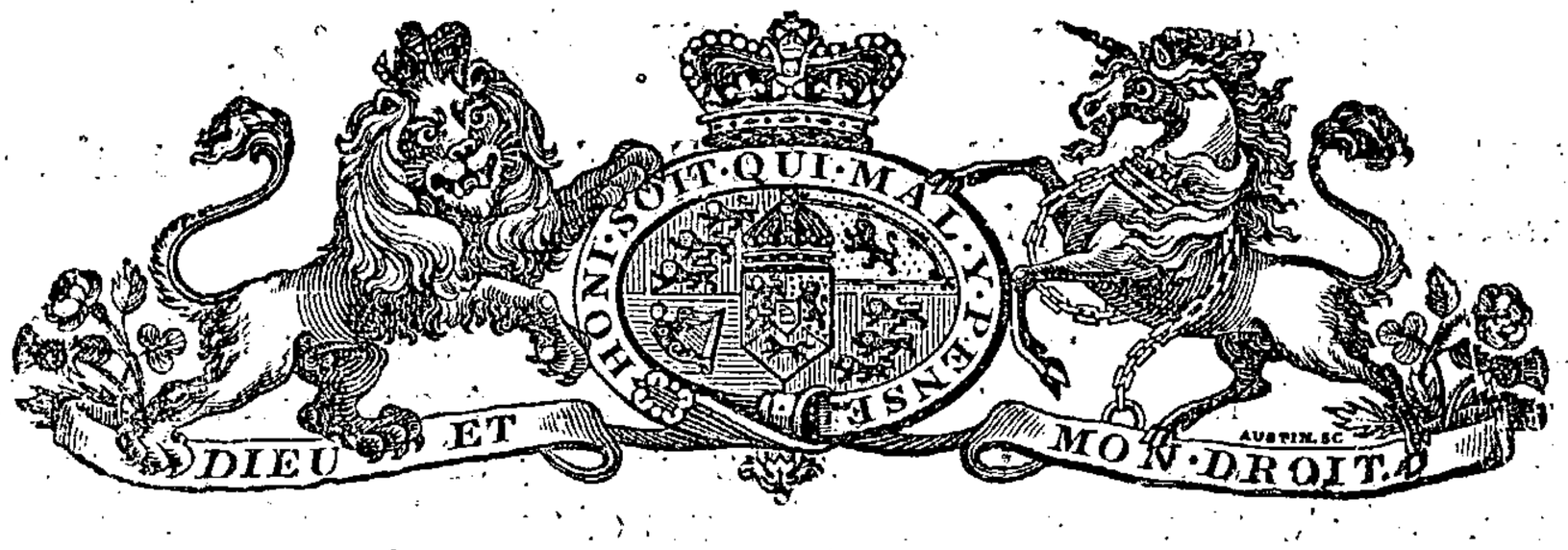


ANNO SEPTIMO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

Cap. cxiv.

An Act to amend an Act of the Thirty-ninth Year of His late Majesty, for the better Relief and Employment of the Poor of the Parish of *Saint Bridget* otherwise *Saint Bride, Fleet Street*, in the City of *London*. [26th *May* 1826.]

WHEREAS an Act was made in the Thirty-ninth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for the better Relief and Employment of the Poor of the Parish of* Saint Bridget *otherwise* Saint Bride, Fleet Street, *in the City of* London: And whereas the said Act has been found insufficient for the Purposes thereof, and it is expedient that the several Powers and Provisions of the said Act should be amended and enlarged: 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 Act shall, from and after the Twenty-fourth Day of *June* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-six, be and the same is hereby repealed, except in the respects herein-after mentioned. 39 G. 3. c. 4. Former Act repealed after Midsummer, 1826.

II. And be it further enacted, That the Vicar and Churchwardens and Overseers for the Time being, together with Twenty-four other Inhabitants of the said Parish, to be elected as herein-after is mentioned, so long as they respectively shall continue in such Office, shall be and are hereby appointed Trustees for putting this Act into execution, and shall be called Trustees.

called The Trustees of the Poor of the Parish of *Saint Bridget* otherwise *Saint Bride, Fleet Street*, in the City of *London*.

Appointment of Trustees.

III. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Inhabitants of the said Parish, qualified to vote in Vestry, and they are hereby required, within One Calendar Month after the passing of this Act, to meet in Vestry, and elect Twenty-four Inhabitants of the said Parish, qualified as herein-after mentioned, to be such Trustees as aforesaid; and the Churchwardens of the said Parish are hereby required to appoint a Day and Hour for such Meeting, and to cause Notice to be given of the same, and of the special Purpose thereof, at least Five Days before the Day of such Meeting, by the Publication thereof in the Parish Church on some *Sunday* during Divine Service, and by affixing the same on the Door of the said Church.

Appointment of new Trustees.

IV. And be it further enacted, That Ten Days at least before the First *Wednesday* in the Month of *May* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, Six of such Twenty-four Inhabitants, to be determined by Ballot among themselves, at a Meeting to be held for that Purpose, shall cease to be Trustees; and Ten Days at least before the First *Wednesday* in *May* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight, Six (to be determined in like Manner) of the Eighteen remaining original Trustees shall cease to be Trustees; and Ten Days at least before the First *Wednesday* in *May* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-nine, Six (to be determined in like Manner) of the Twelve remaining original Trustees shall cease to be Trustees; and on the First *Wednesday* in *May* One thousand eight hundred and thirty, the remaining Six of the original Trustees shall cease to be Trustees; and that on the First *Wednesday* in *May* in each of the said Four Years, the Inhabitants of the said Parish, in Vestry assembled, shall elect Six Persons, to be qualified as herein-after is mentioned, to be Trustees in the Room of the Persons who shall then cease to be Trustees as aforesaid; and that on the First *Wednesday* in *May* in every succeeding Year, Six of the Trustees elected as aforesaid, and in rotation, according to the Priority of their Election, shall cease to be Trustees, and shall be replaced by an Election of Six Inhabitants in manner herein-before provided; and on every First *Wednesday* in *May*, any Vacancy in the Number of Trustees, occasioned by Death, Retirement, Incapacity, or Disqualification, shall be supplied by the Election of an Inhabitant in manner aforesaid, who shall cease to be a Trustee at the same Time as the Person in whose Place he shall be appointed, according to such Determination or Rotation as aforesaid, would have ceased to be a Trustee; and that immediately after every Election of new Trustees, a List of the whole Trustees shall be delivered to the Churchwardens for the Use of the Vestry; but no Person ceasing to be a Trustee in manner aforesaid shall be re-elected to such Office for One Year next afterwards.

Qualification of Trustees.

V. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Person shall be eligible or capable of acting as a Trustee in the Execution of this Act (except the Vicar, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the said Parish) unless and so long as he shall either pay, or be liable to pay, as Landlord or Tenant, for Premises situate in the said Parish valued and rated at the Sum of Thirty-five Pounds a Year at the least, for and towards the Rates or Assessments herein-after directed to be made for the Purposes of this Act, or shall have passed the Office of Churchwarden or Overseer of the said

said Parish; and no Person who shall be a Collector or Receiver of any Taxes shall be eligible or capable of acting as a Trustee; and no Person shall be capable of acting as a Trustee in the Execution of this Act until he shall have taken and subscribed an Oath or Affirmation to the following Effect, which Oath or Affirmation any of the Trustees appointed or to be elected as herein-before is mentioned are empowered to administer, at a Meeting to be held by virtue of this Act:

Trustees' Oath.

'I *A.B.* do swear [*or* affirm], That I will truly and faithfully, impartially and honestly, according to the best of my Skill and Knowledge, execute the several Powers and Authorities reposed in me as a Trustee for the Parish of *Saint Bridget* otherwise *Saint Bride, Fleet Street*, in the City of *London*; and that I will judge and determine upon all Matters and Things which shall be brought before me as a Trustee of the said Parish without Favour or Affection.'

Penalty for acting, not being qualified.

And if any Person, not being so qualified, or becoming disqualified, or not having taken and subscribed such Oath or Affirmation as aforesaid, shall presume to act in the Execution of this Act, any such Person shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds, together with full Costs of Suit, to any Person who shall sue for the same, to be recovered in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record, by Action of Debt or on the Case, or by Bill, Plaint, or Information, wherein no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance, shall be allowed, and wherein the Proof of the Qualification, or not being disqualified, or of the Oath, shall be in the Defendant or Person prosecuted; and it shall be sufficient for the Plaintiff or Prosecutor to prove that the Defendant or Person prosecuted hath acted as a Trustee in the Execution of this Act: Provided always, that all Acts and Proceedings of any Person or Persons acting as a Trustee or Trustees in pursuance of this Act, previously to his or their being convicted of not being duly qualified, or being disqualified, or not having taken and subscribed such Oath as aforesaid, shall, notwithstanding such Conviction, be as good, valid, and effectual as if such Person or Persons had been duly qualified to act as a Trustee or Trustees according to the Directions of this Act.

Acts of Trustees good before Conviction.

Trustees not to hold any Place of Profit.

VI. And be it further enacted, That no Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, or their or any of their Assistants, or any Trustee to be elected by virtue of this Act, shall provide, furnish, or supply any Goods, Materials, or Provisions that shall or may be provided, bought, or supplied by virtue of this Act, or shall hold any Place of Profit, or enter into any Contract, or have any Share or Interest in any Contract for the Use of the Workhouse or Workhouses in the said Parish, during the Time of his being Churchwarden or Overseer, or Assistant or Trustee as aforesaid; and that every Person acting contrary thereto, and being thereof lawfully convicted, shall forfeit the Sum of Fifty Pounds, to be recovered in the same Manner as is provided for the Recovery of the Penalty or Forfeiture last herein-before mentioned; one Moiety whereof shall go and be paid to such Person as shall inform and sue for the same, and the other Moiety shall be paid to the Trustees for the Time being under this Act, or their Treasurer, and be applied towards the Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parish.

VII. And

Meetings of Trustees.

