ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO SEXTO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

Cap. lxxx.

An Act to continue the Term, and alter and enlarge the Powers of ſeveral Acts of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, for repairing the Highways from *Speenhamland*, in the County of *Berks*, to *Marlborough*, in the County of *Wilts*, and other Roads therein mentioned, ſo far as relates to the *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads. [26th *June* 1816.]

WHEREAS an Act was paſſed in the Tenth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled *An Act to continue the Term, and to vary and enlarge the Powers of Two Acts, of the Twelfth Year of the Reign of King* George *the Firſt, and the Eighteenth Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty, for repairing the Highways from* Speenhamland, *in the County of* Berks, *to* Marlborough, *in the County of* Wilts, *and for repairing ſeveral other Roads therein mentioned;* whereby it is enacted, that for the more effectually repairing and widening, altering and keeping in Repair the ſaid Roads, the ſame ſhould be divided into Two ſeparate Diſtricts, and that the Road leading from the Tenement then late a Blackſmith's Shop at *Speenhamland*, in the Occupation of *Heſter Jefferies*, in the County of *Berks*, to *Froxfield Bridge*, in the County of *Wilts*, ſhould be and be called *The Speenhamland Diſtrict* of the ſaid Roads: And whereas another Act was paſſed in the Thirty-third Year of the Reign of His ſaid Majeſty, intituled *An Act for continuing the Term, and altering and enlarging the Powers of an Act made in* 10 G. 3. c. 100.

33. G. 3. c. 138.

the Tenth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, for repairing the Highways from Speenhamland, *in the County of* Berks, *to* Marlborough, *in the County of* Wilts, *and ſeveral other Roads therein mentioned:* And whereas another Act was paſſed in the Fifty-fourth Year of the Reign of His ſaid
54G.3.c.210. Majeſty, intituled *An Act to enlarge the Term and Powers of Two Acts, paſſed in the Tenth and Thirty-third Years of His preſent Majeſty, for repairing the Highways from* Speenhamland, *in the County of* Berks, *to* Marlborough, *in the County of* Wilts, *and ſeveral other Roads therein mentioned:* And whereas ſeveral Sums of Money have been borrowed, and are now due and owing upon the Credit of the Tolls authorized to be collected upon the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, which Money cannot be repaid; nor can the Roads within the ſaid Diſtrict be effectually amended, widened, improved, and kept in Repair, unleſs the Powers of the ſaid recited Acts be further enlarged, and the Tolls thereby granted be altered and increaſed, ſo far as the ſame relates to the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads: 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 the ſaid recited Acts, and all the Powers, Proviſions, Matters, and Things therein contained, ſhall be and continue in full Force, and ſhall be executed until and on the Second *Monday* next after the paſſing of this Act, and from thenceforth, as well the ſaid recited Acts (except ſuch Parts thereof as are varied, altered, or repealed) as alſo this Act, ſhall be put in force and be executed, for and during the Continuance of the Term herein-after mentioned, as fully and effectually to all Intents and Purpoſes as if the Powers, Proviſions, Matters, and Things in the ſaid recited Acts contained, ſo far as they relate to the *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, were repeated and re-enacted in the Body of this Act; which ſaid Term, and the Tolls, Powers, and Clauſes hereby granted, ſhall be and they are hereby declared to be ſubject and liable to the Payment of all Sums of Money now due and owing on the Credit or on account of the ſaid recited Acts, ſo far as they relate to the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, and that may become due and owing on the Credit thereof and of this Act, together with the Intereſt thereof reſpectively.

Term continued.

Additional Truſtees.

II. And be it further enacted, That *Thomas Adey*, *James Ebenezer Bicheno*, *Edward Brice Bunny*, *William Brinton*, *Benjamin Barnard*, *John Grigg*, *John Haſker*, *John Gater Marriner*, the Reverend *Samuel Slocock*, *Alfred Slocock*, *Edmund Slocock*, *Charles Slocock*, and *Thomas Smith*, ſhall (ſubject to the Terms of Qualification preſcribed by the ſaid recited Acts) be and they are hereby added to and joined with the preſent Truſtees for the Care of the Roads included in the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict.

Power to appoint additional Truſtees.

III. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the Truſtees of the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, or any Seven or more of them, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, at any of their Meetings to be holden in purſuance of the ſaid recited Acts or this Act, to elect any Number of Perſons, not exceeding Ten in the whole, to be Truſtees for the Purpoſes of the ſaid recited Acts, ſo far as they relate to the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict, and this Act, in addition to the Truſtees hereby

hereby and by the ſaid recited Acts or in purſuance thereof already appointed or hereafter to be appointed for the ſaid Diſtrict by virtue of the ſaid recited Acts, in caſe of the Death or Refuſal to act of any of the ſaid Truſtees already appointed; and ſuch additional Truſtees ſo hereby authorized to be elected, and being duly qualified, ſhall be and are hereby inveſted with the ſame Powers and Authorities for executing the ſaid recited Acts, ſo far as they relate to the ſaid Diſtrict and this Act, as if they had been herein named and appointed.

All Acts done by Truſtees previous to Conviction to be valid.

