of One Pound upon each Share which any Person or Persons shall or may be possessed of or entitled unto in the said Undertaking, and such Calls shall not be made but at the Distance of Two Calendar Months at the least from each other, and Fourteen Days Notice at the least shall be given in manner herein-before mentioned of all such Calls as aforesaid, which Monies so called for shall be paid to such Person and Persons and in such Manner as the said Company shall from Time to Time appoint and direct, for the Use of the said Undertaking; and every Owner or Owners of any Share or Shares in the said Undertaking shall pay his, her, or their rateable Proportions of the Monies to be called for as aforesaid to such Person or Persons and at such Time and Place as the said Company shall from Time to Time direct and appoint; and if any Person or Persons shall neglect or refuse to pay his, her, or their rateable or proportionable Part or Share of the said Money so called for as aforesaid, at the Time and Place to be appointed as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the said Company to sue for and recover the same in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record, by Action of Debt or on the Case, or by Bill, Suit, or Information, wherein no Essoign, Wager, or Protection of Law, or more than one Imparlance, shall be allowed; or the said Company may and they are hereby authorized at a General Meeting to declare the Shares belonging to any Person refusing or neglecting to pay any such Calls in manner as aforesaid to be forfeited to and for the Use and Benefit of the other Proprietors of the said Undertaking; and all Shares so declared to be forfeited shall be sold at a public Sale by the said Company for the most Money that can be gotten for the same, and the Produce thereof shall be applied and disposed of in manner herein directed: Provided nevertheless, that no Advantage shall be taken of any Forfeiture of any Share or Shares in the said Undertaking, until Notice in Writing under the Hand of the Clerk or Treasurer of the said Company shall have been given or sent by the Post to, or left at the usual Place or Places of Abode of the Owner or Owners of such Share or Shares respectively,

Persons neglecting to pay such Calls may be proceeded against, or their Shares forfeited and sold.

spectively, nor until the same Share or Shares shall have been declared to be forfeited at some stated or special General Meeting of the said Company, which shall be held after the End of Three Calendar Months from the Day on which such Notice of Forfeiture shall have been given.

If the Purchase Money for such Shares shall be more than sufficient to pay the Arrears of Calls, &c. the Surplus to be paid to the Owner.

Shares unsold to revert to the former Owners.

LVIII. And be it further enacted, That in case the Money produced by the Sale of any such Share or Shares shall be more than sufficient to pay all such Arrears of Calls as aforesaid, and legal Interest thereon, and the Expences attending the Sale or Sales, the Surplus of such Money shall be paid, on Demand, to the Person or Persons to whom such Share or Shares shall have belonged: Provided also, that the said Company shall not by virtue of this Act sell or transfer, or direct to be sold or transferred, any more of such Shares of such Defaulter or Defaulters than shall be deemed sufficient, as near as may be at the Time of such Sale, to pay the Arrears due from such Defaulter or Defaulters for or on account of such Call or Calls, and the Interest and Expences attending the same; and from and after Payment of all and every such Call or Calls, and the Interest and Expences attending the same, any Share or Shares vested in the said Company as aforesaid, which shall remain in their Hands unsold, shall revert to and again become the Property of the Person or Persons to whom such Share or Shares shall have belonged immediately before such Forfeitures as aforesaid, in such Manner as if such Calls had been duly and regularly paid.

How Actions may be brought against the Proprietors of Shares.

LIX. And be it further enacted, That in any Action to be brought by the said Company against any Owner or Owners of any Share or Shares in the said Undertaking, to recover any Sum or Sums of Money due and payable to the said Company for or by reason of any Call or Calls made by virtue of this Act, it shall be sufficient for the said Company to declare and allege that the Defendant or Defendants, being a Proprietor or Proprietors of such or so many Share or Shares in the said Undertaking, is or are indebted to the said Company in such Sum or Sums of Money as the Call or Calls in Arrear shall amount to, for such and so many Call or Calls of such or so many Sum or Sums of Money upon such or so many Share or Shares belonging to the said Defendant or Defendants (as the Case may happen to be), whereby an Action hath accrued to the said Company by virtue of this Act, without setting forth the special Matter; and on the Trial of such Action it shall only be necessary to prove that the Defendant or Defendants, at the Time of making such Call or Calls, was or were a Proprietor or Proprietors of some Share or Shares in the said Undertaking, and that such Call or Calls was or were in fact made, and that such Notice thereof was given as directed by this Act, without proving any other Matter whatsoever; and the said Company shall thereupon be entitled to recover what shall appear due, unless it shall appear that any such Call exceeded One Pound for every Share, or was made within the Distance of Two Calendar Months from the last preceding Call, or without Notice given as aforesaid.

No Proprietor of Shares to vote till Calls are paid.

LX. And be it further enacted, That no Proprietor in Arrear for any Call shall at any Meeting be allowed to vote or give his or her Voice in the Agitation of any Question respecting the Concerns of the said Company, until such Time as he or she shall have paid all such Arrears as may be due from him or her in respect of such Calls.

How Shares are to be transferred in case of Marriage, &c. of Proprietors.

LXI. And whereas by the Marriage or Death of Proprietors of Shares in the said Undertaking, it may be difficult to ascertain to whom the Dividends arising or becoming due upon such Shares ought to be paid or may belong; be it therefore further enacted, That before any Person or Persons who shall claim any Part of the Profits of the said Undertaking in Right of Marriage shall be entitled to receive the same, or be entitled to vote in respect of any Shares, an Affidavit, or solemn Affirmation by any Person of the Society of Quakers, in Writing, containing a Copy of the Register of such Marriage, or other Particulars of the Celebration thereof, shall be made and sworn to or solemnly affirmed by some credible Person before a Master or Master Extraordinary in Chancery, or any One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, and shall be transmitted to the Clerk of the said Company, who shall file the same, and make an Entry thereof in the Book or Books which shall be kept by the said Clerk for the Entry of Transfers of Sales of Shares in the said Waterworks; and before any Person or Persons who shall claim any Part of the Profits of the said Undertaking by virtue of any Bequest or Will, or in the Course of Administration, shall be entitled to receive the same, or be entitled to vote in respect of any Shares, the said Will, or the Probate thereof, or the Letters of Administration, shall be produced and shown to the said Clerk, or an Affidavit containing a Copy of so much of such Will as shall relate to the Share or Shares of the Testator, or the Letters of Administration of the Intestate, shall be made and sworn to or solemnly affirmed to by the Executor or Executors of the said Will, or the Administrator or Administrators of the Intestate, before a Master or Master Extraordinary in Chancery, or any One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace as aforesaid, and shall also be transmitted to the said Clerk, who shall file and enter the same as herein-before mentioned; and in all Cases, other than herein-before mentioned, when the Right and Property of any Share or Shares in the said Waterworks shall pass from the original Proprietor or Proprietors thereof to any other Person or Persons by any other legal Means than by a Transfer and Conveyance thereof as herein-before directed, an Affidavit or solemn Affirmation in Writing shall be made and sworn to or solemnly affirmed to by One or more credible Person or Persons before a Master or Master Extraordinary in Chancery, or any One of His Majesty's Justices as aforesaid, stating the Manner in which such Share or Shares hath or have passed to such other Person or Persons, and such Affidavit or solemn Affirmation shall be transmitted to the Clerk of the said Company, who shall thereupon enter and register the Name or Names of every such new Proprietor or Proprietors in the Register Books or List of Proprietors of the said Company; and the Clerk of the said Company shall be entitled to receive for each and every of such Entries as is herein-before directed, the Sum of Two Shillings and Sixpence, and no more.