VII. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and may meet together in the Vestry Room of the said Parish, or in such Place as shall be used as the Vestry Room for the Time being, immediately after the Day on which the First Election of Trustees by the Public Vestry as aforesaid shall take place, between the Hours of Eleven of the Clock in the Forenoon and Eight of the Clock in the Evening, and proceed to put this Act into execution, and then, and from Time to Time afterwards, shall adjourn themselves to meet, or may meet according to such Summons as is herein-after directed to be given, at such Time or Times, Place or Places within the said Parish, as such Trustees shall think proper and convenient, and of each of which Adjournments Three Days Notice at least, in Writing or Printing, and signed by the Clerk or Clerks to the said Trustees for the Time being, shall be given to or left for each of the Trustees resident within the said Parish, at their last or usual Place or Places of Abode; and if there shall not appear at any Meeting to be appointed to be held by virtue of this Act, Five or more Trustees to act at such Meeting, and to adjourn to another Day, then and in such Case any Clerk or Clerks of the said Trustees shall and is and are hereby required to summon the Trustees resident within the said Parish to meet at the Place where the last Meeting was appointed to be held, within Fifteen Days next after the Day on which such Meeting was to have been held as aforesaid (such Summons to be signed by the said Clerk or Clerks, and to be delivered to or left at the last or usual Place of Abode of such Trustees Three Days at least before such Meeting); and in case such Clerk or Clerks shall happen to die before such Summons shall issue, or shall refuse or neglect to issue such Summons, then the Churchwardens for the Time being shall and may, and they are hereby required, by Notice in Writing or printed, and signed by them, and given to or left at the last or usual Place of Abode of each Trustee resident within the said Parish Three Days at least before such intended Meeting, to summon the Trustees to meet at the Place where the last Meeting was appointed to have been held, on any Day within Twenty-one Days of such last Default; and the Trustees at all their Meetings shall defray their own Expenses: Provided nevertheless, that it shall be lawful for the said Trustees to hold any Special Meeting between their last Meeting and the Day to which the same shall have been adjourned, so that such Meeting be required by Three or more of the said Trustees, and shall be summoned in manner herein-after directed, Five Days at least before such Meeting; and the Cause or Causes of such Special Meeting shall be mentioned in the Summons.

Special Meeting may be held.

No Act valid unless done at a Meeting.

VIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Act, Order, or Resolution of the Trustees shall be valid or conclusive, unless done or made at some Meeting to be held pursuant to this Act, and confirmed by a Majority of Trustees present at the next subsequent Meeting; and that, after a Confirmation of any Act, Order, or Resolution, the same shall not be repealed or rescinded, unless by a Majority of a greater Number of Trustees present at some subsequent Meeting than were present at the doing of such Act or making such Order or Resolution; nor shall any such Repeal (though made by a sufficient Number) be deemed effectual, unless confirmed by a Majority of the Trustees present at the next subsequent Meeting; and that all the Powers and Authorities by this Act granted

granted to or vested in the said Trustees, shall and may be exercised or executed by the major Part of them who shall attend at any Meeting to be held under or according to this Act, the Number of Trustees present at any such Meeting not being less than Five, except in Cases where a greater Number is expressly required; and all the Acts, Orders, Resolutions, and Proceedings of such major Part so present shall have the same Force and Effect as if done or made by all the Trustees; and that where the Number of Votes upon any Question shall be equal, the Chairman shall have a Second and Casting Vote; and at every Meeting to be held in pursuance of this Act the first Business shall be the Election of a Chairman.

Majority at Public Meeting to execute the Act, if Five be present.

IX. And be it further enacted, That all the Acts, Orders, Resolutions, and Proceedings of the Trustees, and relating to the Execution of this Act, shall be entered in a Book or Books to be provided and kept for that Purpose, and signed by the Chairman of each Meeting; and all and every Person and Persons paying to the Rates and Assessments hereby authorized to be made shall have liberty to inspect and peruse the said Book or Books at all seasonable Times, without Fee or Reward; which Book or Books may be produced and read in Evidence in all Courts and Places whatsoever.

Proceedings to be entered in a Book.

X. And be it further enacted, That all and every Book and Books in which any Entry of any Proceeding or Proceedings of any of the Trustees acting by or under the Authority of the said recited Act doth or shall appear recorded, such Entry or Entries being made in such Book or Books according to the Directions of the said Act, shall be and be deemed good and sufficient Evidence of such Proceedings in any Court whatsoever; any Law to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Entries of Proceedings under former Act good Evidence.

XI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Trustees from Time to Time to appoint by Ballot a Treasurer or Treasurers, Banker or Bankers, without any Salary or Allowance for his or their Trouble in such Trust, and a Clerk or Clerks, and Collector or Collectors of the Rates, and a fit Person, not being a Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor of the said Parish, as an Officer for the Purpose of paying all such Sum and Sums of Money as shall be ordered to be paid for the Purpose of relieving the Poor of the said Parish.

Trustees to appoint a Treasurer and other Officers.

XII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the said Trustees to appoint any Person who has been or may be appointed to act as their Clerk in the Execution of this Act, or the Partner of any such Clerk, or any Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of any such Clerk or of his Partner, as the Treasurer for the Purposes of this Act, or to continue or appoint any Person who has been or may be appointed Treasurer, or the Partner or Clerk or any Person in the Service or Employ of any such Treasurer, the Clerk to the said Trustees; and 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 such Clerk, or the Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of any such Clerk or of his Partner, shall act as Treasurer, or being a Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of the Partner

Clerk restrained from acting as Treasurer, and vice versâ.

of any such Treasurer or of his Partner, shall act as Clerk in the Execution of this Act, or if any such Treasurer shall hold any Place or Office of Profit or Trust under this Act other than that of Treasurer or Banker, every Person so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of One hundred Pounds to any Person who shall sue for the same, to be recovered in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, or elsewhere, 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.

Security to be taken from Treasurer, Collectors, and Officer.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Trustees, or any Five or more of them, and they are hereby required, to take Security annually from the Treasurer, and also from all and every Collector or Collectors, and the Officer for paying Money for the Relief of the Poor, to be appointed by virtue of this Act, for the due Execution of their respective Offices, according to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, which Security shall be to the full Amount of the Sum likely to be in the Hands of the said Treasurer, Collector, and Officer respectively at any One Time; and in case any such Treasurer, Collector, or Officer shall neglect or refuse, for the Space of Ten Days next after his Appointment, to give or offer such Security, to the Satisfaction of the said Trustees, then the Appointment of every such Person so neglecting or refusing shall be null and void to all Intents and Purposes; and the said Trustees shall, within Twenty-eight Days then next, assemble and appoint some other fit and proper Person to the Office of Treasurer, Collector, or Officer (as the Case may be), instead of the Person so refusing or neglecting as aforesaid, and shall so assemble and appoint from Time to Time, until Security shall be given to their Satisfaction as aforesaid; and also in all Cases of Vacancies happening by Death or otherwise in either of the aforesaid Offices, shall fill up the same as often as Occasion shall require.

Officers to account.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That every such Treasurer, Clerk, Collector, and other Officer appointed by virtue of this Act shall, under his respective Hand, and at such Time and in such Manner as the said Trustees direct, deliver to the said Trustees, or such Persons as they shall appoint, true and perfect Accounts in Writing of all Matters and Things committed to his Charge by virtue of this Act; and also of all Monies which shall have been by such Officer received by virtue or for the Purposes of this Act, and how much thereof shall have been expended and disbursed, and for what Purposes, together with proper Vouchers for such Payments; and also a List of the Names of all such Persons who shall have neglected or refused to pay their respective Rates, and of the Monies due from them respectively, and shall pay all such Monies as shall remain due from him to the Treasurer for the Time being, or to such Person or Persons as the said Trustees shall appoint to receive the same; and if any such Treasurer, Clerk, or Collector, Officer, or other Person, shall refuse or neglect to make and render such Account, or to produce and deliver up the Vouchers relating to the same, or to make Payments as aforesaid, or shall refuse or wilfully neglect to deliver to the said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint to receive the same, within Three Days after being thereunto required by the said Trustees, by Notice in Writing under the Hands

and

and Seals of any Three or more of the said Trustees, given to or left at the last or usual Place of Abode of such Officer, all Books, Papers, and Writings in his Custody or Power relating to the Execution of this Act, or to give Satisfaction to the said Trustees, or to such other Person or Persons as aforesaid, respecting the same, then and in every such Case, upon Complaint made by the said Trustees, or by such Person or Persons as they respectively shall appoint for that Purpose, of any such Refusal or wilful Neglect as aforesaid, to any Alderman or Justice of the Peace for the City or Place wherein such Officer so refusing or neglecting shall be or reside, such Alderman or Justice may and he is hereby authorized and required to issue a Summons, under his Hand and Seal, for the Officer so refusing or neglecting to appear before such Alderman or Justice; and upon the said Officer appearing, or having been so summoned and not appearing, without some sufficient or reasonable Excuse, or not being found, it shall be lawful for the said Alderman or Justice to hear and determine the Matter in a summary Way; and if upon Confession of the Party, or by the Testimony of any credible Witness or Witnesses upon Oath, (which Oath such Alderman or Justice is hereby empowered to administer,) it shall appear to such Alderman or Justice that any Monies remain due from such Officer, such Alderman or Justice may, and he is hereby authorized and required, 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; and if no Goods or Chattels of such Officer shall be found sufficient to answer and satisfy the said Money, and the Charges of distraining and selling the said Goods and Chattels, or if it shall appear to such Alderman or Justice that such Officer had refused or wilfully neglected to render and give such Accounts, or to produce the Vouchers relating thereto, or that any Books, Papers, or Writings relating to the Execution of this Act remained in the Hands or in the Custody or Power of such Officer, and he refused or wilfully neglected to deliver or give Satisfaction respecting the same as aforesaid, then and in any or every such Case such Alderman or Justice shall and he is hereby required to commit such Person to the Common Gaol or House of Correction for the City, County, or Place where such Offender shall be or reside, there to remain, without Bail or Mainprize, until he shall have given a true and perfect Account as aforesaid, or until he shall have paid such Monies as aforesaid, or compounded with the said Trustees for such Money, and shall have paid such Composition in such Manner as they shall appoint, (which Composition the said Trustees are hereby empowered to make and receive,) and until he shall deliver up such Books, Papers, and Writings, or give Satisfaction in respect thereof, to the said Trustees, or to such other Person or Persons as aforesaid; but no such Offender shall be kept or detained in such Common Gaol or House of Correction for Want of sufficient Distress, by virtue of this Act, for any longer Space of Time than Three Calendar Months.

