


ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO

# GEORGII III. REGIS.

## *Cap.* 190.

**An Act to alter, amend, and enlarge the Powers of so much of an Act, passed in the Fourth Year of His present Majesty, as relates to the maintaining, regulating, and employing the Poor within the Parish of *Saint John* at *Hackney*, in the County of *Middlesex*.** [15th *June* 1810.]

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for maintaining, regulating, and employing the Poor, within the Parish of* Saint John *at* Hackney, *in the County of* Middlesex, *and for lighting the said Parish, and establishing a regular nightly Watch therein*: And whereas since the passing of the said Act, the Number of the Inhabitants of the said Parish, and the Amount of the Sums collected for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parish, have greatly increased; and it is expedient that the Powers and Provisions of so much of the said recited Act as relates to the maintaining, regulating, and employing the Poor, within the said Parish, should be altered, amended, and enlarged, and some further Powers granted: 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 so much of the said recited Act of the Fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, as enacts that the Vestrymen of the said Parish should and they were thereby authorized and required to meet together in the Vestry Room of the said Parish Church yearly and every Year 4 G. 3. c. 43.

Year on *Easter Tuesday*, and that they, or the major Part of them so met, should then and there make a List in Writing of the Names of Ten or more Persons, being substantial Householders in the said Parish, whom such Vestrymen should think fitly qualified to be nominated and appointed Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for One Year from such Appointment, which List should be fairly entered in the Minute Book of the said Vestry, and true and attested Copies thereof, under the Hand of the Vestry Clerk of the said Parish for the Time being, should be by him delivered with all convenient Speed to any Two Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, at a Petty Sessions assembled, who should and they were thereby authorized and required forthwith upon Receipt thereof, by Writing under their Hands and Seals, to nominate and appoint Two or more Persons, out of the Persons named in such Lists, to be Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the Year ensuing, or until new Overseers should be nominated and appointed to succeed them in Manner herein-after mentioned, which Persons, being so nominated and appointed, and having Notice thereof, should from thenceforth, together with the Churchwardens for the Time being of the said Parish, be and be deemed Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish; and the said Overseers and each of them should and they were thereby severally required to do, perform, and execute their respective Duties and Offices of Overseers of the said Parish accordingly; and in case they, any or either of them, should refuse or neglect so to do for the Space of Seven Days next after his and their having had such Notice as aforesaid, then One or more Person or Persons named in the said List should in like Manner be nominated and appointed under the Hands and Seals of the said Two Justices of the Peace, or of any other Two Justices for the said County assembled as aforesaid, to be an Overseer or Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, in the Stead of the Person or Persons who should so refuse or neglect as aforesaid; and also so much of the said recited Act, as enacts that every Person nominated and appointed an Overseer of the said Parish in Manner aforesaid, and who should refuse or neglect to take upon himself that Office and Duty within the Space of Seven Days next after he should have had Notice of his being so nominated and appointed, should, upon Proof thereof by the Oath or Oaths of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, before any Two Justices of the Peace for the said County, forfeit and pay for such Refusal or Neglect the Sum of Ten Pounds of lawful Money of *Great Britain*, for the Use of the Poor of the said Parish, to be levied by Distress and Sale of his Goods and Chattels, by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of any Two Justices of the Peace before whom the Proof of such Refusal or Neglect should be made as aforesaid, to be directed to the Constables or Headboroughs of the said Parish, which Warrant or Warrants the said Justice or Justices were thereby required and empowered to grant; and the said Constables and Headboroughs, or some or One of them, were thereby required respectively to execute the same accordingly with all convenient Speed, and forthwith to pay over all the Monies which should from Time to Time be so forfeited and levied into the Hands of the Treasurer or Treasurers for the Time being, to be appointed in pursuance of the said recited Act; and also so much of the said recited Act, as enacts that the Vicar and Churchwardens of the said Parish of *Saint John* at *Hackney* for the Time being, and all such Persons who have served or should thereafter serve the Offices of Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, and Surveyor of the Highways within the said Parish, or that had fined or should thereafter fine for the said Three Offices, together with *Christopher Rawlinson*, *Richard Nicholas*,