Accounts to be made up annually.

LXII. And in order to ascertain the Amount of the clear Profits of the said Undertaking, be it further enacted, That the said Company of Proprietors shall and are hereby required from the Time of passing this Act to cause a true, exact, and particular Account to be kept, and annually made up and balanced on the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* in each Year, of the Money collected or received by the said Company, or otherwise, for the Use of the said Company by virtue of this Act, and of the Charges and Expences attending the erecting, making, supporting, main-

maintaining, and carrying on the said Works, and of all other the Receipts and Expenditure of the said Company; and at the General Meeting of the Proprietors of the said Undertaking, to be from Time to Time holden on the last *Thursday* in the Month of *April* as aforesaid, or at some Adjournment thereof, a Dividend shall be made out of the clear Profits of the said Undertaking, unless such Meeting shall declare otherwise, and such Dividend or Dividends shall be at and after the Rate of so much *per Centum* upon the several Sums invested by the Members thereof in the joint Stock of the said Company, as such Meeting or Meetings shall think fit to appoint and determine: Provided also, that no Dividend shall be made whereby the Capital of the Company shall be in any degree reduced or impaired, nor shall any Dividend be paid in respect of any Share or Shares after a Day appointed for Payment of any Call for Money in respect thereof, until such Call shall have been paid.

Receipt of One Proprietor of Shares sufficient.

LXIII. And be it further enacted, That the Receipt or Receipts of the Person or any one of the Persons in whose Name or Names any Share or Shares in the said Undertaking shall stand in the Books of the said Company, shall from Time to Time be a sufficient Discharge to the Treasurer or Treasurers for the Time being of the said Company for any Dividend or Dividends, Sum or Sums of Money, which shall become due and payable and be paid for or in respect of such Share or Shares, notwithstanding any Uses, Trusts, Intents, or Purposes upon or to which such Share or Shares shall be then settled, conveyed, or assigned.

Receipt of Parent or Guardian of a Minor sufficient.

LXIV. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where Money shall be payable under the Provisions of this Act to any Proprietor in the said Undertaking, who shall be a Minor, or under the Age of Twenty-one Years, the Receipt of the Parent or Guardian for the Time being of such Minor shall be a sufficient Discharge to the said Company and their Treasurer for the same.

Directing how Pipes shall be laid down.

LXV. And be it further enacted, That no Water Pipes belonging to the said Company of Proprietors shall be laid down at a less Depth than Twenty Inches, to be measured from the upper Surface of the said Pipes, beneath the Pavement in any of the Streets or Places within the said Parishes of *Saint Mary*, *Saint Lawrence*, and *Saint Giles*, except in passing over Bridges and Vaults; and the said Company shall be subject and liable to the Payment and Discharge of all Costs and Expences to be incurred by the breaking, taking up, relaying, reinstating, and making good all such Ground and Pavement in any of the said Streets and Places within the said Parishes of *Saint Mary*, *Saint Lawrence*, and *Saint Giles*, as shall be broken or taken up, either for the Purpose of laying down, or for repairing, relaying, and amending any Mains, Pipes, Cocks, or Plugs, to be made or laid down by the said Company by virtue and in pursuance of this Act, or afterwards repaired, relaid, or amended; and if the said Company shall neglect to repair, reinstate, and make good such Ground and Pavement with all convenient Speed, they shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds, One Half whereof shall be paid to the Informer, and the other Half to the Poor of the Parish where any such Neglect shall happen, to be recovered by Action of Debt or on the Case, in any Court of Law.

LXVI. And

Materials, &c. provided to be the Property of the Company.

LXVI. And be it further enacted, That all the Materials of which the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other Works shall be constructed, as well as the Pipes, Cocks, Conduits, and other Utensils, Matters, and Things furnished and provided for the Purposes aforesaid by the said Company at their Expence, and all the Profits, Benefit, and Advantages to arise from the said Concern, or under or by virtue of this Act, or the Powers herein contained respecting the said Company, shall be and be considered to all Intents and Purposes vested in and be the Personal Property of the said Company, for the Uses and Purposes aforesaid.

Workmen laying Pipes to make good the Pavement.

LXVII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That whenever any Highway or Pavement shall be opened or taken up, either by the said Company or by any other Person or Persons, for laying, taking up, or repairing any Aqueduct or Pipe by virtue of this Act, the Workmen employed in laying, taking up, or repairing any such Aqueducts or Pipes, shall do as little Damage as may be, and shall forthwith fill in the Trenches, and make good the Ground, Pavements, and Roads, and carry away the Rubbish occasioned thereby without any Delay, and shall in the meantime fence or guard, and affix Lamps or Lights during the Night, and all Night, at or near the Place or Places where the Ground shall be opened, in such Manner as to prevent Accidents to Passengers, Cattle, and Carriages: Provided also, that if there be any wilful or negligent Delay in the said Company, or in any of their Agents or Servants, or any other Person or Persons, in filling any such Ground, or removing Rubbish, or making good such Ground, Pavement, or Roads, then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for any Owner or Occupier of the Ground, or the Trustees or Commissioners under whose Jurisdiction, Care, or Management such Pavements or Roads now are or hereafter shall be respectively, or their Surveyor or Surveyors, or any other Person or Persons acting by or under the Authority of the said Owners, Occupiers, Commissioners, or Trustees respectively, to fill in such Ground, and remove such Rubbish, and to repair and make good such Ground or Pavement so broken up, and properly to fence or guard any such Trench or Excavation, and to place and maintain such Light or Lights as to him or them shall seem necessary, and the reasonable Costs and Charges thereof shall be paid by the said Company, or such other Person or Persons; and in default of Payment thereof for Fourteen Days next after Demand shall be made by such Owner or Occupier, Commissioners, Trustees, or other Person or Persons acting by or under his or their Authority, Proof of such Demand being made by the Oath of One credible Witness before One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the said Town and Borough of *Reading*, or County of *Berks*, all such reasonable Costs and Charges, together with any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds by way of Penalty, shall and may be levied and recovered by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the said Company, or such other Person or Persons, together with the Charges of such Distress and Sale, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals of any such Justice or Justices, and which Warrant such Justice or Justices is and are hereby empowered to grant, and such Costs, Charges, and Expences shall be paid to such Owner or Occupier, Commissioners or Trustees, or to their Treasurer respectively.