Commitment of Offender not to discharge his Sureties.

XV. And be it further enacted, That no Prosecution or Commitment, under the Provisions of this Act, of any Treasurer, Clerk, Collector, or other Officer or Person to be appointed under the Powers of this Act, shall acquit or discharge any Surety or Security that shall or may have been taken by or given to the said Trustees for the due and faithful Execution of his or their Office, or the Payment of the Monies received or to be received by him or them respectively.

XVI. And

Persons acting under the former Act to account.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That all and every Person and Persons acting or who have acted under the said recited Act, who shall have in his, her, or their Custody or Power any Money collected by virtue of, or any Books, Papers, or Writings relating to the Execution of the said recited Act, or any of the Records of the Parish, shall, when thereunto requested, deliver up to the said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint, all the Money received by him or them by virtue of the said recited Act, and all the Books, Papers, and Writings relating to the Execution thereof, and all the Records of the Parish which may be in his, her, or their Custody; and in case of Neglect or Refusal so to do, every such Person or Persons shall be liable to the like Pains, Penalties, Fines, and Forfeitures, and may be proceeded against for the Infliction and Recovery thereof, in the like Manner as if they were or had been appointed and acting under and by virtue of this Act.

Officers appointed under former Act to hold their Employments until removed.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That every Banker, Receiver, except the Treasurer, Collector, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, and other Officer and Servant nominated and appointed by virtue of or acting under the Authority of the said recited Act, shall hold and enjoy his, her, or their several and respective Offices and Employments, together with the several and respective Salaries and Allowances thereto annexed, until he, she, or they shall be removed therefrom respectively by the Trustees acting in the Execution of this Act; and every such Receiver, Collector, Clerk, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, and other Officer and Servant shall be subject to the like Pains and Penalties and Power of Removal, and to the like Rules and Regulations, and shall be invested with the same Powers and Authorities, as if he, she, or they had been nominated and appointed by virtue of this Act.

In case an Officer dies, his Executors to account.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That in case of the Death of any Officer before he shall have paid and fully satisfied all the Monies which he shall have received by virtue of the said recited Act or this Act, then and in every such Case the Executors or Administrators of such Officer so dying shall pay and satisfy the same out of the Estate and Effects of such Officer unto the said Trustees, or any Person appointed by them or any Ten of them in that Behalf, in like Manner as other Debts are directed by Law to be discharged by such Executors or Administrators; and also shall deliver up all Books, Papers, Writings, and other Things concerning his Office in relation to the Execution of the said recited Act or this Act, which shall have come to the Hands of such Executors or Administrators, who shall and may plead such Payment in any Action or Suit which may be brought against them on account of the said Estate and Effects, and give the same in Evidence; and in case of the Nonpayment of such Monies, or the Non-delivery of such Books, Papers, Writings, and Things, for the Space of Twenty-one Days after Demand made thereof in Writing by or on behalf of the said Trustees, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees to commence and prosecute an Action or Actions in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster* against such Executors or Administrators for the Recovery of the said Monies, or for the Recovery of Damages for the Detention of such Books, Papers, Writings, and Things; in which Action or Actions full Costs of Suit shall be recoverable by the said Trustees.

XIX. And

Collector not to retain more than the Sum of 50*l.*

XIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Collector to be appointed by virtue of this Act shall keep or retain in his Hand more than the Sum of Fifty Pounds for any longer Space of Time than Two Days, (provided that the Treasurer for the Time being shall within that Time be ready to receive the same,) he shall forfeit and pay a Sum not exceeding Five Pounds for every Day that he shall retain any Sum exceeding the same Sum of Fifty Pounds beyond the said Two Days.

Officers taking any Reward besides the Salary or Fees appointed, to forfeit 50*l.*

XX. And be it further enacted, That if any Person who shall be employed as Treasurer, Clerk, Collector, or any other Officer or Servant, who shall be in anywise employed by the said Trustees for putting this Act or any of the Powers thereof in execution, shall exact, take, or accept any Fee or Reward whatsoever, other than such Salaries, Allowances, and Rewards as shall be appointed, allowed, and approved of by the said Trustees, for or on account of anything done or to be done by virtue of this Act, or on any account whatsoever relative to putting this Act in execution, or shall in anywise be concerned or interested in any Bargain or Contract made or to be made by the said Trustees, every such Person so offending shall be incapable of ever serving or being employed under this Act, and shall, over and above, forfeit the Sum of Fifty Pounds to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same.

Trustees may sue and be sued in the Name of their Treasurer or Clerk, or of any One Trustee.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees may sue and be sued in the Name of their Treasurer or Treasurers, Clerk or Clerks, for the Time being, or in the Name of any One of the Trustees; and all Actions or Suits that may be necessary or expedient to be brought for the Recovery of any Penalty or Sum of Money due or payable by virtue of this Act, or for or in respect of any other Matter or Thing relating to this Act, may be brought in the Name or Names of their Treasurer or Treasurers, Clerk or Clerks, or in the Name of any One of the said Trustees; and no Action or Suit which may be brought, commenced, or prosecuted by or against the said Trustees, or any of them, by virtue or on account of this Act, shall abate or be discontinued by the Death, Suspension, or Removal of such Clerk or Clerks, or by the Death of such Trustee, or by any Act or Default of such Treasurer or Treasurers, Clerk or Clerks, or Trustee, done or suffered without the Consent or Direction of the said Trustees; but the Treasurer or Treasurers, Clerk or Clerks to the said Trustees for the Time being, or such Trustee, shall be deemed Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Defendant or Defendants, in any such Action or Suit, as the Case may be, except such Action or Actions as shall be prosecuted between the said Trustees and their Treasurer or Treasurers, Clerk or Clerks, for the Time being: Provided also, that in all Cases in which the Treasurer or Treasurers, Clerk or Clerks for the Time being, or any One such Trustee as aforesaid, shall, in pursuance of this Act, be the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Defendant or Defendants on the Record, in any Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, in which in effect the said Trustees shall be suing or sued in the Name of such Treasurer or Treasurers, Clerk or Clerks, or of such One Trustee as aforesaid, the said Treasurer or Treasurers, Clerk or Clerks for the Time being, or such One Trustee as aforesaid (although appearing as the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Defendant or Defendants on the Record), may and shall, nevertheless, (if not otherwise interested or objectionable,) be a good, examinable, and competent Witness in every

Treasurer, Trustee, or Clerk to be a competent Witness;

Action or Suit either for or against the said Trustees; and all Affidavits of Debt or Service, which may be necessary or expedient to be made preparatory to or in the Prosecution or Defence of any and every such Action, Suit, or Proceeding, shall and may be lawfully made by such Treasurer or Treasurers, Clerk or Clerks, or such One Trustee (as the Case may be), notwithstanding he or they shall be nominal Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Defendant or Defendants on the Record as aforesaid: Provided also, that every such Treasurer or Treasurers, Clerk or Clerks, or Trustee, in whose Name any Action or Suit shall be commenced, prosecuted, or defended in pursuance of this Act, shall always be reimbursed and paid, out of the Monies to arise by virtue of this Act, all such Costs, Charges, and Expenses as he or they shall be put to or become chargeable with by reason of his or their being so made Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Defendant or Defendants therein, and shall not be personally answerable or liable for the Payment of the same, or any Part of them, unless such Action or Suit shall arise in consequence of his or their own wilful Neglect or Default, or have been brought or commenced or be defended without the Order or Direction of the said Trustees.

and to be indemnified.

Accounts to be kept.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and they are hereby required from Time to Time to order and direct a Book or Books to be provided and kept by their Clerk for the Time being, in which Book or Books such Clerk shall enter, or cause to be entered, true and regular Accounts of all Sums of Money received, paid, and expended for or on account of the Purposes of this Act, and of the several Articles, Matters, and Things for which such Sums of Money shall have been disbursed and paid; and such Book or Books shall at all seasonable Times be open to the Inspection of the said Trustees, and every Creditor on the Rates hereby authorized to be made, and of every Person paying any Rate or Assessment hereby authorized to be made, or otherwise affected thereby, without Fee or Reward; and the said Trustees, Creditors, and other Persons aforesaid, or any of them, shall or may take Copies of or Extracts from the said Book or Books, or any Part thereof, without paying anything for the same; and in case the said Clerk shall refuse to permit or shall not permit the said Trustees, Creditors, or Persons aforesaid to inspect the same, or to take Copies or Extracts as aforesaid, such Clerk shall forfeit and pay any Sum of Money not exceeding Five Pounds for each Default, to be levied, recovered, and applied in manner herein-after provided.

Trustees may contract for Provisions, &c. for the Workhouse.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees, or any Nine or more of them, shall and they are hereby empowered to purchase, and contract and agree from Time to Time, as they shall think fit, with any Person or Persons, for all Furniture, Provisions, Clothing, Necessaries, and Materials of what Kind soever, which shall be used or brought into the said Workhouse, or for the Use of the Poor, and also to contract or agree for the lodging, keeping, maintaining, or employing any or all such Poor of the said Parish, Four Days previous Notice being given in One or more of the public Daily Newspapers, and also on the principal Door of the said Parish Church, of the Time and Place of making such Contract; and the said Trustees, or any Nine or more of them, shall pay or order the Payment of the Monies due or to become due upon such Contract

tract and Agreement, to the Person or Persons entitled to receive the same, out of the Monies to be raised and collected by Authority of this Act.