*Nicholas*, *Robert Purnell*, *Lewis Jones*, and *James Joyner*, should be and they were thereby nominated and appointed Trustees, and that they or any Nine or more of them should meet in the Vestry Room or some other Place in the said Parish, on the Twenty-sixth Day of *March* One thousand seven hundred and sixty-four, or within Thirty Days after, and then proceed to put the said recited Act in Execution, and should then and from Time to Time afterwards adjourn themselves, and meet at the same or any other Place within the said Parish, which they the said Trustees or any Five or more of them should from Time to Time think most convenient for putting the said recited Act in Execution; and if at any such Meeting there should not appear a sufficient Number of Trustees to act and to adjourn to another Day, the Trustee or Trustees then present, or the Clerk to the said Trustees, should by causing Notice to be affixed upon the West Door of the Church of the said Parish, at least Three Days before the next Meeting, appoint the Trustees to meet at the Place where the last Meeting was appointed to be held, upon some Day not exceeding Ten Days next after the Day upon which such last Meeting was appointed to have been held; and also so much of the said recited Act, as enacts that the said Trustees should meet together in the Vestry Room, or some other Place within the said Parish, on the First Day of *May* One thousand seven hundred and sixty-four, or within Fourteen Days after, and on the First Day of *May*, or within Fourteen Days after in every succeeding Year, and they, or the major Part of them as should be assembled at such Days and Times respectively, should then settle and ascertain the several Sums of Money necessary to be raised in the ensuing Year for the Purposes following; (that is to say), for the Relief, Maintenance, Lodging, Clothing, and Employment of the Poor of the said Parish; and also so much of the said recited Act, as enacts that the said Trustees should assemble and meet together within Fourteen Days next after the several Sums of Money should have been so ascertained as aforesaid, and they or any Nine of them so assembled should and they were thereby required to make and sign a Rate or Assessment for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish, to be charged upon all and every Person and Persons who did and should inhabit, hold, use, occupy, or enjoy any Land, Ground, House, Shop, Warehouse, Coach-house, Stable, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament within the said Parish, and on every other Person or Persons who by Law was and were chargeable and rateable for and towards the Relief of the Poor within the said Parish, which said Rate or Assessment should be paid quarterly, and should be entered in Books to be provided for that Purpose by the said Trustees, wherein there should be Four distinct Columns for the Four Quarters of the Year, and a Fifth Column for the Sum Total of the said Four Quarters; and also so much of the said recited Act, as enacts that the said Rates or Assessments so to be made as aforesaid for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish should be signed by the Churchwardens or Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, or by the said Trustees, or any Nine or more of them, and should be allowed by Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, and Notice thereof should be given in the Parish Church of the said Parish the next *Sunday* after the same should be so allowed; and also so much of the said recited Act, as enacts that it should and might be lawful to and for the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor respectively of the said Parish from Time to Time, and they were thereby respectively required, monthly or oftener, if ordered by the said Trustees or any Five or more of them, to

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pay all such Sum and Sums of Money by them received by virtue of such several Rates or Assessments to be made for the Relief and Employment of the Poor into the Hands of the said Treasurer, and should also make up and render to the said Trustees, or any Five or more of them, as often as thereunto required by the said Trustees or any Five or more of them, full, true, perfect, and distinct Accounts in Writing of all and every Sum and Sums of Money so collected and received by them respectively by virtue of this Act, for the respective Purposes aforesaid, and to pay over all such Monies so by them collected and remaining in their Hands to the said Treasurer in Manner aforesaid; and if the said Overseers, or any of them, should refuse or neglect to collect such Rates or Assessments respectively, or to give and render a just, true, and perfect Account and Accounts, or to pay over the Monies remaining in his or their Hands in Manner as aforesaid, then and in any of the Cases aforesaid it should and might be lawful for any Two or more Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, on Complaint made to them by any Three or more of the said Trustees, and Proof thereof by Oath of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to commit such Person offending in any of the Cases aforesaid to the County Gaol, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until he should consent and agree duly to collect such Rates or Assessments, or should have made, rendered, and delivered such Accounts as aforesaid, and satisfied and paid over to the said Treasurer all such Monies as upon fair and just Accounts to be rendered as aforesaid should appear to be and remain in his Hands, or until he should compound for or otherwise satisfy the said Trustees touching the Monies in his Hands as the Balance of such Accounts respectively, which Composition the said Trustees or any Nine of them were thereby empowered to make, shall be and the same are and is hereby repealed, so far as the same relate to the Relief, Maintenance, Regulation, and Employment of the Poor of and within the said Parish, and to the ascertaining, making, collecting, levying, recovering, and applying any Rates or Assessments for such Purposes.