IV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That all Acts and Proceedings which ſhall have been done and performed by any ſuch additional or other Truſtees, touching the Execution of the ſaid recited Acts, ſo far as they relate to the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict, and this Act, previous to his being convicted of having acted in the Execution thereof, or without having or poſſeſſing the Qualification preſcribed by the ſaid recited Acts, ſhall, notwithſtanding ſuch Want of Qualification, be valid and effectual.

Meetings on Emergencies.

V. And be it further enacted, That if after any Adjournment or Meeting of the Truſtees of the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, and before the Day to which the ſame Truſtees may have adjourned, or a Public or General Meeting is by the ſaid recited Acts directed to be holden, it ſhall be thought neceſſary that they ſhould meet at an earlier Time than the Day appointed by ſuch Adjournment, or of ſuch General Meeting, that then and in ſuch Caſe the Clerk or Clerks for the Time being to the ſaid Truſtees, upon an Order in Writing ſigned by Three or more of them, (although not aſſembled at a Meeting), mentioning the Time, Place, and Purpoſe of ſuch earlier Meeting, ſhall forthwith give Notice thereof in Writing, by affixing the ſame on all the Turnpike Gates within the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, at leaſt Three Days before ſuch Meeting ſhall be holden, and ſuch earlier Meeting ſhall and may be held accordingly; and all the Proceedings of the Truſtees at ſuch Meetings ſhall be as valid and effectual as they would have been in caſe ſuch Truſtees had met in purſuance of any Adjournment, or at any General or Public Meeting.

No Order to be revoked.

VI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Order made by any Five or more of the Truſtees of or for the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads ſhall be revoked or altered, except at a General or Public Meeting, nor unleſs Nine of the Truſtees of ſuch Diſtrict at the leaſt ſhall be then preſent, and Seven or more of them ſhall concur therein.

Mortgagees not deemed diſqualified from acting as Truſtees.

VII. Provided alſo, and be it further enacted, That no Mortgagee or Aſſignee of any Mortgage or other Security, or any Lender of Money upon the Credit of the Tolls granted by this Act, or any Perſon receiving Intereſt out of ſuch Tolls for Money lent upon the Credit of the ſame, ſhall on that Account be deemed unqualified, or be prevented from acting as a Truſtee in the Execution of the ſaid recited Acts, ſo far as they relate to the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, and this Act; and that all ſuch Truſtees as are Juſtices of the Peace for the ſaid Counties of *Berks* and *Wilts* may act as Juſtices of the Peace in the Execution of the ſaid recited Acts, ſo far as they relate to the ſaid Diſtrict, and this Act,

Act, notwithstanding their being such Trustees, save and except only in Cases where they may happen to be personally interested.

Proceedings to be entered in a Book.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That all Orders and Proceedings of the Trustees of the said *Speenhamland* District of the said Roads shall be entered in a Book or Books to be kept by their Clerk or Clerks for that Purpose, and such Orders and Proceedings so entered shall be signed by the Trustees making the same, or the major Part of them, or by their Chairman; which said Book or Books, and also the Books for registering the Mortgages and Assignments of the Tolls by this Act authorized and intended to be granted, signed by any Five or more of the said Trustees, shall be deemed Originals; and the same, or true Copies thereof, and all Entries in any such Book or Books, shall be read and admitted as Evidence in all Cases of Appeal, and in all Suits and Actions in any Court whatsoever, touching any Thing done or to be done in pursuance of this Act.

For repealing former Tolls, and granting new ones.

IX. And be it further enacted, That the Tolls or Duties authorized by the said recited Acts to be demanded and taken upon the said *Speenhamland* District of the said Roads shall, from and after the Second *Monday* next after the passing of this Act, be and the same are hereby repealed; and from thenceforth, for and during the Continuance of the Term hereafter mentioned, instead of such Tolls or Duties, the following Sums of Money shall be demanded, collected, and paid at each and every of the Toll Gates and Toll Houses already erected, or hereafter to be erected upon the Roads included in the said *Speenhamland* District, or on the Sides thereof, by virtue of the said recited Acts or of this Act, before any Horses, Cattle, or Carriage shall be permitted to pass through such Toll Gates, or any of them; (that is to say),

Tolls.

For every Horse, Mule, or Ass, drawing any Coach, Chariot, Landau, Landaulet, Phaeton, Marine, Berlin, Barouche, Chaise, Calash, Curricle, Hearse, Gig, or Chair, the Sum of Three-pence:

For every Horse or Beast of Draught drawing any Waggon, Wain, Drug, Cart, or other such like Carriage, with Fellies or Rollers not of a flat Surface, and of the Breadth or Gauge of Sixteen Inches at the least, or with Axletrees of different Lengths, rolling Sixteen Inches at the least on each Side, the Sum of Two-pence:

For every Horse or Beast of Draught drawing any Waggon, Wain, Drug, Cart, or other such like Carriage, with Fellies or Rollers of a flat Surface, and of the Breadth or Gauge of Sixteen Inches at the least, or with Axletrees of different Lengths, rolling Sixteen Inches at the least on each Side, the Sum of One Penny Halfpenny:

For every Horse or Beast of Draught drawing any Waggon, Wain, Drug, Cart, or other such like Carriage, having the Fellies of the Wheels thereof of the Breadth or Gauge of Six Inches and less than Sixteen Inches, the Sum of Three-pence:

For every Horse or Beast of Draught drawing any Waggon, Wain, or other such like Carriage with Four Wheels, having the Fellies of the Wheels thereof of less Breadth or Gauge than Six Inches, the Sum of Four-pence Halfpenny:

For every Horse or Beast of Draught drawing any Cart or other such like Carriage with Two Wheels, having the Fellies of the Wheels thereof

thereof of leſs Breadth or Gauge than Six Inches, the Sum of Four-pence:

For every empty Carriage with Four Wheels, faſtened to or behind any Waggon, Wain, Drug, Cart, or other Carriage, the Sum of Four-pence; and for every empty Carriage with Two Wheels ſo faſtened, the Sum of Two-pence; and if loaded, Double ſuch Sums:

For every Horſe, Mule or Aſs, laden or unladen, and not drawing, the Sum of One Penny Halfpenny:

For every Drove of Oxen, Cows, or Neat Cattle, the Sum of Ten-pence *per* Score; and ſo in proportion for every greater or leſs Number: And,

For every Drove of Calves, Hogs, Pigs, Sheep, or Lambs, the Sum of Five-pence *per* Score; and ſo in proportion for every greater or leſs Number:

All which ſaid reſpective Sums of Money ſhall be demanded and taken in the Name of or as a Toll, and may be leſſened and raiſed again, leaſed or demiſed, or compounded for, by the ſaid Truſtees of the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, in ſuch and the like Manner as the Tolls or Duties granted by the ſaid recited Acts are thereby authorized or allowed to be leſſened and raiſed again, leaſed or demiſed, or compounded for, but no further or otherwiſe, and ſhall be paid to ſuch Perſon or Perſons as the ſaid Truſtees, or any Five or more of them, ſhall from Time to Time appoint to collect the ſame; and the Money ſo to be raiſed ſhall be and is hereby veſted in the ſaid Truſtees, and ſhall be applied in ſuch and the like Manner as the Tolls and Duties hereby repealed were by the ſaid recited Acts, ſo far as the ſame relates to the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, directed to be applied; and if any Perſon or Perſons ſubject to the Payment of any of the ſaid Tolls ſhall, after Demand thereof made, neglect or refuſe to pay the ſame, it ſhall be lawful for the Perſon or Perſons appointed to collect the ſaid Tolls to ſeize and diſtrain any Horſe or Horſes, or other Cattle or Beaſt upon which ſuch Toll is by this Act impoſed, or any of the Goods or Chattels of ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo neglecting or refuſing; and if ſuch Tolls, and the reaſonable Charges of ſuch ſeizing and diſtraining, ſhall not be paid within the Space of Five Days, the Perſon or Perſons ſo ſeizing and diſtraining ſhall and may ſell the Horſes, Cattle, Beaſts, or Goods ſo ſeized and diſtrained, returning the Overplus (if any) upon Demand to the Owner thereof, after ſuch Tolls and all reaſonable Charges ſhall be deducted. Tolls veſted in Truſtees.

X. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the ſaid Tolls ſhall not be demanded or taken at more than One Toll Gate in any one Day from any Perſon or Perſons for the ſame Horſes, Mules, Aſſes, Cattle, Sheep, or Pigs, upon the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads. Number of Tolls limited.

XI. And be it further enacted, That all the Powers, Proviſions, Matters, and Things in the ſaid recited Acts contained, which relate to or concern the Tolls and Duties thereby authorized to be demanded and taken upon the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, (except ſuch Parts thereof as are hereby varied, altered, or repealed), ſhall from and after the Second *Monday* next after the paſſing of this Act, for and during Powers of recited Acts relating to Tolls continued.

ing the Continuance of the Term herein-after mentioned, be deemed and conſidered as relating to the Tolls or Duties by this Act granted, and ſhall be put in force and be executed accordingly, as fully and effectually to all Intents and Purpoſes as if the ſame were repeated and re-enacted in the Body of this Act.

Regulation of Amount of Toll in certain Caſes.