Expenses of nursing Infant Poor how to be paid.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That the Expenses of any poor Child or Children of the Parish, which shall be necessary to be sent into the Country or other Place to nurse, or for their Clothes or Maintenance, together with the Expense of their Conveyance, shall be paid out of the Monies arising by virtue of this Act.

Trustees may contract for nursing Children.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees may and they are hereby empowered to contract and agree with any Person or Persons for the nursing, maintaining, and keeping such Child or Children, and the said Trustees shall put them out or otherwise provide for them, and take such Order for the Care of and providing for the said Children as they shall think proper.

No Churchwarden or Overseer to furnish Things for the Use of the Poor:

But they may order them to be given to the Poor for their Relief.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That no Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor of the said Parish shall, from and after the passing of this Act, provide, supply, serve, or furnish any Beds, Bedding, Clothes, Victuals, or other Things, for the Use of the Poor of the said Parish, but the same shall be bought and provided by the said Trustees: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend to prevent the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or any of them, from ordering the Persons with whom such Things shall be deposited, to deliver to any Person, not in the Workhouse, Clothing or Victuals for their immediate Relief, and which Things such Persons are hereby required to deliver pursuant to every such Order.

Churchwardens and Overseers may order Money to be paid for the Relief of the Poor;

but shall not pay any Money.

Proviso.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, or any of them, to give an Order for the Relief of such Poor, signed with his or their Hand or Hands, specifying therein the Sum or Sums of Money to be paid to such poor Person or poor Persons, which Money shall be immediately paid by the Person so to be appointed as aforesaid for that Purpose, who shall at the next Meeting of the Trustees or Churchwardens and Overseers, or either of them, produce and deliver to them, or either of them, the Vouchers for such Sum and Sums of Money that shall have been so expended as aforesaid: Provided always, that no Person who shall be a Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor of the said Parish shall act in the Execution of the Office of paying Money for the Relief of the Poor; and no Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor of the said Parish shall from and after the passing of this Act pay or expend, or make any Charge or Demand for Money expended by him or them, for the Relief of poor Persons: Provided also, that nothing herein contained shall extend to prevent the Churchwardens of the said Parish from paying Monies for the Repairs of the said Church, and otherwise relating to the Office of Churchwarden only.

Treasurer to pay Money to Trustees Orders.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees, or the Churchwardens or Overseers, or any Two of them, shall and may order and direct the Treasurer or Treasurers from Time to Time to pay such Sum

Sum and Sums of Money as they shall think necessary for the Purposes of this Act and the Use of the said Parish; and the said Treasurer and Treasurers are hereby authorized and required to pay the same from Time to Time accordingly, which Sum or Sums so paid shall be allowed him or them in his or their Accounts respectively.

Churchwarden to account.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That the Person who shall have been Senior Churchwarden of the said Parish for the past Year shall, within One Month after his going out of Office for the said Year, deliver unto the Auditors to be appointed under the Authority of this Act a just and true Account or Accounts, in Writing, of all Monies which he shall have received or paid on account of his said Office, and shall produce and show all the Vouchers of and for the Payments by him charged to be made; and if, upon the Examination of such Accounts, it shall appear that such Person, having been the Senior Churchwarden for the past Year, has expended more than he has received, then it shall be lawful for the Trustees of the said Parish (and they are hereby required, by and out of the subsequent Rate raised for the Relief of the Poor,) to repay and reimburse to such Person such Balance as shall appear upon the taking of such Account to be due and owing to him; and if, upon the Examination of such Account, it shall appear that such Person, having been the Churchwarden for the past Year, has received more than he has expended, then such Person shall forthwith pay such Balance as shall appear upon the taking of such Account to be remaining in his Hands unto the succeeding Churchwarden for the Time being, to be applied in aid of his Account generally; and the said Account shall, when so audited, be made out, transcribed, or printed, and a Copy thereof delivered to every Inhabitant requiring the same; and such Auditors shall, if they see necessary, report their Opinion of such Account to the Public Vestry.

Trustees and Overseers Accounts to be made up.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That the Accounts of the said Trustees and Overseers shall be made up to the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* in every Year, or within Fourteen Days after, and presented within One Month then next after to the Nine Persons herein-after directed to be from Time to Time appointed Auditors for the said Parish, who shall, within Two Calendar Months after Receipt of such Accounts, examine the Receipts and Disbursements, and also the Balances in hand, and Arrears due, on account of each and every the respective Rates herein directed to be levied under this Act or the said recited Act, together with the Vouchers respecting the same, and shall report the same to the next Public Vestry, together with their Opinion thereon, if they should think it necessary.

Auditors may be appointed to examine Parish Accounts.

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Inhabitants of the said Parish in Vestry assembled, and they are hereby required, at the same Meeting, in the same Manner as herein-before is directed for the Election of Inhabitants to be Trustees of this Act, on the First *Wednesday* in *May* in every Year, to appoint Nine substantial Inhabitant Householders of the said Parish, not being appointed Trustees, who shall be and are hereby appointed Auditors and Examiners of the Accounts of all and every Person and Persons having served any Parish Office, or having any Parish Money in his, her, or their Hands; and such Auditors

Auditors are hereby required to meet once at least in each Year (or oftener, as herein-after is mentioned) in the Vestry Room, or some other convenient Place within the said Parish, and they shall then and there examine and audit all Accounts of and belonging or relating to the said Parish as shall be produced to them for that Purpose; and no Sum or Sums of Money whatever shall pass in any of such Accounts but such as shall be allowed or passed by the said Auditors: Provided always, that no Account shall be audited or examined or any Business done by the said Auditors at any of their Meetings, until Five of them at least are present.

Auditors may summon Parish Officers to account.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Auditors or Examiners for the Time being, or any Five or more of them, from Time to Time, by Writing under their Hands, to give Notice to and direct the Vestry Clerk or Clerks of the said Parish for the Time being to summon a Meeting of the said Auditors, to be holden at such Time and Place as shall be expressed in such Notice, within One Calendar Month from the Date thereof; and also to summon and require to attend at such Meeting the Person or Persons having been or being Trustees, or Churchwarden or Churchwardens, Overseer or Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, for the past or the current Year, or any other Person or Persons holding or having held any Office in the said Parish, and whose Accounts shall be unsettled, as shall be named in such Notice, and which Notice the said Vestry Clerk or Clerks, or some Person authorized by him or them, is or are hereby required to serve or cause to be served on such Person or Persons, either personally, or by leaving such Notice or Summons at his or their last or most usual Place or Places of Abode within the said Parish, at least Five Days before such Meeting, and at which Meeting such Person or Persons having served or being then serving either of the said or any other Office within the said Parish as aforesaid, shall and they and each of them are hereby required to deliver into such Meeting a just and true Account or Accounts in Writing of all Monies which they or either of them shall have received or paid on account of the said Offices respectively, and shall produce, shew, and deliver (if required) all the Vouchers of and for the Payments by them respectively charged and made; and if the said Person or Persons having been or being Trustees, or Churchwarden or Churchwardens, Overseer or Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, for the past or the current Year, or such other Person or Persons as aforesaid, or either of them, shall refuse or neglect to render such Account or Accounts, every such Person for every such Neglect shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds, one Moiety to the Trustees of this Act, to be applied in aid of the Rate for the Relief of the Poor, and the other Moiety to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, by Action of Debt or on the Case, wherein no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance, shall be allowed; and the Balance and Balances or Sum and Sums of Money from Time to Time found due to or from the said Parish upon the taking of such Accounts, or any of them, by any Five or more of the said Auditors, shall be paid or recovered in such and the same Manner as any Balance or Balances, Sum or Sums of Money, found due to or from any Overseer of the Poor, or Person having served that Office, may by Law be paid or recovered; and the

Person and Persons liable to the Payment thereof, and every of them, shall be subject to the same Punishment, Penalties, Fines, and Forfeitures as they respectively by Law are or may be subject or liable to for the Non-payment thereof, or of any Part thereof.

Vestry to appoint Assessors.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Parishioners of the said Parish, and they are hereby required, at the same Meeting, and in the same Manner as herein-before is directed for the Election of Twenty-four Inhabitants to be the first elected Trustees of this Act, to appoint Twelve Inhabitants, not being appointed Trustees (but with the like Qualifications as are herein-before required with respect to Trustees), Assessors to survey the several Lands, Houses, Shops, Warehouses, Coach-houses, Stables, Cellars, Vaults, or any other Building, Tenement, or Hereditament of what Description soever, within the said Parish, and once in the Year, or oftener, if need be, upon Notice to them in Writing from the said Churchwardens for that Purpose, assess the same, or any Part or Parts thereof, according to such Notice, justly, fairly, and equally, according to their best Skill and Judgment, at the annual Value thereof for the Time being, and to present such Assessment, signed, to the Vestry next to be held after such Survey and Assessment made, for their Approbation and Adoption, Seven of which said Assessors shall be a Quorum.

Appointment of new Assessors.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That Ten Days at least before the First *Wednesday* in *May* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, Three of such Twelve Inhabitants, to be determined by Ballot among themselves at a Meeting to be held for that Purpose, shall cease to be Assessors; and on the First *Wednesday* in *May* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight, Three, to be determined in like Manner, of the remaining original Inhabitants shall cease to be Assessors; and Ten Days at least before the First *Wednesday* in *May* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-nine, Three, to be determined in like Manner, of the Six remaining original Inhabitants shall cease to be Assessors; and Ten Days at least before the First *Wednesday* in *May* One thousand eight hundred and thirty, the remaining Three of the original Inhabitants shall cease to be Assessors; and that Ten Days at least before the First *Wednesday* in *May* in each of the said Four Years, the Inhabitants of the said Parish in Vestry assembled shall elect Three Persons (to be qualified as herein-before is mentioned with respect to the Persons herein-before directed to be chosen Trustees for the Purposes of this Act) to be Assessors in the Room of the Persons who shall then cease to be Assessors as aforesaid; and that on the First *Wednesday* in *May* in every succeeding Year, Three of the Assessors elected as aforesaid, in rotation, according to the Priority of their Election, shall cease to be Assessors, and shall be replaced by an Election of Three Inhabitants, in manner herein-before provided; and on every First *Wednesday* in *May*, every Vacancy in the Number of Trustees, occasioned by Death, Retirement, Incapacity, or Disqualification, shall be supplied by the Election of an Inhabitant in manner aforesaid, who shall cease to be an Assessor at the same Time as the Person in whose Place he shall be appointed, according to such Determination or Rotation as aforesaid, would have ceased to be an Assessor: Provided always, that nothing in this Act shall extend or be construed to extend to prevent any of

of the Persons who shall cease to be Assessors, at the Times and in Manner aforesaid, from being immediately re-elected Assessors; and no Person shall be capable of acting as an Assessor in the Execution of this Act, until he shall have taken an Oath or Affirmation to the following Effect (which Oath or Affirmation any of the Trustees herein-before appointed, or to be elected as herein-before is mentioned, are empowered to administer,) at a Meeting to be held by virtue of this Act:

Assessor's Oath.