LXVIII. And

If the Depth of Pipes under Ground is lessened by the Removal of Ground, the same to be relaid.

LXVIII. And be it further enacted, That if at any Time hereafter the Ground over any Pipe or Pipes laid down or belonging to the said Company shall be removed so as to lessen the Depth thereof, the Trustees, Commissioners, Surveyor or Surveyors, Person or Persons so removing or causing the same to be removed, shall relay so much of the said Pipe or Pipes as shall be necessary to replace them at the Depth of Twenty Inches below the Surface of the Ground, to be measured from the upper Surface of such Pipe; and in case such Trustees, Commissioners, Surveyor or Surveyors, or Person or Persons, shall neglect or refuse to relay the same for the Space of Fourteen Days next after they or he shall be thereto requested, then and in such Case the said Company may replace the same, and the Expence thereof shall be charged to and payable by the Party or Parties by whom the said Alteration in the Ground was effected; and the Amount thereof may be recovered by the said Company by Action of Debt or on the Case, or by Bill, Plaint, Suit, or Information in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, or by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Person or Persons liable to pay the same, together with the Charges of such Distress and Sale, in manner herein directed.

Owners and Inhabitants of Houses, &c. may lay Pipes to those of the Company, paying the Rents after mentioned.

LXIX. And be it further enacted, That such of the Owners or Occupiers of Buildings within the said Parishes of *Saint Mary*, *Saint Lawrence*, and *Saint Giles*, *Reading*, as shall be desirous of having Water conveyed in Pipes into their Houses, Brewhouses, Factories, Warehouses, Workshops, or other Buildings and Premises, may and they are hereby authorized and empowered, at their own Expence, having first given Seven Days previous Notice in Writing to the said Company of his, her, or their Intention so to do, and having first obtained the Consent of the said Company, and of the Owner or Owners, Occupier or Occupiers of any inclosed Lands or Grounds in and through which such Pipes shall be conveyed, to open the Ground between the said Company's Main Pipes or Aqueducts, and the respective Houses, Buildings, Brewhouses, Manufactories, Offices, Yards, and other Premises of such Owners or Occupiers, and to lay any Leaden or other Pipe or Pipes, the Weight and Bore thereof to be determined by the said Company or their Surveyor, from such respective Houses, Buildings, or other Premises, to communicate with the said Aqueducts or Main Pipes, such respective Owners or Occupiers of Buildings paying to the said Company such Rent or Rents, or Sum or Sums of Money for such Water as herein-after mentioned; and in case of default in Payment of any such Rent or Rents, or Sum or Sums of Money, it shall be lawful for the said Company to cause the Pipe or Pipes belonging to the Person or Persons making such Default, and communicating with the said Aqueducts or Main Pipes belonging to the said Company, to be separated from the said Aqueducts or Main Pipes, and to prevent the Water from issuing or running into the said Houses, Manufactories, Buildings, or other Premises; and the Rent or Rents, Sum or Sums of Money, which shall be due and in Arrear from such Person or Persons to the said Company, shall and may be recovered by the said Company by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Persons liable to pay the same, wherever such Goods and Chattels may be found, together with the Charges of such Distress and Sale, in the same Manner as Rents reserved on common Demises may by Law be recovered: Provided always, that all and every Person and Persons who shall have laid any Leaden Pipe or Pipes as aforesaid, shall be at liberty

Rents how to be recovered.

to remove and take away such Pipe and Pipes, and the Cock or Cocks belonging thereto, doing no Injury or Damage to the Pipes of the said Company: Provided always, that if Tender of Payment of the Rent or Rents due and unpaid as aforesaid shall be made to the Collector of such Rent or Rents, or his Deputy, at the Time the Turncock or Workman of the said Company is removing, or after he has removed the Ground for the Purpose of drawing the Ferrel and cutting off the Water after such Refusal as herein-before mentioned, and before the said Ferrel shall be actually drawn and the said Water cut off, and shall also tender in addition thereto the Sum of Two Shillings for the Labour thereby occasioned, then and in that Case the said Ferrel shall not be drawn, nor the said Water cut off, until Default be made in Payment of some subsequent Rent or Rents by such Occupier or Occupiers.

Two Shillings to be paid if the Ground be disturbed for removing the Ferrel, and the Rent tendered before Pipe cut off.

Notice to be given on discontinuing Use of Water.

LXX. And be it further enacted, That the Rent or Rents so agreed to be paid as aforesaid shall be charged and chargeable on the Owner or Owners, Occupier or Occupiers as aforesaid, until Notice in Writing be given by him, her, or them to the said Company, or their Clerk, of his, her, or their Intention of discontinuing to take, receive, or use such Water, such Notice to expire on some usual Quarter-day.

But in case of Removal, Rent to be paid to the next Quarter-day only.

LXXI. Provided nevertheless, and be it further enacted, That in all Cases where any Owner or Occupier shall remove from or quit Possession of any House, Building, Land, Ground, or other Hereditaments, in respect whereof he, she, or they shall have agreed to pay for Water supplied by the said Company by virtue of this Act, such Owner or Occupier shall be liable to pay for the same up to the Quarter-day next after such Removal only.

Penalty for not supplying Water to Inhabitants.