XII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in caſe any Horſe or Horſes, being either rode or led, ſhall on any Day paſs through any Toll Gate already or hereafter to be erected by virtue of the ſaid recited Acts or of this Act upon the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, and the Owner or Owners, or Perſon or Perſons having the Care and Cuſtody of ſuch Horſe or Horſes, ſhall pay the Toll or Tolls payable in reſpect thereof, and ſuch Horſe or Horſes ſhall afterwards, during the ſame Day, paſs or go through the ſame Toll Gate, or any other Toll Gate erected on the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Road, attached to any Coach, Chariot, Landau, Landaulet, Phaeton, Marine, Berlin, Barouche, Chaiſe, Calaſh, Curricle, Hearſe, Gig, or Chair, that then and in every ſuch Caſe the Owner or Owners, or Perſon or Perſons having the Care or Poſſeſſion of ſuch Carriage to which ſuch Horſe or Horſes ſhall be attached, ſhall pay only ſuch Proportion of the Toll and Duty for ſuch Horſe or Horſes as, with the Sum or Sums which ſhall have been paid for ſuch Horſe or Horſes ſo having paſſed through ſuch Toll Gate, ſhall make up and amount to the Toll which would otherwiſe be paid and payable for ſuch Horſe or Horſes with ſuch Carriage; and alſo that no Toll or Duty ſhall be demanded and taken for the Return of any Horſe or Horſes, having paſſed through any ſuch Toll Gate attached to any ſuch Carriage, and in reſpect of which Carriage, and ſuch Horſe or Horſes being attached thereto, a Toll or Duty hath been before on the ſame Day demanded and paid; any Thing in this Act to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Tolls to be paid Once a Day.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That no Perſon having Occaſion to paſs through any ſuch Toll Gate where the Tolls are or ſhall be taken, and who ſhall return the ſame Day through the ſame Toll Gate before Twelve of the Clock in the Night of that Day with the ſame Horſes, Mules, Aſſes, or any Sort of Cattle, for which ſuch Tolls ſhall have been paid, ſhall be liable or compelled the ſame Day to pay the ſaid Tolls more than Once, except in Caſes herein-after mentioned, ſuch Perſon producing a Ticket denoting that ſuch Toll hath been paid on that Day; all which Tickets the Collectors of the Tolls are hereby required to give *gratis* on the Receipt of ſuch Toll; and each Ticket delivered upon receiving Toll for the Paſſage of any Horſes, Mules, Aſſes, or any Sort of Cattle, ſhall name and ſpecify the ſeveral Gates through which any Perſon having once paid Toll ſhall be allowed to paſs without again paying Toll on the ſame Day.

Stage Coaches and Poſt Chaiſes.

XIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Tolls hereby granted ſhall be paid for and in reſpect of all Horſes or Mules drawing any Stage Coach, every Time they ſhall paſs through any Toll Gate already erected or hereafter to be erected by virtue of the ſaid recited Acts or of this Act upon the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads; and for and in reſpect of all Poſt Horſes or Mules drawing any Poſt Chaiſe, or

other Carriage, every Time they shall pass through any such Toll Gate, and a Ticket shall be produced denoting a fresh Hiring.

For preventing Toll Collectors from taking undue Tolls.

XV. And be it further enacted, That all and every Toll Collector, being Lessee of the said Tolls, or appointed either by the said Trustees of the said *Speenhamland* District, or by any such Lessee or Lessees, to collect the Tolls payable at any Turnpike or Toll Gate already erected or hereafter to be erected by virtue of this Act upon the said District, shall and he is hereby required to place his Christian and Surname painted on a Board in legible Characters, in the Front or some other conspicuous Part of the Toll House or Toll Gate, immediately upon his coming on Duty, each of the Letters of such Name or Names to be at least One Inch in Length, and of a Breadth in proportion, and painted either in White Letters on a Black Ground, or Black Letters on a White Ground, and shall continue the same so placed during the whole Time he shall be upon such Duty; and if any Collector of the same Tolls shall not place such Board as aforesaid, and keep the same there during the Time aforesaid, or shall demand or take a greater or less Toll from any Person than he shall be authorized to do by virtue of the Powers of this Act, or of the Orders and Resolutions of the Trustees made in pursuance thereof, or shall demand and take a Toll from any Person or Persons who shall be exempt from the Payment thereof and claim such Exemption, or shall refuse to permit or suffer, or shall in any ways hinder any Person or Persons from reading such Christian or Surname, or shall refuse to tell his Christian or Surname to any Person or Persons who shall demand the same, on having paid the said Tolls, or any of them, or shall in Answer to such Demand give a false Name or Names, or shall refuse or neglect to give a Ticket to denote the Payment of the Toll when demanded, or upon the legal Toll being paid or tendered shall unnecessarily detain or wilfully obstruct, hinder, or prevent any Passenger or Passengers from passing through any Turnpike or Toll Gate, or shall make use of any scurrilous or abusive Language to any Passenger or Passengers, then and in every such Case every such Toll Collector shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds for every such Offence, as the Justice or Justices before whom the Information shall be laid shall adjudge; and such Penalty shall be recovered and applied as other Penalties are by this Act directed to be recovered and applied.

For settling Disputes concerning Tolls, &c.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That if any Dispute shall happen about the Amount of the Tolls due, or the Charges of keeping any Distress, it shall be lawful for the Collector, or Person so distraining, to retain such Distress, or the Money arising from the Sale thereof, (as the Case may happen), till the Amount of the Tolls due, and the Charges of the Distress and Sale, and of keeping the Distress, (as the Case may happen), be ascertained by One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the County, Town, or Place in which the Cause of Dispute shall arise, who, upon Application made to him or them for that Purpose, shall examine the Matter on the Oath of the Parties, or other Witness or Witnesses, (which Oath such Justice or Justices is and are hereby authorized to administer), and shall determine the Amount of the Tolls due, and shall award such Costs and Charges to either Party as to the said Justice or Justices shall appear right and proper; all which Costs and Charges shall and may be levied and recovered, in case of Non-payment thereof

thereof forthwith, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals of ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices, rendering the Overplus (if any) on Demand, after deducting ſuch Coſts and Charges, and the Coſts and Charges of making ſuch Diſtreſs and Sale, to the Perſon or Perſons whoſe Goods and Chattels ſhall be ſo diſtrained and ſold.