'I *A.B.* do swear [*or* affirm], That I will truly and faithfully, impartially and honestly, according to the best of my Skill and Knowledge, execute the several Powers and Authorities reposed in me as Assessor for the Parish of *Saint Bridget* otherwise *Saint Bride, Fleet Street*, in the City of *London*; and that I will judge and determine upon all Matters and Things which shall be brought before me as Assessor of the said Parish, without Favour or Affection.'

And any Person who shall presume to act as an Assessor in the Execution of this Act, without being qualified, or having taken and subscribed the Oath herein-before mentioned, he shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds, together with full Costs of Suit, to be recovered in like Manner as herein-before is expressed with respect to the Penalty to be incurred by any Person or Persons guilty of a similar Offence in acting as a Trustee or Trustees.

Parishioners to meet to ascertain Monies to be raised.

XXXV. And be it further enacted, That the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, or the major Part of them, together with the Parishioners of the said Parish paying to the Rates or Assessments to be made by virtue of this Act, are hereby authorized and required to assemble and meet together in the Vestry Room of the said Parish on the First *Wednesday* in *July*, or within Ten Days after, or oftener, in every Year, as Occasion may require, Notice whereof shall be given during Divine Service on the *Sunday* next preceding such Meeting in the Church of the said Parish; and the said Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poor, and Inhabitants, or the major Part of them so assembled, shall ascertain the Sum or Sums of Money necessary to be raised within the Limits of the said Parish for the Relief of the Poor and other Purposes of this Act.

Parishioners to make an equal Pound Rate.

XXXVI. And be it further enacted, That the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them, and Parishioners of the said Parish, shall assemble and meet together in the Vestry Room of the said Parish within Thirty Days next after the said Sum or Sums of Money shall have been ascertained as aforesaid, due Notice having been given in the said Parish Church on the *Sunday* before such Meeting in manner aforesaid, and at such Meeting and Meetings shall and are hereby required to make and sign One general equal Pound Rate or Assessment for and towards the Relief of the Poor, and other Purposes of this Act, upon all and every Person and Persons who do or shall inhabit, hold, occupy, or enjoy any Land, House, Shop, Warehouse, Coach-house, Stable, Cellar, Vault, or any other Building, Tenement, or Hereditament within the said Parish, and on every other Person and Persons who by Law is, are, or shall be chargeable or liable to be assessed for or towards the Relief of the Poor,

Poor, as the said Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poor, and Inhabitants of the said Parish, at such Meeting and Meetings, shall think necessary and proper; which said Rates or Assessments so to be made shall be made and laid according to the yearly Rent or yearly Value of the Premises as the same shall be ascertained, and shall be allowed by the Alderman of the Ward, or by Two Aldermen of the City of *London*, and Notice thereof shall be given in the Church on the *Sunday* next after the same shall be allowed.

Parishioners neglecting to make Rates, Trustees may.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That if the said Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poor, and Parishioners of the said Parish, shall refuse or neglect to ascertain such Sum or Sums of Money in the Manner hereinbefore prescribed, or shall refuse or neglect, within Thirty Days after such Meeting, to make such Rates or Assessments as aforesaid, or in case such Rates or Assessments shall be deficient to answer the Purposes of this Act, then and in any of the said Cases, and as often as it shall happen, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees, or any Ten or more of them, and they are hereby required, to meet in the Vestry Room, or at the Workhouse of the said Parish, as they shall appoint for that Purpose, Notice thereof having been first given on the *Sunday* next preceding such Meeting in the Church of the said Parish in manner aforesaid, and then and there make One or more general Pound Rate or Assessment in manner aforesaid, for and towards the Relief of the Poor, and other the Purposes of this Act; and therein equitably and proportionably rate and assess all and every Person and Persons who do or shall inhabit, hold, or occupy any Land, House, Shop, Warehouse, Tenement, Coach-house, Stable, Cellar, Vault, or any other Building or Hereditament within the said Parish, and any other Person or Persons who by Law or under this Act are chargeable or assessable for and towards the Relief of the Poor, as the said Trustees, or any Ten or more of them, at such Meeting or Meetings, shall think fit and proper to be rated and assessed; which said Rates or Assessments so to be made and signed by the said Trustees, or any Ten or more of them, shall be allowed by the Alderman of the Ward, or by Two Aldermen of the City of *London*, and Notice thereof shall be given in the said Parish Church some *Sunday* after Morning Prayers before such Rate shall be collected.

Rates so to be made by the Trustees, valid.

XXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, so to be made by the said Trustees, or any Ten or more of them, shall be deemed and taken to be good, valid, and effectual, and shall and may be collected and levied in like Manner as if the same had been ascertained and made by the Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poor, and Inhabitants assembled as aforesaid; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

No Rates to be made contrary to this Act.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That no Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, for the Relief of the Poor, shall be made or assessed within the said Parish, other than as in and by this Act directed, after the passing the same.

XL. And

Clerk to make Entries in Book of Rates made by Trustees.

XL. And be it further enacted, That all and singular the Rates and Assessments which shall be made in pursuance of this Act shall be entered in a Book or Books, to be provided for that Purpose, by the Clerk or Clerks to the said Trustees, and signed by the said Trustees who shall have made such Rates and Assessments respectively, to which Book or Books every Person liable to pay the said Rates or Assessments may have free Access at all convenient Times, and be permitted to peruse, inspect, and take Copies of the same without Fee or Reward.

Rates to become due and payable immediately upon being made.

XLI. And be it further enacted, That when and as soon as any Rate or Assessment shall at any Time be made in pursuance of this Act, either by the Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poor, and Parishioners of the said Parish, or by the Trustees, the same shall, immediately after the Publication thereof in the Church, be considered due and payable, and may be demanded; and in case of Nonpayment thereof by any Person or Persons chargeable therewith, he, she, or they shall and may immediately be proceeded against for the Recovery thereof by the Ways and Means herein-after mentioned and contained.

Officers may rectify Omissions in Rates.

XLII. And be it further enacted, That if it shall appear to the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or to the Trustees, at any Time after any Rate or Assessment shall be made under and by virtue of this Act, that the Name of any Person or Persons liable to be included in such Rate or Assessment has been omitted therein, it shall be lawful for the Churchwardens and Overseers to add, or cause to be added, to such Rate or Assessment, whether made by the said Churchwardens, Overseers, and Parishioners, or by the said Trustees, the Name or Names of the Person or Persons so omitted, together with the Sums for which they ought to be assessed, and the Amount of such Rate in respect thereof; and every such Addition made to any of the said Rates or Assessments shall be as valid and effectual in Law, as if it had been inserted in the Rate or Assessment at the Time the same was first made.

Persons aggrieved may appeal.

XLIII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved or overrated by any Rate or Assessment made under this Act, he, she, or they may appeal and complain thereof in Writing to the said Churchwardens, who shall forthwith refer such Complaint to the said Assessors, who may examine the Complainant or Complainants and any Witness or Witnesses touching or concerning the Matter of such Complaint, and, after hearing the Complainant, and any Witness or Witnesses on his or her Behalf, may relieve the Person or Persons complaining or not, and make such Order therein as to them shall seem meet, but no Decision shall be made except upon the Production of satisfactory Evidence on behalf of the Complainant; and the said Assessors shall be at liberty to call in such professional Assistance as they may think necessary to assist them in their Judgment of the Matters complained of, and who shall afterwards report their Decision to the public Vestry.

Persons, on account of Poverty, may be relieved from the Rates.

XLIV. And whereas it may be reasonable to excuse some Persons from the Payment of the said Rates on account of their real Poverty: Be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Churchwardens and Overseers, and also for the said Trustees respectively, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, upon Application made to them by any Person or Persons charged with any Rate or Assessment to be discharged therefrom, and Proof of his or her Inability, through Poverty, to pay such Rate or Assessment, to grant such Person or Persons such Relief in the Payment of any Rate or Assessment as they the said Churchwardens and Overseers, and also the said Trustees respectively, shall think reasonable and proper, and may strike out therefrom the Sum at which such Person was so rated or assessed, and which shall not thereafter be collected.

Officers or Trustees may compound for Rates in certain Cases.