LXXII. And be it further enacted, That in case the said Company shall neglect or refuse to supply in manner aforesaid any of the said Inhabitants, occupying any private Dwelling House in any Square, Street, Close, or Lane where the Pipes of the said Company shall be laid, with Water for the Use of his or her own Family, at the Rent herein-after mentioned, for the Space of Seven Days after Demand in Writing shall have been made by such Inhabitant to the said Company for such Supply of Water, and Tender made to the said Company of the Amount of the Rate for Six Months for such Supply, the said Company shall forfeit and pay to such Inhabitant Double the Amount of the Rate so tendered, to be levied and recovered by virtue of a Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said Town and Borough of *Reading* or County of *Berks*, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the said Company; and also the further Sum of Five Shillings for every Day the said Company shall continue to refuse such Supply, to be recovered as the above-mentioned Penalty is herein-before directed to be recovered.

Limiting the Rents to be paid for Water, &c.

LXXIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the said Company shall be obliged in the Manner before mentioned to furnish a sufficient Supply of Water to every Inhabitant occupying a private Dwelling House, or Part of a Dwelling House, in any Street, Lane, or Passage, within the said Parishes of *Saint Mary*, *Saint Lawrence*, and *Saint Giles*, where the Pipes of the said Company shall be laid for conveying

veying Water as aforesaid, for the Use of such Inhabitant's own Family, at the following Rents *per Annum*; that is to say, where the Rent or Annual Value of such Dwelling House, or Part of a Dwelling House, shall not exceed Fifteen Pounds *per Annum*, at a Rent *per Annum* not exceeding One Shilling and Sixpence in the Pound upon such Rent or Annual Value; and where such Rent shall be above Fifteen Pounds *per Annum*, at a Rent *per Annum* not exceeding Two Shillings and Sixpence in the Pound upon such Rent or Annual Value; and every such Rent shall be payable according to the actual Amount of the Rent of such Dwelling House where the same may be let, and the Amount of such Rent can be ascertained, and where the same is not let, or where the Amount cannot be ascertained, according to such Rent as such Inhabitant shall be assessed to the Rate for paving, lighting, cleansing, and watching the said Borough of *Reading*, or Inhabitant House Duty, at the Option of the said Company: Provided nevertheless, that the said Company shall not be entitled to receive from any such Inhabitant more than the Sum of Five Pounds in any one Year for such Supply, nor shall the said Company be obliged to furnish such Supply to any Inhabitant for less than Ten Shillings in any one Year, unless the said Company shall think fit so to do; and provided further, that in the Case of Brewers, Curriers, Dyers, Fishmongers, Butchers, Hatters, Innkeepers, or other Person or Persons requiring a Supply of Water for other Purposes than those of his or her own Family's Consumption, or Persons requiring a Supply of Water for Baths, Tanks, Fountains, Ponds, Pools, or Water Closets, or for the Purposes of any Trade or Business whatsoever, such Supply shall be furnished by the said Company in such Cases at such Rent as shall be settled and agreed upon by the said Company and such Person or Persons respectively.

Where several Houses, &c. are supplied by one common Branch Pipe, each Occupier liable to Rates.

LXXIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That where several Messuages, Cottages, Dwelling Houses, or Tenements in the Occupation of several Persons shall be supplied by One common Branch Pipe to be laid to and introduced into the Wells, Reservoirs, Mains, Pipes, or Aqueducts of the said Company, the several Owners or Occupiers of such Messuages, Cottages, Dwelling Houses, or Tenements, shall be respectively liable to pay for such Supply of Water at and after the same Rent as he, she, or they would be liable to pay for the same if each of such several Messuages, Cottages, Dwelling Houses, or Tenements was separately supplied with Water by a distinct Branch Pipe from the Works of the said Company, such several Rents, in case of Nonpayment, to be recovered as herein-before mentioned.

Rents payable in advance.

LXXV. And be it further enacted, That the Rents payable to the said Company under and by virtue of this Act shall and may be payable and become due in advance immediately upon the Commencement of the Period for which the Person or Persons using the said Water may contract with the said Company.

Rents may be leased.

LXXVI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Company to let the Rates of the said Water in whole or in Parts from Time to Time, in the Way and Manner that shall be directed by the said Company, subject to the Performance of such Covenants as the said Company shall think fit to prescribe, and for the best Rent that can be got for

for the same, to such Person or Persons as shall give sufficient Security for the Performance of such Covenants and for the sure Payment of such Rents, to be approved of by the said Company; provided that no Lease of such Rent be made for a longer Term than Twenty-one Years at any one Time.

For preventing undue Waste of Water.

LXXVII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Engineer, or other Person or Persons acting by or under the Authority of the said Company, at all seasonable Times in the Day-time, upon giving Twenty-four Hours previous Notice of his or their Intention, to enter into any House, Building, or other Premises supplied with Water by virtue of this Act, in order to inspect and examine if there be any Waste, undue Diversion, or improper Appropriation of the Water so supplied by the said Company, or if the Pipes or Cocks for supplying such House, Buildings, or other Premises, be in good and proper Repair; and if such Engineer, or other Person acting by or under the Authority of the said Company, shall at any such Time or Times be refused Admittance or Entrance into any such Dwelling House, Building, or other Premises, for the Purpose of making such Inspection and Examination as aforesaid, or on being admitted shall be obstructed or prevented from making such Inspection and Examination as aforesaid, then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for the said Company to cut and turn off, or cause to be cut and turned off the Water so supplied by them the said Company, from such House, Building, or other Premises.

Cisterns and Stopcocks to be provided if required by the Company.

LXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That every Person or Persons supplied with Water by virtue of this Act shall, upon having Two Calendar Months Notice in Writing from the said Company for such Purpose, have a Cistern for receiving Water, and in such Cistern or Receptacle for Water shall attach and fix a Ball Cock, or other self-acting Cock, to the Pipe conveying Water from the Reservoirs or Pipes belonging to the said Company into such Cistern or other Receptacle, and shall repair and renew the same as often as shall be necessary, in order to prevent the Water running to waste when such Cistern and other Receptacle shall be full; and the Person or Persons neglecting to attach and fix, and repair or renew such Ball Cock or self-acting Cock, shall forfeit to the said Company any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds for every Offence; and any Person specially authorized by the said Company shall have free Access in the Day-time, after having given Twenty-four Hours Notice of his Intention to view the Premises to be supplied as aforesaid, to see that such Ball Cocks, or other self-acting Cocks, are kept in proper and sufficient Repair and Condition.

Power to cut off the Water in certain Cases.

LXXIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall negligently suffer any of his, her, or their Pipe or Pipes, Drains, or Aqueducts, which shall communicate with any of the Reservoirs, Pipes, or Aqueducts of the said Company, or the Cocks belonging thereto, to be out of Repair, so as to let the Water run waste and useless, or shall neglect to repair the same within Twenty-four Hours after being required so to do by any of the Agents or Workmen of the said Company, or if any Person or Persons shall make Default in Payment of the Water Rent agreed or fixed to be paid by such Person or Persons by the Space of Fourteen Days after the same shall be lawfully demanded, or in

case

case it shall at any Time be found necessary for the Alteration or Amendment of the Pipes or Works of the said Company, it shall be lawful for the said Company to cause any such Pipes, Drains, or Aqueducts so communicating with any of the Reservoirs, Pipes, or Aqueducts of the said Company, to be separated from the Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and Pipes of the said Company, and the Water to be stopped from issuing or running therefrom into such Pipes, Drains, or Aqueducts so authorized to be separated: Provided always, that whenever the said Company shall cause any such Pipes, Drains, or Aqueducts which shall communicate with any of the Reservoirs, Pipes, or Aqueducts of the said Company to be separated, and the Water to be stopped from issuing or running therefrom into such Pipes, Drains, or Aqueducts, by reason of any Alteration or Amendment of the Pipes or Works of the said Company being necessary, the said Company shall make such Alteration or Amendment, and at their own Expence restore the Communication of such Pipes, Drains, or Aqueducts, with the Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and Pipes of the said Company, and permit the Water to issue therefrom and run again into such Pipes, Drains, or Aqueducts, as soon as conveniently may be: Provided always, that if by or through any Offence committed contrary to or against the Provisions of this Act, the usual Supply of Water to any House or Premises shall have been cut off, the Rent in such Case or Cases due from the Owner or Owners, Occupier or Occupiers of such House and Premises, shall be calculated up to the Quarter-day next ensuing the cutting off the Supply as aforesaid.

If Water cut off, Rent to be paid to next Quarter-day.

LXXX. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Company to treat, contract, or agree with the Commissioners for paving and lighting the said Borough of *Reading*, or the Surveyors of the Highways in the several Parishes in the said Borough, to water the Streets in the Borough of *Reading* aforesaid, and for the Recompence to be paid for the same.

Company may water Streets.

LXXXI. And be it further enacted, That whenever any Water shall be observed escaping and running waste through the Ground of the Road, Highways, Passages, Courts, or other Places, the said Company shall cause the Ground to be opened, and if it shall appear that such Water proceeds from the Cock or Pipe of the said Company, then and in that Case the said Company shall cause such Cock or Pipe to be amended and rectified as soon as may be; and if such Escape of Water shall appear to proceed from the Communication Pipe or the Ferrel thereof supplying the neighbouring House or Premises, then Notice thereof shall be given by the said Company, their Turncock or Agent, to the Owner or Owners, Occupier or Occupiers thereof, who shall thereupon pay to the said Company the Sum of One Shilling for opening the Ground as aforesaid; and in case of Refusal the same shall be added to the Rent thereafter to become payable by such Owner or Owners, Occupier or Occupiers, and shall be recovered in such Manner and Form as such Rent or Rents are hereby authorized to be recovered.

Workmen of the Company to open Ground when Water is escaping through it.

LXXXII. And be it further enacted, That if through unavoidable Repairs, Amendments, Improvements, Injury, or Impediments, to any Part of the Works of the said Company, there shall be a partial or total Suspension of the Supply of Water from the said Works to the Person or Persons

Rent payable notwithstanding partial Suspension of Supply of Water.

Persons agreeing to take the same, the Rent or Rents which shall be due and payable at the Time of such Suspension, and also all Rates or Assessments which may thereafter arise and become due before the Restoration of the Supply as aforesaid, (provided such Suspension shall not exceed Forty Days), shall be paid and levied on such Person and Persons as were supplied with Water at or immediately before the Commencement of such Suspension, in the same Manner as if such Suspension had not occurred.

Penalties for hindering or injuring the Company's Works, or fouling the Water;

LXXXIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall wilfully or maliciously hinder or interrupt, or cause or procure to be hindered or interrupted, the said Company, or their Agents, Officers, Servants, or Workmen, or any of them, in doing or performing any of the Works, or in the Exercise of any of the Powers and Authorities in this Act authorized or contained; or if any Person whomsoever shall wilfully and maliciously let off or discharge any Water, so that the same shall run waste and useless out of or from any of the Cisterns, Reservoirs, or Wells, Pipes or Aqueducts hereby authorized to be made, or shall wilfully or maliciously break, throw down, injure, damage, or destroy any Wells, Cisterns, Reservoirs, Aqueducts, Pipes, Drains, Plugs, Cocks, Works, Matters, or Things belonging to or the Property of the said Company, made or to be made and provided in pursuance of this Act, or for the Purpose of the Execution of the Powers herein contained; or if any Person shall bathe in any of the Wells, Cisterns, or Reservoirs belonging to the said Company, already or hereafter to be made pursuant to the Powers herein contained, or shall wade into, or wash, cast, put, or throw any live or dead Dog or Cat, or other Animal, or any Filth, Dirt, or other noisome or offensive Matter or Thing, or cause, permit, or suffer the Water of any Sink, Sewer, or Drain to run or be conveyed into any of the said Wells, Cisterns, or Reservoirs, Pipes or Conduits, or otherwise foul or render noisome or impure, or cause or procure so to be, the Water running to or contained in any of such Wells, Cisterns, or Reservoirs, Pipes or Conduits; or if any Person or Persons supplied with Water by virtue of this Act shall wilfully permit any other Person or Persons, not being so supplied, to take any Water at or from the Pipes or Reservoirs of the said Company, or shall supply any such other Person or Persons with any Water from such Pipes or Reservoirs, or from any Pipe or Pipes communicating with the same; or if any Person not paying for, or not having agreed to pay for a Supply of Water from the said Works, shall take or use any of the Water supplied by means of the Works of the said Company; then and in every such Case the Person so offending shall forfeit and pay for every such Offence to the said Company any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, according to the Discretion and Decision of the Justice of the Peace before whom the same shall be recovered as herein-after provided, besides the full Amount of the Damage sustained by the said Company by the Acts or Means in respect of which such respective Penalties shall be incurred, in addition thereto.

and on Persons supplied with Water supplying others;

or using Water without Consent:

Except in the Case of Fire.

LXXXIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall prevent, or be construed to extend to prevent, any of the Water supplied or collected under the Authority of this Act from being used to extinguish any Fire or Fires whatsoever that may have communicated to any Building or Buildings, Rick or Ricks, Stack or Stacks

Stacks of Hay, Corn, or other Produce, or any Waggon, Cart, or other Carriage, or any Matter or Thing therein contained, or shall be in danger of so communicating; and no Person supplied with Water under an Agreement with the said Company shall be liable to any Penalty or Payment for supplying any other Person or Persons with Water for the Purposes last aforesaid.

No Plumber to affix any Pipe, &c. without Licence of Company.

LXXXV. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall affix or solder, or cause to be affixed or soldered, any Pipe or Pipes, Cock or Cocks, on or to any Pipe or Pipes supplied from the said Waterworks, whereby any Water shall or may be supplied to any Houses, Manufactories, Offices, or Premises, other than the Houses, Manufactories, Offices, or Premises for which such Person or Persons shall have contracted or agreed with the said Company for a Supply of Water, without first obtaining the Consent in Writing of the said Company, such Person and Persons so offending, as well the Plumber or other Person employed, and his Workman and Servant who shall actually affix or solder the same, as the Person or Persons who shall cause or order the same to be so affixed or soldered, shall forfeit and pay to the said Company any Sum not exceeding Ten Pounds for every such Offence, and the said Pipe or Pipes, Cock or Cocks, which shall have been so affixed or soldered on; and the said Company shall and may, and they are hereby authorized, if they shall think fit, to cut off the said Pipe or Pipes so wrongfully affixed, and also to withdraw the Ferrel of, and cut off and remove the Pipe or Pipes communicating with the Main or Service Pipe or Pipes of the said Company.

Fire Plugs to be placed in the Streets.

Churchwardens may affix Pipes to supply Water in case of Fire.

LXXXVI. And be it further enacted, That the said Company shall and they are hereby required to keep, maintain, and lay down, in the several Streets, Lanes, Courts, Passages, and Places within the Borough of *Reading* aforesaid, and the several Parishes aforesaid, as far as the Pipes of the said Company do or shall extend, a sufficient Number of Fire Plugs in such Streets, Lanes, Passages, and Places as aforesaid, for the Supply of Water in case of Fire; and for the more certain, effectual, and advantageous Supply of Water under such Circumstances, it shall be lawful for the Churchwardens of the several Parishes aforesaid, and they are hereby authorized, by and out of the Monies to be by them collected by virtue of their Office, under the Direction and Superintendence of the said Company, their Surveyor or Agent, to affix or maintain Water Pipes communicating with the Pipes of the said Company, against the Houses and Walls in the said Borough and Parishes, in such Situations as shall be most beneficial for the Purposes intended, the same being inclosed and properly secured in Boxes, with Locks of one and the same Sort and Construction, so that either of the Keys will pass all of such Locks, Keys of which Locks shall be kept by the Churchwardens of the said several Parishes, and by the Collector and Turncock of the said Company: Provided always, that the Water so supplied as last aforesaid shall be used for no Purpose whatsoever but for the extinguishing of Fires.

Directions or Marks may be made on Houses to

LXXXVII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Company, and they are hereby authorized and required to affix on or against the Houses, Buildings, or Walls, or in any other eligible and conspicuous

point out the Situation of Fire Plugs.

conspicuous Place or Places, painted Directions or Marks, in bold and legible Characters, of the particular Situation and Distance of each and every Fire Plug from the said Direction or Mark; and which said Directions and Marks the said Company shall from Time to Time renew as the same shall become necessary; and if any Person or Persons shall at any Time wilfully deface, remove, or any ways injure any or either of them, and shall not replace or renew the same within Twenty-one Days after being so defaced or removed, such Person or Persons shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Shillings for each and every such Offence.

If Works are not completed in Five Years, Powers to cease.

LXXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That in case the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other Works shall not have been completed and made (unless prevented by inevitable Accidents) within the Space of Five Years, to be computed from the passing of this Act, then from and after the Expiration of the said Term of Five Years all the Powers, Authorities, and Privileges given by this Act shall cease and determine, save only and except as to so much (if any) of the said intended Reservoirs, Aqueducts, and other Works as shall have been declared and certified to have been completed within the said Term by the Justices of the Peace for the said Town and Borough of *Reading*, or by the Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Berks*, assembled at any General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace, at any Time before the Expiration of the said Term of Five Years, or within Twelve Calendar Months next after the Expiration thereof, upon the Evidence of one or more Witness or Witnesses upon Oath, to be produced before them for that Purpose, and save and except also the Power of laying Pipes in the present or any future Roads, Streets, Lanes, Ways, and Passages in the said several Parishes of *Saint Mary*, *Saint Lawrence*, and *Saint Giles*, *Reading*.

Penalty on destroying Works.

LXXXIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall wilfully or maliciously, and to the Prejudice of the said Undertaking, break, throw down, destroy, steal, carry or take away any Part of the said Reservoirs, Aqueducts, Pipes, or other Works erected and to be erected and made by virtue of this Act, every Person so offending, and being thereof lawfully convicted, shall be subject and liable to the like Pains and Penalties as in Cases of Felony, and the Court by and before whom such Person shall be tried and convicted shall have Power and Authority to cause such Person to be transported for the Term of Seven Years, or in Mitigation of such Punishment such Court may, if they think fit, award such Sentence as the Law directs in Cases of Petit Larceny.

Declaring what shall be deemed a good Service of Notices on the Company and others.

XC. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases wherein it may be necessary or requisite for any Person or Persons or Party or Parties to serve any Notice or Notices, or any Writ or Writs, or other legal Proceedings, or Proceedings in Equity, upon the said Company, Service thereof respectively upon the Clerk of the said Company, or left at the Office of the said Company, or in case the same respectively shall not be found or known, then Service upon any other Agent of or Officer employed by the said Company, or left at his last or usual Place of Abode, shall be deemed good and sufficient Service of the same respectively on the said Company; and in all Cases where any Orders or Notices are directed or required to be given by this Act to any Person or Persons, or which are or may be directed or required to be given by any Rule, Order,

Order, or Bye Law made or to be made in pursuance of this Act, or which shall or may be necessary for carrying into Execution any of the Powers of the same, (the Manner of serving whereof not being hereby otherwise particularly directed), the Service of such Order or Notice on the Person or Persons to whom the same ought to be given, or leaving the same, or a true Copy thereof, signed by Three or more of the said Company, or by the Clerk or Collector for the Time being to the said Company, at the Dwelling House or Dwelling Houses, or usual or last Place or Places of Abode of such Person or Persons, shall be good and sufficient Service of every such Order or Notice.