**Co-vestrymen of the Parish and their Qualification.**

II. And be it further enacted, That all Persons being Householders inhabiting within the said Parish, rated to the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish for the Houses and Premises which they respectively inhabit and occupy, at not less than Forty Pounds *per Annum*, shall be and be called Co-vestrymen of the said Parish for the Time being; and such Co-vestrymen of the said Parish shall have and exercise, jointly with the Vestrymen of the said Parish for the Time being, all such and the like Powers as have heretofore been exercised and possessed by the Vestrymen of the said Parish acting under and by virtue of the herein-before recited Act of the Fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, but so far only as relates to the maintaining, regulating, and employing the Poor within the said Parish, and in all Matters and Things wherein they are empowered and directed to act by virtue of this Act.

**Number of Trustees of the Poor to be increased to 72.**

III. And whereas the Number of Trustees for putting in Execution the said recited Act doth now amount to Fifty-three Persons, and it is expedient that the Number of Trustees for maintaining, regulating, and employing the Poor of and within the said Parish should be increased, be it therefore enacted, That the Number of the said Trustees for maintaining, regulating, and employing the Poor of and within the said Parish shall be and consist of Seventy-two Persons (exclusive of the Rector, Vicar, Churchwardens, and

and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being); and that a Meeting of the present Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen of the said Parish shall be held on the Second *Tuesday* next after the passing of this Act, in the Parish-house or in the Vestry-room of the Church of the said Parish, at the Hour of Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon; and at such Meeting the Majority of the Persons so assembled shall nominate and appoint so many substantial and discreet Vestrymen or Co-vestrymen to be Trustees for carrying into Execution the several Powers given and entrusted to them by this Act, or by the said recited Act, so far as relates to the maintaining, regulating, and employing the Poor within the said Parish, as may be necessary to increase the Number of the Trustees acting in Execution of the said recited Act to Seventy-two Persons, and who shall be called and shall be Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish; and that all Acts, Matters and Things to be done and executed by the said Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen in pursuance of this Act, may be done and executed by the major Part of them who may be present at their several Meetings to be holden under and by virtue of this Act; and that all Powers, Provisions, and Authorities in and by the said recited Act contained and given to the Trustees acting in the Execution of the said recited Act, in all Matters and Things relating to the Relief, Maintenance, and Employment of the Poor within the said Parish, and all Monies, Goods, Chattels, Estates, and Effects, of and belonging to the said Trustees acting in Execution of the said recited Act, shall apply to and be exercised by and be vested in such additional Trustees jointly with the said Trustees, and shall also apply to and be exercised by and be vested in all future Trustees to be appointed from Time to Time by virtue of this Act; and that such Trustees may from Time to Time appoint and remove any Clerk or Clerks.

Qualification of Trustees of the Poor.

IV. And be it further enacted, That no Person, except the Rector, Vicar, Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, and the Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen of the said Parish for the Time being, and the Trustees acting in Execution of the said recited Act, shall be qualified to act as a Trustee of the Poor in Execution of this Act, unless he shall at the Time of such Election and acting be a Vestryman or a Co-vestryman of the said Parish; and the Election of every Person who shall not be a Vestryman or Co-vestryman shall be null and void; and every Trustee of the Poor who shall not have attended Six Meetings of the Trustees of the Poor at the least within the Year ending on the *Tuesday* after *Easter* in each Year shall forfeit his Office, and become disqualified to act as a Trustee of the Poor of the said Parish, unless he shall be re-elected at the annual Meeting of the Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen of the said Parish, to supply the Places of those Persons who shall in every Year cease to be Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish as herein-after is provided.

Persons disqualified from being Trustees.

V. Provided always, and be it hereby further enacted, That if any Person being a Trustee of the Poor under and by virtue of this Act shall become Bankrupt or Insolvent, or shall not inhabit within the said Parish, or shall have any Share or Interest in any Contract, or be appointed to or enjoy any beneficial Employment under and by virtue of this Act, or shall sell any Goods or Articles to the said Trustees, or shall perform any Work or Labour for the said Trustees under and by virtue of the said recited Act or of this Act, every such Person shall be thereupon disabled and disqualified from acting as a Trustee under this Act.

Penalty on Persons not qualified acting as Co-vestrymen and Trustees.