XLV. And be it further enacted, That when the yearly Rent or Value of any House, Tenement, or Hereditament within the said Parish shall not exceed Thirty Pounds, whether paid or agreed to be paid quarterly or otherwise, or when any House, Tenement, or Hereditament shall be let for any Period less than One Year, or if let in separate Apartments, furnished or unfurnished, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the Trustees for the Time being, to compound (if they shall think proper) with the Landlord or Landlords of any such House or Houses, Tenement or Tenements, Hereditament or Hereditaments, in the said Parish, for the Payment of the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, authorized to be levied and raised by virtue of this Act, at such a reduced yearly Rental as the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the said Trustees, shall think reasonable, so that no such House or Houses, Tenement or Tenements, or Hereditaments, be rated at less than One Half the Rackrent at which the same respectively shall be then let, or less than One Half of the annual Value of the said Premises respectively; and the Landlord or Landlords of all such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments as shall not exceed the yearly Rent or Value of Thirty Pounds, or shall be let for a less Period than One Year, or in separate Apartments, furnished or unfurnished, is and are hereby required to enter into such Composition, with the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the said Trustees; and in case such Landlord or Landlords shall refuse to enter into such Composition, he, she, or they shall from thenceforth be rated to, and from Time to Time shall pay, or cause to be paid, the Rates or Assessments charged upon the respective Premises as aforesaid, according to a fair and equal Assessment; and upon Nonpayment thereof, or of the Amount of such Composition, the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the said Trustees, are hereby authorized to levy the same by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Landlord or Landlords of the respective Premises aforesaid, wheresoever they may be found, or of the Person or Persons inhabiting the same respectively: Provided always, that no such Landlord shall be charged with or liable to pay for any increased Rent reserved or made payable to him for or on account of such Landlord having agreed to pay the Rates or Assessments by this Act chargeable upon the several Occupiers of such Premises: And provided always, that the Goods and Chattels of all and every Person or Persons renting or occupying any such House, Tenement, or Hereditaments, or any Part or Parts thereof, (the

(the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments whereof the Landlord or Landlords aforesaid is and are hereby made liable to and subject as aforesaid,) shall be liable at all Times to be distrained and sold for Payment of such of the said Rates or Assessments, and of all Arrears thereof, as shall have become due upon the said Premises during the Time of his, her, or their Occupancy only; but no such Occupier or Occupiers shall at any Time be required to pay, or be subject or liable to pay, any greater Sum for or towards the Discharge of the said Rates or Assessments, or any of them, and the Arrears thereof, than the Amount of the Rent actually due or payable by such Occupier or Occupiers to the Landlord or Landlords of the Premises so occupied by him, her, or them: Provided also, that each and every Occupier who shall pay any such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or any Arrears thereof, or upon whom the same shall be levied, shall from Time to Time deduct the same from the Rent due and payable from him, her, or them, to the respective Landlord of the said Premises (unless there shall be some Agreement to the contrary between the Landlord and Tenant); and the Receipt for such Payment shall be a sufficient Discharge to such Occupier or Occupiers, and to his, her, or their Landlord or Landlords, for so much Money as he, she, or they shall pay in the Manner directed by this Act.

Compositions to remain in force until altered.

XLVI. And be it further enacted, That from and after any Composition shall be made with the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the said Trustees, as herein-before mentioned, the House or Houses, Tenement or Tenements, and Hereditaments therein comprised, shall be rated and assessed according to the same reduced Rental in every future Parish Rate or Assessment to be made by virtue of this Act, until the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the said Trustees or their Successors, shall think proper otherwise to rate and assess the said Premises, and without any Notice to be given to the Landlords of the same.

Landlords to pay Rates of Houses let out in Lodgings.

XLVII. And be it further enacted, That the Landlord or Owner of each and every House let in separate Apartments, or ready funished, to a Lodger or Lodgers, shall be rated or assessed for the same, and shall be liable and subject to the Payment of the said Rates or Assessments directed to be raised and levied by virtue of this Act.

Persons receiving Rents may be rated as Owners.

XLVIII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That the Person or Persons receiving or claiming to be entitled to the Rents of every such House or Houses, Tenement or Tenements, Hereditaments or Premises, immediately from or payable by the Tenants or Occupiers thereof respectively, shall be rated and liable to the Payment of all and every such Rates as aforesaid, until some other Person or Persons shall be rated to or pay the same, unless the real Landlord or Owner shall voluntarily compound for the same with the said Churchwardens and Overseers or the said Trustees, according to the Provisions herein contained.

Recovery of Rates.

XLIX. And be it further enacted, That in case, at any Time or Times, any Person or Persons liable to pay any Rate or Assessment made or to be made by the Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poor, and Parishioners of

of the said Parish in Vestry assembled, or by the said Trustees, to and for the Purposes of this Act, shall refuse or neglect, after Demand made by the Collector or Collectors for the Time being, to pay the Money rated or assessed upon him, her, or them respectively, or which he, she, or they may be liable to pay by virtue of this Act, and all Arrears, it shall be lawful for any One of the Aldermen or Justices of the Peace for the City of *London* and he is hereby authorized and directed to summon, by Writing under his Hand, each and every Person so charged, and who shall have so refused or neglected as aforesaid, Oath being made before such Alderman or Justice by the Collector for the Time being of his having attended at the Place of Abode of each and every such Person having so refused or neglected to pay the same, to appear at a Time and Place to be mentioned in such Summons, before such Alderman or Justice, or before any Alderman or Aldermen, Justice or Justices of the Peace for the said City, who shall be then and there present; and it shall be lawful for any Person appointed to collect and receive such Rates or Assessments, or for any other Person, to serve all and every such Summons and Summonses upon all and every the Persons and Person so refusing or neglecting to pay as aforesaid, either by delivering the same to the Persons or Person thereby intended to be summoned, or by leaving the same at their or his or her last or usual Places or Place of Abode, or at or on the Premises for or in respect whereof the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, mentioned in such Summons, shall remain due and owing; and if any Person or Persons so summoned shall refuse or neglect to attend at the Time and Place mentioned in such Summons, or if he, she, or they do or shall attend, and shall not make it appear to such Alderman or Aldermen, Justice or Justices, that he, she, or they is or are not chargeable with such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments under this Act, then all and every the Persons and Person who shall have been so summoned shall pay as well such Rate as the reasonable Costs and Charges of such Summons; and in all Cases where the said Rate, Assessment, Costs, and Charges shall not be paid upon the Return of such Summons, it shall be lawful for such Alderman or Justice who shall have issued the same, or for any other Alderman or Justice of the Peace for the said City, and he is hereby authorized and required, upon Oath being made before him of the due Service of such Summons as aforesaid, or in case such Person or Persons so refusing or neglecting to pay as aforesaid shall have removed out of the said Parish, then on Proof of such Summons having been duly issued as aforesaid, to grant a Warrant or Warrants under his Hand and Seal, authorizing and directing such Collector, or any Constable or Constables, Headborough or Headboroughs, Beadle or Beadles, to levy such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments respectively, and all Arrears thereof, and the Expenses of the Summons and of the Warrant, by Distress of the Goods and Chattels of the Party so neglecting or refusing; and if, within Five Days next after such Distress or Distresses shall be made, the said respective Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and all Arrears thereof, together with the Costs and Charges of taking and keeping the same, shall not be paid, it shall be lawful for such Collector, Constable or Constables, Headborough or Headboroughs, Beadle or Beadles, to cause the said Goods and Chattels, or a sufficient Part thereof, to be appraised and sold, rendering to the said Person or

Persons

Persons the Overplus (if any), after deducting the said Rates or Assessments, and all Arrears thereof, and the reasonable Costs and Charges attending such Distress and Sale, which Costs and Charges, in case of Dispute, shall be settled and ascertained by One of the said Aldermen or Justices of the Peace for the said City; and in default of such Distress it shall be lawful to and for any such Alderman or Justice to commit such Person or Persons to the Common Gaol or House of Correction for the said City, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for any Time not exceeding Three Calendar Months, unless Payment shall be sooner made of such Sum or Sums of Money as shall have been found to be due and in arrear upon all or any such Rates or Assessments as aforesaid, together with all Costs, Charges, and Expenses attending the Recovery thereof, such Costs, Charges, and Expenses to be ascertained by such Alderman or Justice.

Form of Warrant of Distress.

L. And be it further enacted, That every Warrant of Distress for the Nonpayment of any such Rates or Assessments to be made under this Act shall be in the Words or to the Effect following; that is to say,

'London, to wit.' To the Trustees and Churchwardens and Overseers of the Parish of *Saint Bridget* otherwise *Saint Bride* in the City of *London*, or Collectors of the Rates of the said Parish, and to all Constables, Headboroughs, Beadles, and Peace Officers for the said Parish.

'WHEREAS the under-mentioned Persons, now or late Inhabitants, Holders, Landlords, Tenants, Occupiers, or Enjoyers of Lands, Houses, Shops, Warehouses, Coach-houses, Stables, Cellars, Vaults, or other Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or Part of Buildings or Tenements, within the Limits of an Act for the better Relief of the Poor of the said Parish of *Saint Bridget* otherwise *Saint Bride*, made in the Seventh Year of the Reign of King *George* the Fourth, intituled [*insert the Title of this Act*], were and are truly rated or liable to the under-mentioned Rate or Rates, by virtue of the said Act: And whereas the said Persons have refused or neglected to pay the several Sums of Money at and against their Names hereunder respectively set down, for Money due from them for or towards the Purposes in the said Act mentioned; and the said several Sum or Sums are still remaining due, in arrear, and unpaid, as appeareth upon Oath to me One of the Aldermen or Justices of the said City of *London* [*or as the Case may be*]; and the said several Persons having been summoned to appear before me to answer the Premises, as also appeareth to me the said Alderman [*or* Justices, *as the Case may be*] upon Oath; and the said several Persons so summoned, or either of them, not having shewn sufficient Cause why such Sum or Sums of Money should not be paid: These are therefore, in His Majesty's Name, to will and require you, or either of you, forthwith to levy the said several Sums due from the said Persons, and hereunder joined to or set against their Names respectively, by Distress and Sale of their respective Goods and Chattels (such Goods and Chattels being kept for the Space of Five Days before the same are sold), rendering to them the Overplus (if any be), the reasonable Charges of such Distress,

'Sale, and Keeping being first deducted; and if no sufficient Distress 'can be had or taken, that then you certify the same to me, to the 'end such further Proceeding may be had therein as to the Law 'doth appertain: And I do hereby strictly charge and command all 'and singular the Constables, Headboroughs, and other His Majesty's 'Peace Officers for the said City, to be aiding and assisting in all 'Things relating to the Premises. Given under my Hand and Seal 'this Day of in the Year of 'our Lord

	£	*s.*	*d.*
'*A.B.* - - - - - -			
'*C.D.* - - - - - -			
'*E.F.*, the Landlord for divided Premises -			
'*G.H.*, the Landlord for the Houses in Street, compounded for - - -			
'*J.K.*, Landlord *or* Owner [*as the Case may be*].			