In case of Nonpayment of Compensation for Damages, &c. the same to be levied by Distress.

XCI. And be it further enacted, That when and as often as any Sum or Sums of Money shall be directed or ordered to be paid by any Justice or Justices of the Peace in pursuance of this Act, as or by way of Compensation or Satisfaction for any Materials or Costs, or for any Damage, Spoil, or Injury of any Nature or Kind whatsoever done or committed by the said Company, or any Person or Persons acting by or under their Authority, and such Sum or Sums of Money shall not be paid by the said Company to the Party or Parties entitled to receive the same within Seven Days after Demand in Writing shall have been made from the said Company in pursuance of the Direction or Order made by such Justice or Justices, and in which Demand the Order of such Justice or Justices shall be stated, then and in such Case the Amount of such Compensation or Satisfaction shall and may be levied and recovered by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels vested in the said Company by virtue of this Act, or of the Goods and Chattels of their Treasurer for the Time being, under a Warrant to be issued for that Purpose by such Justice or Justices, which Warrant any such Justice or Justices is and are hereby authorized and required to grant under his Hand and Seal or their Hands and Seals, on Application made to him or them for that Purpose by the Party or Parties entitled to receive such Sum or Sums of Money as or by way of Compensation or Satisfaction for any such Materials, Costs, Damages, Spoil, or Injury as aforesaid; and in case any Overplus shall remain after Payment of such Sum or Sums of Money, and the Costs and Expences of hearing and determining the Matter in dispute, and also the Costs and Expences of such Distress and Sale, then and in such Case such Overplus shall be returned, on Demand, to the said Company, or to their Treasurer for the Time being, as the Case may be: Provided always, that it shall be lawful for such Treasurer to retain, out of any Monies which he shall have received or shall receive in pursuance of this Act, all such Damages, Costs, Charges, and Expences as he shall have sustained or be put unto by virtue of any such Warrant as aforesaid.

Damages and Charges in Cases of Dispute to be settled by Justices.

XCII. And be it further enacted, That where any Damages or Charges are directed or authorized to be paid or recovered in addition to any Penalty or Penalties for any Offence or Offences in this Act mentioned, the Amount of such Damages or Charges, in case of Dispute respecting the same, shall be settled and determined by the Justice or Justices of the Peace by or before whom any Offender shall be convicted of any such Offence or Offences, who is hereby authorized and required, on Nonpayment thereof, to levy such Damages by Distress and Sale of the Offender's Goods and Chattels, in manner by this Act directed for the levying of any Penalties or Forfeitures.

Justices may proceed by Summons to recover Penalties.

XCIII. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases in which by this Act any Penalty or Forfeiture is made recoverable by Information before a Justice of the Peace, it shall be lawful for any Justice, to or before whom Complaint shall be made of any Offence against this Act, to summon the Party complained against before him, and on such Summons to hear and determine the Matter of such Complaint in a summary Way, and on Proof of the Offence to convict the Offender, and to adjudge him or her to pay the Penalty or Forfeiture incurred, and to proceed to recover the same, although no Information in Writing shall have been exhibited or taken by or before such Justice; and all such Proceedings by Summons without Information shall be as good, valid, and effectual, to all Intents and Purposes, as if an Information in Writing had been exhibited.

Recovery and Application of Penalties.

XCIV. And be it further enacted, That all Penalties and Forfeitures inflicted or imposed by this Act, or by any Rule, Order, or Bye Law made in pursuance thereof (the Manner of levying and recovering whereof is not otherwise particularly directed), may, in case of Nonpayment thereof, be recovered in a summary Way by the Order and Adjudication of any One Justice of the Peace for the said Borough of *Reading*, or County of *Berks*, on Complaint to him for that Purpose exhibited by the Oath or Affirmation of any Person or Persons, or on the Confession of the Party offending, (which Oath or Affirmation such Justice is hereby authorized to administer); and in default of Payment of such Penalties or Forfeitures, the same shall be levied by Distress and Sale of the Offender's Goods and Chattels, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of such Justice, rendering the Overplus (if any), on Demand, to the Party or Parties whose Goods and Chattels shall be so distrained, (the reasonable Charges of such Distress and Sale being first deducted); and One Half of the Penalties and Forfeitures, when recovered, shall be paid to the Informer, and the other Half thereof shall be paid to the Overseers of the Poor for the Parish or Place wherein such Offence shall be committed, to be by them applied towards the Relief of the Poor of such Parish or Place; and in case such Penalties and Forfeitures shall not be forthwith paid, it shall be lawful for such Justice, and he is hereby authorized and required to order the Offender or Offenders so convicted to be detained and kept in safe Custody until Return can be conveniently made to such Warrant of Distress, unless the Offender or Offenders shall give sufficient Security to the Satisfaction of such Justice for his, her, or their Appearance before such Justice, or before some other Justice of the Peace for the said Borough of *Reading*, or County of *Berks*, as the Case may be, on such Day or Days as shall be appointed for the Return of such Warrant of Distress, such Day or Days not being more than Seven Days from the taking of any such Security, and which Security the said Justice is hereby empowered to take by way of Recognizance or otherwise; but if upon the Return of such Warrant it shall appear that no sufficient Distress can be had whereupon to levy the said Penalty or Penalties, and such Costs aforesaid, and the same shall not be forthwith paid, or in case it shall appear to the Satisfaction of any such Justice, upon the Confession of the Offender or Offenders or otherwise, that he, she, or they hath or have not sufficient Goods and Chattels whereupon such Penalties, Forfeitures, Costs, and Expences can be levied if a Warrant of Distress were issued, such Justice shall not be required to issue such Warrant of Distress, and thereupon it shall be lawful 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 for the County or Place where such Offence shall be committed, there to remain for any Time not exceeding Three Calendar Months, unless such Penalty or Forfeiture shall be sooner paid and satisfied, together with all Costs and Charges attending such Proceedings as aforesaid, to be ascertained by such Justice, or shall otherwise be discharged by due Course of Law.

Distress not unlawful for Want of Form.

XCV. And be it further enacted, That where any Distress shall be made for any Money to be levied by virtue 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 Summons, Conviction, Warrant of Distress, or other Proceedings relating thereto, nor shall the Party or Parties distraining be deemed a Trespasser or Trespassers *ab initio* on account of any Irregularity which shall be afterwards committed by the Party or Parties distraining; but the Person or Persons aggrieved by such Irregularity shall and may recover full Satisfaction for the special Damage in an Action upon the Case.