Toll Bar Keepers competent Witneſſes.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That in caſe any Diſpute, Suit, or Litigation ſhall ariſe touching or in anywiſe relating to the ſaid Tolls, the Perſon or Perſons appointed to collect the ſame, or any other Perſon or Perſons acting by or under the Authority of the ſaid Truſtees of the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, ſhall and are hereby declared not to be incompetent to give Evidence in any ſuch Diſpute, Suit, or Litigation, by reaſon of his, her, or their being ſo appointed to collect the ſaid Tolls, or acting under the Authority of the ſaid Truſtees.

Collectors refuſing to deliver up Toll Houſes, Juſtices empowered to grant Warrant, and Conſtable to enter and remove ſuch Collector.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Farmer or Renter whoſe Contract or Leaſe ſhall become null and void by virtue of the Powers in this Act contained, or if any Collector or Receiver of the ſaid Tolls who ſhall be diſcharged from his Office by virtue of this Act, or the Wife or Widow, or any of the Children, Family, or other Repreſentative or Repreſentatives of any Collector or Receiver who ſhall die or be diſcharged, or any other Perſon, ſhall refuſe to deliver up the Poſſeſſion of any Toll Gate or Toll Houſe, or any of the Appurtenances thereof, for the Space of Two Days after Demand thereof made, and Notice in Writing given for that Purpoſe by any Three or more of the ſaid Truſtees of the ſaid *Speeehamland* Diſtrict, (although not aſſembled at any Meeting), or by their Clerk or Treaſurer for the Time being, then and in any of the ſaid Caſes it ſhall be lawful for any Juſtice of the Peace for the County, Town, or Place wherein ſuch Houſe ſhall be ſituate, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to order any Conſtable or other Peace Officer, with ſuch Aſſiſtance as ſhall be neceſſary, to enter ſuch Houſe and Appurtenances in the Day-time, and to remove the Perſon or Perſons who ſhall be found therein, or in Poſſeſſion of the ſaid Toll Gate or Toll Houſe, together with his, her, or their Goods, out of and from the ſame, and to put the ſaid Truſtees or any of them, or any new-appointed Collector or Receiver, into the Poſſeſſion of ſuch Toll Houſe, Appurtenances, and Gate.

Leaſes of Tolls declared void.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That every Contract for or Leaſe of any of the Tolls by the ſaid recited Acts authorized to be demanded and taken upon the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, ſhall, immediately after the Second *Monday* next after the paſſing of this Act, be and the ſame is hereby made null and void, unleſs the Contractor, Leſſee, or Farmer of any ſuch Tolls ſhall agree with the ſaid Truſtees of the ſaid Diſtrict, or any Five or more of them, to pay ſuch Advance of Rent as they ſhall think proper for the Increaſe of Tolls hereby granted, for and during the Remainder of the Term of ſuch Contract or Leaſe: Provided always, that in caſe ſuch Contractor, Leſſee, or Farmer ſhall not agree to pay ſuch Advance of Rent, and ſhall conſider himſelf entitled to any Compenſation for his Contract or Leaſe being hereby made null and void, and the ſaid Truſtees ſhall refuſe to allow him the ſame, it ſhall and may be lawful for ſuch Contractor, Leſſee, or Farmer to recover ſuch Compenſation (if any) as he may be entitled to by an Action at Law, to be brought

brought and commenced within Six Calendar Months after the passing of this Act.

General Exemptions from Toll.

XX. And be it further enacted, That the Exemptions from Toll granted by the said recited Acts, so far as they relate to the said *Speenhamland* District of the said Roads, shall be repealed, and that no Toll shall be demanded, taken, or received at any of the Turnpike Gates erected or to be erected or continued upon the said *Speenhamland* District, for any Horses, Cattle, or Carriages of whatsoever Description, employed or to be employed in conveying the Mails of Letters and Expresses under the Authority of His Majesty's Postmaster General, either when employed in conveying, fetching, or guarding such Mails or Expresses, or in returning therefrom; nor for the Horses belonging to any Officers or Soldiers on their March or on Duty, nor for any Horses, Cattle, or Carriages employed in carrying or conveying the Arms or Baggage of any such Officers or Soldiers, or in carrying any sick, wounded, or disabled Officers or Soldiers; nor for any Waggon, Wain, Cart, or other Carriage whatsoever, or the Horse or Horses drawing the same, which shall be employed in conveying any Ordnance, Barrack, or Commissariat, or other Public Stores of or belonging to His Majesty, or for the Use of His Majesty's Forces; nor for any Rector, Vicar, or Curate going to or returning from his own Parish Church, or other Place of Divine Worship, or visiting his sick Parishioners; nor from any Person or Persons going to or returning from Church, Chapel, or other usual Place of Religious Worship within the Parish or Place where he, she, or they may reside, on *Sundays*, or on any other Day on which Divine Worship is or shall be ordered by Authority to be celebrated, or attending the Funeral of any Person or Persons who shall die and be buried in any Parish, Hamlet, or Place in which any Part of the said Roads lie; nor for any Horses, Beasts, Cattle, or Carriages used or employed for the Purpose of carrying or conveying Persons to or from any Election of a Knight or Knights of the Shire to serve in Parliament for the Counties of *Berks* and *Wilts*; or of carrying or conveying poor Persons or Vagrants sent by legal Orders or Passes; or of carrying or conveying Hay, Straw, or Corn in the Straw, for the Use of the Owners, and not for Sale, or purchased; or of carrying or conveying any Dung, Mould, Manure, or Compost (except Lime), to be used only for manuring the Land, or going or returning empty in that Employment; nor for any Horses, Beasts, or Cattle employed in carrying or conveying, or going to carry or convey, or returning from carrying or conveying, having been employed only in carrying or conveying any Plough, Harrow, or other Implement of Husbandry; nor for any Horse, Beast, or Cattle passing to or repassing from Water or Pasture; nor for any Horse, Beast, or other Cattle, when going to or returning from being shoed or farried; nor for any Horse, Beast, or Cattle used or employed for the Purpose only of carrying or conveying Materials for making or repairing any Highway or Public Road within any such Parish, Hamlet, or Place as aforesaid, or for rebuilding, building, or repairing any present or future Bridge or Bridges on the said Roads; nor for any Horse furnished by or for any Person belonging to any Corps of Yeomanry or Volunteer Cavalry, and rode by him in going to or returning from any Place appointed for Exercise, Inspection, or Review, provided that such Person is in the Uniform of his Corps, and has his Arms, Furniture, and Accoutrements, according to the Regulations appointed for such Corps,