And One or more Rate or Rates may be included in each and every such Warrant as aforesaid.

Actions may be brought for Rates.

LI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the said Trustees may, if they shall think proper, sue in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster* for all or any of the Rates or Assessments to be made under this Act, and for all or any of the Forfeitures, Fines, and Penalties imposed by this Act, or to be imposed under the Authority of the same, except where the Demand does not amount to Ten Pounds or upwards, in which Action or Suit no Essoign, Privilege, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance, shall be allowed; and all such Forfeitures, Fines, and Penalties as may be received or recovered by the said Trustees, or their Treasurer or Treasurers, shall be applied for the general Purposes of this Act.

Arrears of former Rates may be collected.

LII. And be it further enacted, That each and every Rate and Assessment made and assessed, and now due and payable, or to become due and payable, or ordered to be collected and levied under and by virtue of the Authority of the said recited Act, shall continue to be due and payable, and shall and may be collected and levied by such Ways and Means, and under such Restrictions and Regulations, as any Rates or Assessments directed to be made in pursuance of this Act are directed in and by this Act to be collected and levied, and shall be received and applied by the Trustees to and for the Purposes of this Act.

Recovery of Rates from Persons removing.

LIII. And whereas it may happen that many Persons liable to, and who may be rated and assessed for the Purposes of this Act, may, before the Payment of the Sums which may be rated to them respectively, quit and leave their Dwelling Houses, Warehouses, Buildings, Lands, or other Premises, and remove to any Place out of the said Parish: Be it therefore further enacted, That when any Person or Persons who hath or have been so rated and assessed shall quit or shall be about to quit his, her, or their Houses, Warehouses, Coach-houses, Buildings, Tenements, or other Premises, before he, she, or they shall have paid such Rate or Rates,

Rates, and shall afterwards refuse or neglect to pay the same when due and demanded by the Collector or Collectors authorized to receive the same, then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for the said Collector or Collectors, or any of them, (Oath being made by him or them that he or they hath or have Cause to suspect that such Person or Persons is or are removing, or hath or have removed, his, her, or their Goods and Chattels,) by Warrant under the Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals of any One or more of the Aldermen or Justices of the Peace for the said City of *London*, to collect and levy such Rates, and all Arrears due thereon, for the Quarter of a Year, Half Year, or other Period for which a Rate shall be assessed, wherein such Removal or Sale shall begin to be made as aforesaid, to be considered as due although previously to the Time for Payment of the Rate for such Period, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Party so beginning to quit, remove, or take away any such Goods or Furniture as aforesaid; and if, within Five Days next after such Distress shall be made, the said Rates and all Arrears due thereon, together with the reasonable Charges of taking and keeping the said Distress, shall not be paid, the said Collector or Collectors shall cause the said Goods and Chattels to be appraised and sold, or such Part thereof as shall be sufficient to pay such Rates, together with all Arrears due thereon, and the reasonable Charges of making such Distress and of keeping and selling the same, returning the Overplus (if any) to the Owner or Owners of such Goods and Chattels respectively.

Persons removing and others coming in, to pay Rates in proportion.

LIV. And be it further enacted, That in case any Person or Persons shall remove out of or from, or quit the Possession of any House, Warehouse, or other Premises, or Part thereof, before any Rate or Rates to be charged thereon by virtue of this Act shall be paid and discharged, and if any Person or Persons shall enter into the Occupation of any House, Warehouse, or other Premises, or Part thereof, out of or from which any Person or Persons shall have removed before such Rate or Rates shall have been paid and discharged, then and in every such Case the Person or Persons so removing out of or from, or quitting Possession of, and the Person or Persons entering into the Occupation of any such House, Land, Warehouse, or other Premises, or Part thereof, shall be respectively subject and liable to the Payment of all such Rates in proportion to the Time that such Person or Persons respectively shall have occupied or shall occupy the same, in the same Manner as if the Person or Persons so removing or quitting as aforesaid had remained in the Possession and Occupation of such House, Warehouse, or other Premises, or Part thereof, or the Person or Persons so entering into the Occupation thereof had been originally rated and assessed in such Rates, which Proportion shall, in case of Dispute, be settled by any Alderman of the said City of *London*, whose Determination shall be final.

Trustees to see to the Payment of Arrears of Rates.

LV. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and they are hereby required, after the Commencement of this Act, from Time to Time, once in every Six Months at the least, to call for and examine into the Collector's Account of and State of the Poor Rates up to the Time

Time of such Examination, and shall take account of all Arrears then due and unpaid, and shall immediately thereupon proceed to enforce the Payment of all such Arrears, and every Part thereof (except as to such Persons who shall have been previously excused in manner hereinbefore specified), by the Ways and Means mentioned and prescribed by this Act, and shall cause such Monies as shall in consequence of such Proceedings be recovered to be paid into the Hands of the Treasurer for the Time being, for the general Purposes of this Act.

Encouragement may be given to the industrious Poor.

LVI. And to the end that the poor People in the said Workhouse may be encouraged to apply themselves with Diligence in the Work in or upon which they shall be employed, be it further enacted, That out of the Profits arising from any Work which shall be done by any such poor Person, such Gratuities or Rewards may be distributed to the industrious and skilful Persons, according to the Quantity and Perfection of their Work, as to the said Churchwardens, Overseers, or Trustees shall appear reasonable and proper, and that the Remainder of the Profits which shall from Time to Time arise from the Work which shall be done by such poor Persons shall be paid to the Treasurer or Treasurers of the said Trustees, and applied in aid of the Rates or Assessments.

Penalties and Forfeitures how to be recovered and applied.

LVII. And be it further enacted, That all Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures inflicted or imposed by this Act, or by virtue of any Rule, Order, or Byelaw made in pursuance hereof, (the Manner of levying and recovering which, and the Appropriation whereof, is not herein particularly directed), may, in case of Nonpayment thereof, be recovered in a summary Way by the Order and Adjudication of some Alderman or Aldermen or Justice or Justices of the Peace for the said City of *London*, on Complaint to him or them for that Purpose exhibited, and afterwards, as well as the Costs, if any, of such Proceedings, on Nonpayment, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Offender or respective Offenders, or Person or Persons liable to pay the same, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals of such Alderman or Aldermen, Justice or Justices, who is and are hereby authorized and required to summon and examine any Witnesses upon Oath or Affirmation of or concerning such Offences, Matters, and Things, and to hear and determine the same; and the Overplus, if any, of the Money raised and recovered, after discharging the Fine, Penalty, or Forfeiture for which such Warrant shall be issued, and the Costs and Expences of recovering and levying the same (if any such there be), shall be rendered to the Owner or Owners of the Goods and Chattels so seized and distrained; all which Penalties, not herein directed to be otherwise applied, shall be paid to the said Trustees, or their respective Treasurer or Clerk, to be applied for the Purposes of this Act as the said Trustees shall order and direct, except in all such Cases where the Penalty or Forfeiture shall be incurred by the said Trustees, and then the same shall be paid to the Informer; and it shall be lawful for the said Alderman or Aldermen, Justice or Justices, to order the Offender or Offenders so convicted to be detained in safe Custody until Return can be conveniently made to such Warrant or Warrants of Distress, unless the said Offender or Offenders shall

shall give sufficient Security to the Satisfaction of such Alderman or Aldermen, Justice or Justices, for his, her, or their Appearance before the said Alderman or Aldermen, Justice or Justices, on such Day or Days as shall be appointed for the Return of such Warrant or Warrants of Distress, such Day or Days not being more than Seven Days from the Time of taking any such Security, and which Security the said Alderman or Aldermen, Justice or Justices, is and are hereby empowered to take by way of Recognizance or otherwise; but if upon the Return of such Warrant or Warrants it shall appear that no sufficient Distress can be had whereupon to levy the said Penalty or Penalties, and such Costs as aforesaid, and the same shall not be forthwith paid, or in case it shall appear to the Satisfaction of any such Alderman or Aldermen, Justice or Justices, 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 Expenses can be levied if a Warrant of Distress were issued, such Alderman or Aldermen, Justice or Justices, shall not be required to issue such Warrant of Distress; and thereupon it shall be lawful for such Alderman or Aldermen, Justice or Justices, and he and they is and are hereby required and empowered, by Warrant or Warrants under his Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals, to commit such Offender or Offenders to the Common Gaol, Compter, or House of Correction in the said City of *London*, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for any Time not exceeding Six Calendar Months, or until such Offender or Offenders shall have paid such Penalty or Penalties, and all Costs and Charges attending such Proceedings as aforesaid, to be ascertained by such Alderman or Aldermen, Justice or Justices, or shall otherwise be discharged by due Course of Law: Provided always, that in all Cases where the Penalty imposed by this Act shall exceed the Sum of Five Pounds, no Proceeding before Aldermen or Justices shall be had and taken for the Recovery thereof before a less Number than Two Aldermen or Justices.

Forms of Information and Conviction.

LVIII. And for the more easy Prosecution and Conviction of Offenders against this Act, be it further enacted, That all and every Alderman and Aldermen, Justice and Justices of the Peace, before whom any Person or Persons shall be convicted or prosecuted of or for any Offence against this Act, shall and may cause the Information and Conviction respectively to be drawn in the Forms following, or in other Words to the same Effect; (that is to say,)

‘ London, } BE it remembered, That on the Day of
‘ to wit, } *A.B.* of informeth
‘ me, One of the Aldermen [*or* Justices] of the Peace for the said City of
‘ *London*, that of in the City [*or*
‘ County] of [*here describe the Offence, with the Time and Place, and*
‘ *follow the Act as near as may be*] contrary to the Statute made in the
‘ Seventh Year of the Reign of King *George* the Fourth, intituled [*insert*
‘ *the Title of this Act*], which hath imposed a Forfeiture of
‘ for the said Offence. Taken the Day of
‘ before me ’

'London, to wit.' BE it remembered, That on the Day of in the Year of the Reign of King and in the Year of our Lord *A.B.* is convicted before me [*or* us] One [*or* Two] of the Aldermen or Justices of the Peace for the said City of *London*, for [*here specify the Offence, and when and where committed*], contrary to the Form of the Statute made in the Seventh Year of the Reign of King *George* the Fourth, intituled [*here set forth the Title of this Act*]: And I do hereby declare and adjudge that the said *A.B.* hath forfeited for the said Offence the Sum of [*or* shall be committed to for the Space of , *as the Case may be*]. Given under my Hand and Seal, the Day and Year first above written.'