VI. And be it further enacted, That if any Person not qualified in Manner herein-before mentioned to act as a Co-vestryman or Trustee, or if any Person duly elected as a Trustee and becoming and being disqualified as herein-before mentioned, shall presume to act as a Co-vestryman or as a Trustee in the Execution of the Powers hereby given, or any of them, every such Person shall for every such Act forfeit and pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds, to be recovered on the Information or Prosecution of any Person or Persons whomsoever, with full Costs of Suit, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, by Action of Debt, or on the Case, or by Bill, Suit, or Information, wherein no Essoign, Protection, Privilege, or Wager of Law, nor more than One Imparlance shall be allowed; and the Money so to be recovered shall be paid as follows; (that is to say), One Moiety thereof to the Informer or Prosecutor, and the other Moiety thereof to the Treasurer for the Time being of the said Trustees, to be by him applied to the Purposes of maintaining and employing the Poor of and within the said Parish.

The Rector, Vicar, Churchwardens and Overseers, to be Trustees.

VII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Rector, Vicar, Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, and each and every of them, shall be and they are hereby declared to be Trustees of the Poor within the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, and shall have full Power and Authority, together with the said former Trustees, and the several Trustees to be from Time to Time nominated and appointed as herein mentioned, to act as such to all Intents and Purposes as if they were Trustees acting in Execution of the said recited Act, or had been elected and chosen by the Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen of the said Parish in Manner and Form prescribed by this Act.

Parish to be divided into Six Districts.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That the said Parish of *Saint John* at *Hackney* shall for the Purposes of this Act be divided into Six Districts; namely, *Clapton* District, *Homerton* District, *Mare-street* District, *Church-street* District, *Kingsland* District, and *Newington* District; and that the particular Boundaries and Limits of such Districts shall be settled and allotted by the said Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish, at their First Meeting to be held after the Second *Tuesday* from the passing of this Act, or at any Adjournment thereof.

Appointment of Overseers.

IX. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen of the said Parish, assembled on the said Second *Tuesday* next after the passing of this Act, to make a List in Writing of Two Persons being substantial Householders, from each of the Six Districts within the said Parish, whom such Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen shall think fit and qualified to be nominated and appointed Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, for the Year ending at *Easter* One thousand eight hundred and eleven, and so in like Manner annually on *Wednesday* after *Easter Day* in every succeeding Year, for every ensuing Year; which List shall be fairly entered in the Minute Books of the Proceedings of the Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen, and a true Copy or Copies thereof, attested under the Hand or Hands of the Vestry Clerk or Clerks of the said Parish or one of them, (and which Vestry Clerk or Clerks of the said Parish shall act as Clerk or Clerks to the said Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen), shall be delivered within Two Days to any Two Justices of the Peace

Peace for the said County of *Middlesex* then acting in or near to the said Parish, who shall and they are hereby authorized and required thereupon forthwith by Writing under their Hands and Seals to nominate and appoint any One of the Two Persons selected from each Liberty, whom they shall think proper, of the Persons named in such Copy or Copies of the said Lists, to be Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the Year then next ensuing, and until new Overseers shall in like Manner be nominated and appointed to succeed them; which Persons when so nominated and appointed, and having Notice thereof under the Hand or Hands of the Vestry Clerk or Clerks of the said Parish or One of them, shall from thenceforth be and be deemed Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish of *Saint John* at *Hackney*; and they and each of them the said Overseers so nominated and appointed as aforesaid shall and they are hereby severally required to do, perform, and execute their respective Duty and Duties, Office and Offices of Overseer and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish accordingly; and the said Overseers shall be and they are hereby declared to be invested with all and every the Powers and Authorities and shall have and enjoy the same Privileges, Immunities and Exemptions, and shall be liable and subject to the same Rules, Penalties, and Forfeitures (save and except as may be herein excepted and otherwise provided) as Overseers of the Poor by the several Laws made or to be made touching or concerning the Relief or Management or Employment of the Poor, or the Application of any Rates made for their Use and Maintenance, are or shall be invested with, and have and enjoy and be subject and liable to; and in case any such Overseers shall refuse or neglect so to do by the Space of Seven Days next after his having Notice thereof in Writing under the Hand or Hands of the Vestry Clerk or Clerks of the said Parish, or One of them, given to or left for him at his Dwelling-house, or last or usual Place of Abode, then the other Person named in the said List for the same District shall in like Manner be nominated and appointed under the Hands and Seals of Two Justices of the Peace, to be an Overseer of the Poor of the said Parish instead of him who shall so refuse or neglect to act; and in case both the said Persons nominated and appointed for all or any of the Liberties of the said Parish shall so refuse or neglect to serve, after Notice as aforesaid, that then the Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen of the said Parish shall make out a List of Two other Persons from such Liberty in the Room or Stead of the Persons so refusing or neglecting, and deliver the same within the Time before limited to Two such Justices of the Peace as aforesaid, who shall nominate and appoint One of them to be an Overseer or Overseers of the Poor for the Year then ensuing in Manner herein-before directed; and that if any such Overseer or Overseers so nominated and appointed during the Year for which he or they shall be so nominated and appointed as aforesaid, shall die or become Insolvent, or remove out of the said Parish, that then and in such Cases it shall and may be lawful to and for the Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen, at any intermediate Time of the Year, and within Fourteen Days after such Death, Insolvency, or Removal, in like Manner to nominate and appoint other fit and proper Person or Persons in his or their Stead, to be Overseer or Overseers for the remaining Part of such Year, who shall be nominated and appointed in like Manner as the Overseers elected on *Wednesday* next after *Easter Day* are hereby directed to be nominated and appointed.