at the Time of claiming the Exemption; and if any Perſon ſhall claim and take the Benefit of any Exemption in this Act contained or provided for, not being entitled to the ſame, every ſuch Perſon ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, one Moiety whereof ſhall go to the Informer, and the other Moiety ſhall be applied to the Purpoſes of the ſaid recited Acts, ſo far as they relate to the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads and this Act.

Particular Exemptions.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That no Toll or Duty ſhall be demanded, taken, or received at any Toll Gate erected upon the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads, or on the Sides thereof, for any Horſe or Beaſt of Draught drawing any Carriage which ſhall be loaded with Peat for Firing, for the Uſe of Perſons reſiding within the Pariſhes of *Speen*, *Welford*, *Kintbury*, *Avington*, *Hungerford*, and *Froxfield*; nor ſhall any Toll (except the Tolls on Carriages drawing a greater Weight than the Law allows) be demanded, taken, or received for any Horſe or Beaſt of Draught drawing any Carriage which ſhall be laden with Peat Aſhes for manuring Gardens or Lands within any of the Pariſhes or Places through which the ſaid Roads paſs.

Carriages employed in His Majeſty's Service not to be ſubject to Toll for Overweight.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That no Perſon owning or driving or cauſing to be driven any Waggon, Wain, Cart, or other Carriage, provided for the Service of His Majeſty's Forces, or conveying any Ordnance, Barrack, or Commiſſariat, or other Public Stores, of or belonging to His Majeſty, or for the Uſe of His Majeſty's Forces, ſhall be ſubject or liable to any Penalty or Forfeiture for Overweight; nor ſhall any ſuch Waggon, Wain, Cart, or other Carriage, or the Horſe or Horſes drawing the ſame, be ſtopped or detained by reaſon of any Weight in any ſuch Waggon, Wain, Cart, or other Carriage, or of being drawn by any Number of Horſes or Oxen; but it ſhall be lawful for the Owner or Driver of any ſuch Waggon, Wain, Cart, or other Carriage, to put any Number of Horſes or Oxen to ſuch Waggon, Wain, Cart, or other Carriage; any Thing in any Act or Acts of Parliament relating to Highways or Turnpike Roads, or in the ſaid recited Acts or this Act, contained to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Remedy in caſe of Neglect of Collector not diſcharging his Duty.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That when and as often as any Collector or Receiver of the Tolls by this Act granted ſhall neglect or be incapable of performing his Duty, or ſhall abſcond or abſent himſelf, any Three or more of the ſaid Truſtees of the ſaid *Speenhamland* Diſtrict of the ſaid Roads (though not aſſembled at a Meeting of the ſaid Truſtees appointed by virtue of the ſaid recited Acts or of this Act) may diſcharge ſuch Collector or Receiver ſo neglecting or being incapable of performing his Duty, or abſconding or abſenting himſelf; and in ſuch Caſe, and alſo in caſe any ſuch Collector or Receiver ſhall die, the ſaid Truſtees, or any Three or more of them, ſhall and may nominate and appoint a proper Perſon to be a Collector or Receiver of the ſaid Tolls, to continue until the next Meeting of the Truſtees, in the ſtead of ſuch Collector or Receiver as ſhall ſo die or be diſcharged; and ſuch Perſon ſo nominated and appointed ſhall have the like Power and Authority, and be anſwerable and accountable in the ſame Manner in all Reſpects, as the Perſon who ſhall ſo die or be diſcharged would have had, or would have been ſubject to.