For securing transient Offenders.

XCVI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Collector, Surveyor, or other Officer of the said Company, and such Person or Persons as he shall call to his Assistance, to seize and detain any Person or Persons, being unknown to such Collector, Surveyor, or other Officer, who shall commit any Offence or Offences against this Act, and to convey him, her, or them before any One or more of the Justice or Justices of the Peace for the said Borough of *Reading* or County of *Berks*, wherein such Offence shall be committed, without any other Warrant or Authority than this Act for so doing; and such Justice or Justices of the Peace respectively is and are hereby respectively empowered and directed to proceed immediately to the Conviction or Acquittal of such Offender or Offenders.

For the Conviction of Offenders.

XCVII. And for the more easy and speedy Conviction of Offenders against this Act, be it further enacted, That all and every Justice or Justices of the Peace before whom any Person or Persons shall be convicted of any Offence against this Act shall and may cause the Conviction to be drawn up according to the following Form, or any other Form to the same Effect, as the Case shall happen; (that is to say),

Form of Conviction.

'} BE it remembered, That on the Day of
'to wit. } in the Year of our Lord
' *A. B.* is convicted before me *C. D.* One of His
' Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the
' [*specifying the Offence, and Time and Place when and where the same was*
' *committed, as the Case may be,*] contrary to an Act passed in the Seventh
' Year of the Reign of King *George* the Fourth, intituled [*here set forth*
' *the Title of this Act*]. Given under my Hand and Seal the Day and
' Year first above written.'

Appeal.

XCVIII. And be it further enacted, That any Body or Bodies, Person or Persons, who may think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by any Rule, Bye Law, or Order made by virtue or in pursuance of this Act,

or

or by any Order or Judgment made or given in pursuance of any such Rule, Bye Law, or Order of the said Company, or by any Order, Judgment, or Determination of any Justice or Justices of the Peace relating to any Matter or Thing in this Act mentioned or contained, may, within Three Calendar Months next after such Order, Judgment, or Determination shall have been made or given, appeal to the Justices of the Peace at any General or Quarter Sessions to be held for the County or Place where the Cause of Appeal shall happen to arise, first giving Ten Days Notice in Writing of such Intention to appeal, and of the Nature thereof, to the Body or Bodies, Person or Persons, against whom such Complaint is intended to be made, or to the Clerk of the said Company, as the Case may be, and forthwith after such Notice entering into a Recognizance before some Justice of the Peace, with Two sufficient Sureties, conditioned to try such Appeal and abide the Order and Award of the said Court thereon; and the said Justices shall, in a summary Way either hear and determine the said Complaint at such General or Quarter Sessions, or if they think proper, adjourn the Hearing thereof to the following General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held for such County; and the said Justices may, if they see Cause, mitigate any Penalty or Forfeiture, and may order any Money to be returned which shall have been levied in pursuance of such Rule, Bye Law, Order, or Determination, and may also order any such further Satisfaction to be made to the Party injured as they shall judge reasonable, and may also order such Costs to be paid to the Party aggrieved by the Party aggressing, as they in their Judgment shall think just and reasonable.

Proceedings not to be removed by Certiorari.

XCIX. And be it further enacted, That no Proceedings to be had and taken in pursuance of this Act shall be quashed or vacated for Want of Form, or be removed by Certiorari, or by any other Writ or Process whatsoever, into any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster* or elsewhere; any Law or Statute to the contrary notwithstanding.

Limitation of Actions.

C. And be it further enacted, That no Action, Suit, or Information shall be brought, commenced, or prosecuted against any Person or Persons for any thing done or to be done in pursuance of this Act, or in the Execution of the Powers or Authorities, or any of the Orders made, given, or directed in, by, or under this Act, unless Ten Days previous Notice in Writing shall be given by the Person or Persons intending to commence and prosecute such Action, Suit, or Information to the said Company, or their Clerk or Treasurer for the Time being, nor unless such Action, Suit, or Information shall be brought or commenced within Three Calendar Months next after the Fact committed; or in case there shall be a Continuation of Damages, then within Three Calendar Months next after the doing or committing such Damage shall have ceased, and not afterwards; and shall be laid and brought in the County or Place where the Matter in dispute or Cause of Action shall arise, and not elsewhere; and the Defendant or Defendants in such Action, Suit, or Information shall and may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the special Matter in Evidence at any Trial to be had thereupon, and that the same was done in pursuance and by Authority of this Act; and if it shall appear to have been so done, or if any such Action, Suit, or Information shall have been brought or commenced before or after the respective Times so limited for bringing or commencing the same, or in any County

or

or Place than as aforesaid, then and in every such Case the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants; and upon such Verdict, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall become nonsuited, or suffer a Discontinuance of his, her, or their Action, Suit, or Information after the Defendant or Defendants shall have appeared, or if a Verdict shall pass against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, or if upon Demurrer or otherwise Judgment shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants shall have Double Costs, and shall have such Remedy for recovering the same as any Defendant hath for recovering Costs of Suit in any other Case by Law.

Saving the Rights of the Corporation of Reading.

CI. And be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend in any Manner to prejudice, lessen, or defeat any legal Power, Privilege, Franchise, or Authority of the Corporation of *Reading*, or any of the Juries or Officers of their Courts or Leets within the said Borough (save only the Power and Authority, if any such there shall be, of preventing or hindering in any respect the Execution of this Act, or of punishing any Person or Persons who shall have been before punished by Authority of this Act for the same Offence), but the said Corporation, Juries, and Officers respectively, shall and may exercise and enjoy all and every such Powers, Privileges, Franchises, and Authorities (save only as before is saved) in as full and ample a Manner, to all Intents and Purposes, as they have heretofore used to do, and of right could or might have done, in case this Act had not been made.

Public Act.

CII. 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.

The SCHEDULE to which the aforegoing Act refers.

No. on Plan.	Owners.	Occupiers.	Description of the Property.
		Parish of Saint Giles.	
1.	John May and William May	John May and William May	Potatoe Ground.
3.	William Maskell - -	William Maskell and Benjamin Pepper.	Two Cottages and Yards.
6.	Elizabeth Howard - -	William Petty - -	Garden Ground.
7.	Robert Harris, Esquire -	Dew Barnes - -	Garden Ground.
		Parish of Saint Mary.	
4.	William May and Elizabeth his Wife, and Mary Lyne.	John Davis - -	Pasture Land.
5.	John Berkeley Monck, Esquire	Henry Sayre - -	Arable Land.

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