X. And

And in case of Refusal or Neglect to serve, to forfeit 15*l.*

X. And be it further enacted, That if any Person so nominated and appointed an Overseer of the Poor of the said Parish in Manner aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to take upon himself that Office and Duty within the Space of Seven Days next after he shall have had such Notice of being so nominated and appointed as before directed, then and in every such Case, he shall upon Proof thereof by the Oath or Oaths of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, before any Two of such Justices of the Peace as aforesaid, (which Oath or Oaths they the said Justices are hereby authorized to administer), forfeit and pay for such Refusal or Neglect the Sum of Fifteen Pounds, to be paid to the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Poor, to be levied by Distress and Sale of his Goods and Chattels, by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of the Two Justices before whom the Proof of such Refusal or Neglect shall have been made as aforesaid, which Warrant or Warrants the said Justices are hereby empowered and required to make and issue; and all Constables and other Peace Officers are hereby required to execute every such Warrant accordingly, and with all convenient Speed to pay over all the Monies which shall from Time to Time be so levied into the Hands of such Treasurer or Treasurers for the Time being to the said Trustees of the Poor, who shall respectively account for and pay the same in like Manner as he or they ought to apply, account for, and pay any Monies to be assessed and raised for the Maintenance of the Poor which may come into his or their Hands by virtue of this Act.

Persons not to be appointed Overseers for Ten Years, nor appointed if 63 Years of Age, or infirm.

XI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Person who shall be nominated and appointed, and shall serve the said Office of Overseer of the Poor of the said Parish, or shall have paid the said Fine and Forfeiture of Fifteen Pounds, for refusing or neglecting to serve the same, shall be again appointed to serve the same Office in less than Ten Years after the End of such former Service, or after Payment of the said Fine or Forfeiture; and that no Person within the said Parish shall be liable to serve the said Offices who is of the Age of Sixty-three Years or upwards, or prevented by any bodily or corporeal Infirmity; any thing in this Act contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

Annual Meeting of the Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen on the Wednesday after Easter for the Election of Officers and Trustees of the Poor.

XII. And be it further enacted, That a Meeting of the Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen of the said Parish shall be held on the *Wednesday* after *Easter Day* in each Year, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, for the Election of Overseers of the Poor as herein-before directed, and also for the Election of new Trustees of the Poor, to fill up all Vacancies which have arisen during the preceding Year in the Number of such Trustees of the Poor by reason of Death, Insolvency, Bankruptcy, removing or going to reside out of the Parish, Non-attendance, or want of Qualification, by ceasing to be Vestrymen or Co-vestrymen under this Act, or by becoming disqualified according to the Provisions of this Act: Provided always, that no Election of Officers shall take place at any such Annual Meeting, unless Fifteen Vestrymen or Co-vestrymen at the least shall attend, and if a sufficient Number of Persons shall not attend on the Day on which such Annual Meeting as aforesaid shall be held, within One Hour after the Time appointed for such Meeting, an adjourned Meeting shall be held on each succeeding Day, from Day to Day, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon; and every Election, Act, Matter, and Thing done at any such adjourned Meeting shall be as good, valid and effectual as if done on the Day so appointed for such annual Meeting as aforesaid.

XIII. Pro-

Overseers, &c. not to be removed until others appointed.

XIII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to remove or dismiss from Office any Overseer of the Poor, or Treasurer or Collector, or other Officer appointed and acting in the said Parish before the passing of this Act, but all and every such Overseer of the Poor, Treasurer or Collector, or other Officer, shall continue in Office and discharge the Duties thereof, and shall have ample Power and Authority to carry this Act into Execution to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, and shall have and enjoy the same Privileges and Immunities, and shall be liable to the same Pains and Penalties, until some other Overseer or Overseers, or other Officer respectively shall be nominated and appointed in his or their Stead or Place by virtue of this Act, as if he or they had been nominated and appointed under this Act; any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Meeting of Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen, and Notices.

XIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Meeting shall be held by the said Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen, or any of them, for the Execution of this Act, or any of the Powers thereof, (except the First Meeting herein-before directed on the Second *Tuesday* next after the passing of this Act and the adjourned Meeting of such First Meeting, if any such Adjournment should occur, and any other adjourned Meetings as herein provided), unless public Notice signed by the Churchwarden or Churchwardens, or Five or more of the Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish, or Nine or more Vestrymen or Co-vestrymen of the said Parish, shall have been put upon the Doors of the Church, and on some public Place in each District of the said Parish, specifying the Purpose of the Meeting, Two Days at the least before such Meeting, and unless public Notice thereof, signed as aforesaid, shall also be first read in the Church of the said Parish by the Parish Clerk, or the Person acting from Time to Time as Parish Clerk, or his Deputy, as well in the Afternoon as in the Forenoon, immediately after Morning and Evening Prayers on the Lord's Day next before such Meeting, which Notice the said Parish Clerk is hereby enjoined to read or cause to be read under the Penalty of any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings for every Neglect, to be levied, recovered, and applied in the same Manner as other Penalties and Forfeitures are directed by this Act or by the said recited Act to be levied, recovered, and applied, Complaint being made thereof by the Churchwarden or Churchwardens, or Three or more Trustees of the Poor, or Vestrymen or Co-vestrymen of the said Parish, to any Justice or Justices of the Peace acting in and for the County of *Middlesex*.

Chairman to be appointed at all Meetings.

XV. And be it further enacted, That at each and every of the Meetings of the Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen of the said Parish, and of the said Trustees of the Poor, and at each and every of the said Meetings of the weekly Committees of the said Trustees herein-after directed, any one Vestryman or Co-vestryman, or Trustee then and there present, who shall be then named by the Majority of the Vestrymen or Co-vestrymen, or Trustees present at any such Meeting, shall preside at such Meeting, and take the Chair as President or Chairman of such Meeting; and in case of an Equality of Votes on any Transaction, including the Vote of the Chairman or President, such Chairman or President shall have another or the casting Vote.

Elections not to continue longer than one Day.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That at all Meetings of the Vestrymen or Co-vestrymen of the said Parish for the Election of Trustees of the Poor, and of Overseers in pursuance of this Act, such Elections shall be determined by a Show of Hands of the Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen present at such Meetings, unless any Five or more Vestrymen or Co-vestrymen of the said Parish shall forthwith demand in Writing from the Chairman presiding at such Meeting that a Ballot shall take place, and that then and in every such Case a Ballot shall be granted, which shall begin at Two of the Clock, and close at Eight of the Clock in the Afternoon of the same Day on which any such Meeting shall be held, and the Result of which Ballot being declared by the Chairman, and entered by the Vestry Clerk or Clerks of the said Parish for the Time being, in the Book or Books containing from Time to Time the Minutes of the Orders and Proceedings of such Vestries, shall be final and conclusive; and that no Election or Elections shall at any Time or Times on any Account or Pretence whatsoever be continued beyond the Day or Days on which the Meetings for such Elections shall be first held.

Account to be taken of the State of the Parish, and Rates made to discharge the present Debts.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That within Thirty Days after the passing of this Act a General Meeting of the Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish shall be held, to consider the State of the said Parish in all Matters relating to the Relief, Maintenance, and Employment of the Poor of the said Parish, which shall then be examined, and an Account taken of all Securities, Bonds, and Annuities chargeable upon the Rates of the said Parish for the Relief of the Poor, and of all Sums of Money due by the said Parish, and of all Claims and Demands upon the said Parish on account of the Relief, Maintenance, and Employment of the Poor, and of the Balance or Balances then in the Hands of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, Treasurer, Collectors, or other Persons on account of the Rates for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish; and of all Sums of Money due to the said Parish, and also the Amount of the Arrears of the Rates for the Relief of the Poor imposed upon the said Parish within Three Years last past not collected; and the Trustees of the Poor at such Meeting, or some adjourned Meeting to be held for that Purpose, shall ascertain and fix the Sums necessary to be raised for the Liquidation of the Debts of the said Parish, and for the Payment of all Annuities and Interest of Bonds and other Securities; and also for the Payment of all Principal Monies due on such Securities or Bonds, by Instalments or otherwise, as may appear most to the Interest and Advantage of the said Parish, in order that the Sums to be raised by the Rates under this Act may be proportioned to such Demands, and be adequate to the Payment of the current Expences of the said Parish in the Maintenance and Relief of the Poor until the Twenty-ninth Day of *September* then next; and the said Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish, within Twenty-one Days after so ascertaining the State of the Parish, shall make a just and equal Pound Rate upon all Houses, Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, and Property within the said Parish liable to be rated to the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parish, according to the Laws now in force, or according to this Act, in order to raise a Sum of Money in such Period sufficient for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor, and for the Payment and Discharge of all other Expences of the said Parish for the current Quarter, and for the Payment of any such Debt or Debts due and owing by the said Parish, or such Proportions of any such Debts, or for any such other Payment as