Justices may proceed by Summons on the Recovery of Penalties.

LIX. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases in which by this Act any Penalty or Forfeiture is imposed and made recoverable by Information before an Alderman or Justice of the Peace, it shall be lawful for any Alderman or Justice of the Peace to whom Complaint shall be made of any Offence against this Act, to summon the Party complained against before him, and on such Summons any Alderman or Justice to hear and determine the Matter of such Complaint, and on Proof of the Offence to convict the Offender, and to adjudge him 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 Alderman or 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 was or had been exhibited.

Distress not to be deemed unlawful for Want of Form.

LX. And be it further enacted, That where any Distress shall be made for any Money 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 any 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 afterwards be done by the Party or Parties distraining, but the Person or Persons aggrieved by such Irregularity may recover full Satisfaction for the special Damage in an Action on the Case.

Trustees who are Justices may act as such.

LXI. And be it further enacted, That all such Trustees as are or shall be Aldermen or Justices of the Peace for the City of *London* may act as Justices in all Matters under the Authority of this Act, notwithstanding their being Trustees, except in Cases where they may be personally interested; and that in all Cases where any Justice or Justices of the Peace is or are hereby authorized to examine any Person or Persons on Oath or Affirmation, it shall be lawful for such Trustee or Trustees, being such Alderman or Aldermen, Justice or Justices, and he and they is and are hereby required, to administer such Oath, or take such Affirmation, in all Cases where any Parties, Witnesses, Officers, or Trustees,

tees, or other Person, are to be heard or examined before or in the Presence of the said Trustees, to administer an Oath, or take the Affirmation of such Parties, Witnesses, or Persons.

Inhabitants may be Witnesses.

LXII. And be it further enacted, That no Inhabitant or Inhabitants of the said Parish shall be deemed an incompetent Witness in any Action, Suit, Complaint, Prosecution, or Proceeding to be had, conducted, made, prosecuted, or carried on under the Authority of this Act, by reason of such Person being rated or liable to be rated by virtue of this Act.

Compelling the Attendance of Witnesses.

LXIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for any Alderman or Justice who is made competent, empowered, or required to hear and determine any Complaint under or by virtue of this Act, to issue a Summons under his Hand and Seal to any Person or Persons whomsoever to attend as a Witness or Witnesses, and to give Evidence upon Oath or solemn Affirmation before any such Justice of the Peace touching any Matter of Fact contained in any Information or Complaint for any Offence against this Act, [or against any Byelaw, Rule, or Order made in pursuance thereof, whether on the Part of the Prosecutors, or of the Person or Persons complained of, and which Summons such Justice is hereby required to issue, if thereunto required; and if such Person or Persons so summoned as aforesaid, upon being paid or tendered a reasonable Sum for his or their Costs and Charges, Trouble and Attendance, shall refuse or neglect to appear at the Time and Place to be for that Purpose appointed, without a reasonable Excuse for such his, her, or their Refusal or Neglect, to be approved of by such Justice, or appearing shall refuse to be examined on Oath (or solemn Affirmation), and give Evidence before such Justice, then and in every such Case every such Person shall forfeit for every such Offence any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds.

General Appeal.

LXIV. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall find himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by any Order, Direction, or Appointment of the said Churchwardens, Overseers, or Trustees, or by means of any Rate or Assessment to be made under or in pursuance of this Act, or of any Bye Rule or Order, or any Order or Conviction of One or more Alderman or Aldermen, Justice or Justices of the Peace, it shall be lawful for such Person or Persons to appeal to any General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held in and for the said City of *London* within Three Calendar Months next after the same shall have arisen, or if such Sessions shall be held before the Expiration of One Calendar Month then next, then such Appeal shall be made to the secondly succeeding Session, either of which Courts of Sessions is hereby empowered to hear and finally determine the Matter of the said Appeal, and to make such Order thereon as to them shall seem meet; which Order shall be final and conclusive to and upon all Parties: Provided that the Person or Persons so appealing shall give or cause to be given at least Ten Days Notice in Writing of his, her, or their Intention of appealing as aforesaid, and of the Matter or Cause thereof, to the Churchwardens for the Time being of the said Parish,

and

and within Three Days after such Notice shall enter into a Recognizance before One of the Aldermen or Justices of the said City of *London*, with sufficient Sureties, conditioned to try such Appeal at the then next General Sessions or Quarter Sessions of the Peace, whichever shall first happen, and to abide the Order of and pay such Costs as shall be awarded by the Justices at such Quarter Sessions, or any Adjournment thereof; and such Justices, upon hearing and finally determining the Matter of such Appeal, shall and may, according to their Discretion, award such Costs to the Party appealing or appealed against as they shall think proper, and their Determination in or concerning the Premises shall be conclusive and binding on all Parties, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

Rates may be amended without quashing.

LXV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That on Appeal from the said Rates or Assessments, or any of them, for the Purposes of this Act, the Justices at such General or Quarter Sessions shall and may amend the same in such Manner as may be necessary for giving Relief, without quashing or altering such Rates or Assessments with respect to other Persons mentioned in the same; but if, upon Appeal from the whole of any Rate, it shall be found necessary to set aside the same, then and in such Cases the said Justices shall and may order a new Rate or Assessment to be made in the Manner herein directed.

Rates and Proceedings not to be quashed for Want of Form.

LXVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Rate, nor any Proceeding to be had touching the Conviction of any Offender or Offenders against this Act, or any Order made, or of any other Matter or Thing done or transacted in or relative to the Execution of this Act, shall be vacated or quashed for Want of Form, or be removed or removable by Certiorari, or any other Writ or Process whatsoever, into any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*.

Plaintiff not to recover if Tender of Amends has been made.

LXVII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That no Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall recover in any Action or Actions for any Irregularity, Trespass, or other Proceeding made or committed in execution of this Act, if Tender of sufficient Amends shall be made by or on behalf of the Party or Parties who shall have committed any such Irregularity, Trespass, or other wrongful Proceedings, before such Action brought; and in case no Tender shall have been made, it shall be lawful for the Defendant or Defendants in any such Action, by Leave of the Court where such Action shall depend, at any Time before Issue joined, to pay into Court such Sum of Money as he or they shall think fit; whereupon such Proceedings, Order, and Adjudication shall be made, had, and given in and by such Court, as in other Actions where the Defendant is allowed to pay Money into Court.

Limitation of Actions.

LXVIII. And be it further enacted, That no Action or Suit shall be commenced against any Person or Persons for anything done in pursuance of or under the Authority or Colour of this Act, until Twenty-one Days Notice has been given thereof in Writing to the Clerk to the said Trustees, or to the Churchwardens of the said Parish, nor after sufficient Satisfaction

Satisfaction or Tender thereof hath been made to the Party or Parties aggrieved, nor after Six Calendar Months next after the Fact committed for which such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall be so brought; and every such Action shall be brought, laid, and tried where the said Cause of Action shall have arisen, and not in any other City, County, or Place; and the Defendant or Defendants in such Actions or Suits may plead the General Issue, or give this Act and every special Matter in Evidence at any Trial or Trials which shall be had thereupon; and if the Matter or Thing shall appear to have been done under or by virtue of this Act, or if it shall appear that such Action or Suit was brought before Twenty-one Days Notice thereof given as aforesaid, or that sufficient Satisfaction was made or tendered as aforsaid, or if any such Action or Suit shall not be commenced within the Time before limited, or shall be laid in any other City, County, or Place than as aforesaid, then the Jury or Juries shall find a Verdict or Verdicts for the Defendant or Defendants therein; and if a Verdict or Verdicts shall be found for such Defendant or Defendants, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs in such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall become Nonsuit, or suffer a Discontinuance of such Action or Actions, or if upon any Demurrer or Demurrers in such Action or Actions Judgment shall be given for the Defendant or Defendants therein, then and in any of the Cases aforesaid such Defendant or Defendants shall have Treble Costs, and shall have such Remedy for recovering the same as any Defendant or Defendants may have for his, her, or their Costs in any other Case by Law.

Rates, &c. not to be set forth in Actions.

LXIX. And be it further enacted, That in any Action of Replevin, or other Action to be brought against any Person for making a Distress for Rates under or by colour of this or the said recited Act, it shall be lawful for the Defendant or Defendants in any such Action to avow or make Cognizance generally, stating that the Plaintiff or Person assessed, as the Case may be, was in arrear for certain Rates due and payable under and by virtue of this Act or the said recited Act, without pleading or setting out the Rates, Summonses, or Warrants of the Aldermen or Justices under which such Distress was made, or any other Matter specially.

Expenses of Act.

LXX. And be it further enacted, That the Costs, Charges, and Expenses of passing this Act, and all other Charges, incident to the obtaining thereof, or incurred in relation thereto, shall be borne, paid, and defrayed out of the first Monies to be levied, collected, and received by virtue of this Act, or out of any Monies at the Time of passing this Act in the Hands of any Treasurer, Collectors, or other Persons, as shall have been demanded, raised, collected, or received by virtue of the said recited Act.

Not to vote if more than One Quarter's Rate be due.

LXXI. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act no Person or Persons whomsoever shall be qualified to vote in any Vestry to be hereafter held within the said Parish, either for the Purposes of this Act or for any other Purpose whatsoever, from each of whom more than One Quarter's Rates shall be then due and payable.

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

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