XXIV. And

Accounts to be kept of Receipts and Disburse-ments, which shall be open to the Inspec-tion of the Trustees and Creditors.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees of the said *Speenhamland* District of the said Roads shall and they are hereby required from Time to Time, and at all Times during the Continuance of this Act, to order and direct a Book or Books to be provided and kept by their Clerk or Treasurer for the Time being, in which Book or Books such Clerk or Treasurer shall enter or cause to be entered true and regular Accounts of all Sums of Money received, paid, laid out and expended for or on account of the said Roads within the said *Speenhamland* District, and of the several Articles, Matters, and Things for which such Sums of Money shall have been disbursed, laid out, and paid; which Book or Books shall at all seasonable Times be open to the Inspection of the said Trustees, or any Creditor or Creditors on the Tolls hereby granted, without Fee or Reward; and the said Trustees and Creditors shall and may take Copies of or Extracts from the said Book or Books, or any Part or Parts thereof, without paying any Thing for the same; and in case the said Clerk or Treasurer, or the Person or Persons who shall have the Care and Custody of the said Book or Books, shall refuse to permit the said Trustees or such Creditors to inspect the same, or take such Copies or Extracts as aforesaid, such Clerk or Treasurer, or Person or Persons, shall forfeit and pay any Sum of Money not exceeding Five Pounds, to be levied and recovered in Manner herein-after mentioned.

Old Mort-gages may be called in, and new ones granted.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Trustees of the said *Speenhamland* District of the said Roads, or any Seven or more of them, to borrow and take up at Interest, upon the Credit of the Tolls by this Act granted, such Sum or Sums of Money as they, or any Seven or more of them, shall think needful, and to give and execute for the same any Mortgage or Mortgages of the said Tolls hereby granted; and also, if thereunto required, to receive and cancel all or any of the Mortgages made of the Tolls authorized to be demanded and taken upon the said District by virtue of the said recited Acts, and give and execute any new or other Mortgage or Mortgages of the Tolls hereby granted in lieu thereof respectively; which said Mortgage and Mortgages hereafter to be given and executed shall be made and transferrable in such and the like Manner as any Mortgage or Mortgages is or are by the said recited Acts directed or authorized to be made and transferred.

Penalty on Persons tak-ing away Materials.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That if any Person whomsoever shall take away any Materials which shall have been dug, gotten, or gathered for the Repair or Use of the Roads included in the said *Speenhamland* District, or shall raise or carry away any Materials out of, or otherwise interfere with or obstruct the working of any Pit or Quarry which shall have been made or opened for the Purpose of getting Materials for repair-ing the said Roads, before the Surveyor or Surveyors, or his or their Workmen, shall have discontinued working therein for the Space of Six Calendar Months, (except the Owner or Occupier of the Land in which such Pits or Quarry shall be made, as to Materials that may be dug at his or her own Expence, for his or her own private Use only, and not for Sale), every Person so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds.

Notices to be given to Occupiers of

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That no Surveyor, or any other Person or Persons acting under the Authority of the said recited Acts or this

Lands before Materials are taken.

this Act, shall first begin to dig, gather, or carry away any Materials for making or repairing the said Roads included in the said *Speenhamland* District, out of or from any inclosed Lands, without the Consent of the Owner or Occupier thereof, expressed in Writing for that Purpose, or until Notice in Writing signed by the said Surveyor shall have been given to the Owner or his known Agent, or to the Occupier of the Land from which such Materials are intended to be taken, or left at such Owner's or Occupier's usual Place of Residence, to appear before any one Justice of the Peace acting for the County or Place wherein such Land shall lie, to shew cause why such Materials shall not be had therefrom; and in case such Owner, Agent, or Occupier shall not attend, or shall attend pursuant to such Notice, but shall not shew sufficient Cause to the contrary, then and in either of the said Cases such Justice shall authorize such Surveyor or other Person to dig, gather, take, and carry away such Materials at such Time or Times as to such Justice shall seem proper, and shall and may make such Order therein as he shall think fit; the said Trustees of the said *Speenhamland* District of the said Roads, or their Surveyor, making or tendering such Satisfaction for the Materials, and for the Damage done to the Owners or Occupiers respectively of such Lands or Grounds where or from whence the same shall be dug, gathered, gotten, taken, or carried away, or upon, over, or through which the same, or any other Materials so dug for repairing the said Roads within the said District and gathered as aforesaid, shall be conveyed, as such Justice shall adjudge reasonable.

Power to contract for Repair of Roads.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Trustees of the said *Speenhamland* District of the said Roads, or any Five or more of them, from Time to Time to contract and agree with any Person or Persons for repairing the Roads within the said District, or any Part or Parts thereof, or for doing any other Work in pursuance or Execution of the said recited Acts and this Act, in such Manner, and for such Sum or Sums of Money annually or otherwise, as the said Trustees, or any Five more of them, shall think proper; giving in such Cases a Preference to the Overseers of the Poor to repair that Part of the said Roads which lies within their respective Parishes, if they apply for and offer to agree to repair the same on equal Terms with any other Offers that may be made to the said Trustees.