aforesaid, as shall be settled and determined by the Trustees assembled at such General or Adjourned Meeting.

Meetings Twice in the Year to settle what will be requisite for Relief of Poor, &c.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That the Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish shall Twice in every Year, on the *Wednesday* next after the Twenty-ninth Day of *September*, and the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* in every Year, meet together at the Parish House, or in such other Place within the said Parish as they may appoint, and they or the major Part of them so assembled shall upon such Examination of the Books and Accounts and Receipts, Expenditure, and Claims and Demands upon the said Parish, and Money due to the said Parish on any Rates not collected, as to them shall appear necessary, then settle and ascertain the respective Sums of Money necessary to be raised by a just and equal Pound Rate for the Relief, Maintenance, Lodging, and Employment of the Poor of the said Parish for the current Half Year, and for the Payment of any Interest, or of any Annuities chargeable on the Poor Rates of the said Parish, or for the Repayment of any Principal Monies which shall be due from the said Parish, and for the Discharge of all other Expences of the said Parish not provided for by any other Act or Acts of Parliament relating to the said Parish, as to the said Trustees of the Poor, or the major Part of them so assembled, shall seem reasonable and sufficient to answer the Purposes aforesaid and of this Act.

Rates to be made.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees of the Poor shall assemble and meet together in the Parish House within the said Parish, or in such other Place as aforesaid, within Twenty-eight Days next after the said Sum or Sums of Money necessary to be raised shall have been so ascertained as aforesaid; and the said Trustees for the Poor, or any Twelve or more of them so assembled, shall and they are hereby required to make and sign a Rate or Assessment, not exceeding the Amount of the Sums so settled and ascertained (after allowing for all reasonable and usual Deficiencies in collecting the same), which Rate shall be laid upon all and every Person and Persons who do and shall inhabit, hold, or occupy any Land, House, Shop, Warehouse, or other Building, Tenement, or Hereditament within the said Parish, and which Rate shall be laid according to the annual Rent or Value of all such Messuages, Shops, Warehouses, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments respectively.

Rates to be allowed by Justices,

XX. And be it further enacted, That no Rate or Assessment so to be made and signed in Manner aforesaid for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish, shall be valid, unless allowed by Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace acting in and for the County of *Middlesex*, and Notice of the Time when, and the Persons to whom, or the public Police Office at which Application shall be made for the Allowance of such Rates; and also Notice of such Allowance shall be given in the said Parish Church on the Lord's Day next before such Allowance shall be applied for, and on the Lord's Day next after such Allowance shall be obtained, in the same Manner as is herein-before directed for Notices of Meetings of the Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen of the said Parish; and that the said Rate or Assessment so made and signed, and allowed by Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace as aforesaid, and after such Notice as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken to be good, valid, and effectual, and shall and may be received, collected, and levied in Manner herein-after provided; and that all and every the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments to be made by virtue of

and being so allowed to be deemed valid.

of this Act, shall and may be received, levied, and recovered in such and the same Manner and by such and the same Ways and Methods as the Rates or Assessments made under and by virtue of the said recited Act for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor might be received, levied, or recovered under the Provisions of the said recited Act, and which said Half-yearly Rates or Assessments shall be collected Quarterly by Two equal Moieties, and that the Payment of each Moiety of such Half-yearly Rate or Assessment shall and may in each and every Quarter be demanded; and such Moiety of every Half-yearly Rate or Assessment may be sued for, levied and recovered in the same Manner and by the same Ways and Methods as if the said Half-yearly Rates or Assessments were Quarterly Rates or Assessments.