Trustees empowered to erect Milestones, &c.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Trustees of the said *Speenhamland* District, or any Five or more of them, and they are hereby required from Time to Time, to cause the Roads within the said District to be measured, and Stones or Posts to be placed in or near the same, with Inscriptions thereon, denoting the Number of Miles, and Distance of Places, as they shall think proper; and if any Person or Persons shall wilfully pull up or damage any Direction Post or Milestone, erected or fixed, or to be erected or fixed, in or near the Side of the said Roads; or shall obliterate or deface any of the Letters, Figures, or Marks inscribed thereon; or if any Person or Persons shall hale or draw, or cause to be haled or drawn, upon any Part of the said Roads within the said District, any Tree or Piece of Timber, or any Stone, (otherwise than upon wheeled Carriages), or shall suffer any Part of any Tree or Piece of Timber or Stone, which shall be carried upon wheeled Carriages, to drag upon any Part of the said Roads within the said

District

District to the Prejudice thereof; or if any Person driving any Coach, Chaise, Waggon, Cart, or other Carriage, shall not keep his Carriage on the Left Side of the said Roads within the said District when meeting any other Carriage; or if any Person shall in any Manner wilfully prevent any other Person or Persons, or the Coach, Chaise, Waggon, Cart, or other Carriage under his, her, or their Care, from passing him or her upon the said Roads within the said District; or if any Person shall make or assist in making any Fire or Fires, commonly called *Bonfires*, or shall set fire to, or let off, or throw any Squib, Rocket, Serpent, or Firework, or other combustible Matter whatsoever, on any Part or Parts of the said Roads within the said District, or any Causeway or Footway or Path adjoining thereto; or if any Person shall leave any Coach, Chaise, Waggon, Wain, Cart, or other Carriage in, upon, or on the Side of the said Roads within the said District, either with or without any Horse or Beast of Draught harnessed or yoked together, longer than may be necessary for the loading or unloading thereof, and standing as near to the Side of the said Roads within the said District as conveniently may be, and except in Cases of Accidents; or shall lay any Piece of Timber, or any Stones, Hay, Straw, Dung, Manure, Soil, Rubbish, or other Matter or Thing whatsoever, on any Part of the said Roads within the said District, or on any Waste Ground adjoining the Side or Sides thereof, and being within the Distance of Thirty Feet from the Centre of the said Roads within the said District, to the Prejudice of the said Roads, or to the Annoyance of any Person or Persons whomsoever; or shall turn or make any Drain or Watercourse into, under, or upon the said Roads within the said District, or suffer the Water from any Pump or Spout, or from any Trough, Cistern, or other Vessel to run into, over, or upon the said Roads within the said District, to the Prejudice thereof; or shall do any other wilful Act, Damage, or Injury to the said Roads, or any Part thereof, within the said District, every such Person or Persons so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings.

Power to detain unknown Persons guilty of Offences.

XXX. And whereas Offences may be committed against the said recited Acts and this Act by Persons unknown to the Trustees, Collectors, Surveyors, or other Officers appointed to put the same in Execution; be it therefore further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Trustees of the said *Speenhamland* District of the said Roads, or any One or more of them, or the Collectors, Surveyors, or other Officers, or any or either of them, within the said District, and such other Person or Persons as he or they shall call to his, her, or their Assistance, without any Warrant or other Authority than this Act, to seize and detain any such unknown Person or Persons who shall commit any such Offence or Offences, and to take him, her, or them before any Justice of the Peace of the County, Town, or Place where the Offence or Offences shall be committed.

Penalty on obstructing the Execution of this Act.

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall assault, interrupt, or hinder, or cause or procure to be assaulted, interrupted, or hindered, any Collector of the Tolls employed in the Execution of the said recited Acts, so far as they relate to the said *Speenhamland* District and this Act, every such Person shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Twenty Pounds.

Recovery and Application of Penalties.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That all Penalties and Forfeitures by this Act impoſed, (the Manner of levying and recovering whereof is not hereby otherwiſe particularly directed), with all Coſts and Charges attending the Conviction, ſhall be levied, recovered, and applied in ſuch Manner as other Penalties and Forfeitures are by the ſaid recited Acts, or any or either of them, directed to be levied, recovered, and applied; and that all Offenders againſt this Act ſhall be ſubject and liable to the ſame Puniſhment as other Offenders are by the ſaid recited Acts, or any or either of them, made ſubject and liable unto in caſe of Failure of Diſtreſs, or Non-payment of the Penalties or Forfeitures thereby impoſed.

Act not to affect the Marlborough Diſtrict.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained is meant or intended or ſhall be deemed or conſidered to revoke or alter any of the Tolls, Powers, or Authorities, Matters or Things, in the ſaid recited Acts mentioned and contained, which relate to or concern ſuch Part of the ſaid Roads as in and by the ſaid firſt-recited Act is deſcribed to be and is therein called *The Marlborough Diſtrict*; but that the ſame Tolls, Powers, and Authorities, Matters and Things, ſhall continue in force and be executed as fully and effectually to all Intents and Purpoſes as if this Act had not been paſſed.

Expences of this Act.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That the Charges and Expences of obtaining and paſſing this Act ſhall be paid out of the Tolls collected or to be collected upon ſuch Part of the ſaid Roads as lies within the ſaid Diſtrict by the ſaid firſt-recited Act deſcribed to be and therein called *The Speenhamland Diſtrict*, or out of any Money borrowed or to be borrowed on the Credit thereof.

Public Act.

XXXV. 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.

Commencement and Continuance of this Act.

XXXVI. And be it further enacted, That this Act and the ſeveral Powers, Authorities, Tolls, Exemptions, Matters and Things, herein contained, ſhall commence and take Effect from and after the Second *Monday* next after the paſſing of this Act, and ſhall be in full Force and have Continuance from thenceforth for and during the full Term granted by the ſaid laſt-recited Act, and until the Expiration thereof.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty. 1816.