**Trustees neglecting to make Assessments, Vestrymen may meet and make the same.**

XXI. And be it further enacted, That if the said Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish shall at any of the Times herein-before appointed refuse or neglect to assemble and meet together, or having so met shall refuse or neglect to ascertain such Sum or Sums of Money in Manner as aforesaid, or shall refuse or neglect within Twenty-eight 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, that then and in either of the said Cases, and as often as it shall happen, it shall be lawful for the said Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen, or any Fifteen or more of them, and they are hereby required, to meet together in the Parish-house or Vestry-room of the said Parish, (Notice of such Meeting being first published in the same Manner in which Notices of Vestries are herein-before directed to be given and published), and then and there having ascertained the Money necessary to be raised for the Purposes before directed, the said Vestrymen and Co-vestrymen, or any Fifteen or more of them, shall make and sign a just and equal Pound Rate or Assessment to be laid in Manner before directed, and which Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments so to be made, being signed by the Vestrymen or Co-vestrymen, or any Fifteen or more of them, and being allowed by Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County, Notice of the Application for such Allowance, and of such Allowance being given in the Manner herein directed as to Rates made by the said Trustees, shall be deemed and taken to be as 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 said Trustees assembled as aforesaid, any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

**Trustees may rectify Omissions in Rates.**

XXII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if it shall appear to the said Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish, at any Time after making, publishing, or allowing of any Rate or Assessment to be made under the Authority of this Act, that the Names of any Persons liable to be included in such Rate or Assessment have been omitted therein, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees of the Poor, or any Seven or more of them, to add or cause to be added to such Rate or Assessment the Names of the Persons so omitted, together with the Sums for which they ought to be so rated, and the Amount of such Rate or Assessment in respect thereof; and every such Addition made to or in any of the said Rates or Assessments shall be as valid and effectual in Law to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same had been inserted in the Rate at the Time the same was first made and signed, published, and allowed, and shall not in any Manner vitiate the said Rate or Assessment.

XXIII. Pro-

Trustees may remit Rates on account of Poverty.

XXIII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees of the Poor, or any Five or more of them, and they are hereby empowered, upon the Complaint or Request of any Person or Persons subject to the Payment of any Rate or Assessment to be made by virtue of this Act, who shall think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved thereby, or incompetent to pay the same, to mitigate, reduce or lessen the same as they in their Discretion shall think just and reasonable; and also to remit or excuse the Payment thereof on account of the Poverty or Indigence of any Person or Persons liable to pay the same, so complaining or requesting the Remission or Reduction of such Rates or Assessments.

For better Recovery of Rates on Houses let in divided Tenements or weekly or monthly Tenants.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That where any Houses, Tenements or Hereditaments within the said Parish shall be let weekly, or to monthly Tenants, or at Rents which shall become payable and be collected at any shorter Period or Periods than Quarterly, or shall be let out ready-furnished, or in Lodgings or separate Apartments either furnished or unfurnished, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees of the Poor, or any Seven or more of them, if they shall think proper, to compound with the Landlord or Landlords, Landlady or Landladies, Owner or Owners of all and every or any such House or Houses, Tenement or Tenements, and Hereditaments in the said Parish, for Payment of the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments to be made for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish, at such reduced yearly Rental as the said Trustees or any Seven or more of them shall think reasonable, so that such Houses, Tenements and Hereditaments be not rated at less than One Half, nor more than Two Thirds of the Rack Rent at which the same shall be let, or of the Annual Value of the said Premises respectively; and the Landlord or Landlords, Landlady or Landladies, Owner or Owners of such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments, is and are hereby empowered and required to enter into such Composition with the said Trustees as aforesaid; and in case any such Landlord or Landlords, Landlady or Landladies, Owner or Owners, shall refuse or neglect to enter into such Composition, on Notice so to do by the Clerk or Clerks to the said Trustees for the Time being, or the said Landlord or Landlords, Landlady or Landladies, Owner or Owners, and the said Trustees, shall not agree as to the Amount of such Composition, such Landlord or Landlords, Landlady or Landladies, Owner or Owners, shall from thenceforth be deemed and taken to be the Occupier or Occupiers of such Premises, and shall thereupon be rated and assessed to, and shall from Time to Time pay or cause to be paid the several Rates or Assessments charged upon such respective Premises for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish, according to the Provisions of this Act, unto the said Trustees, or the Person or Persons for the Time being authorized and empowered to receive and collect the same, and upon Non-payment thereof to levy the same by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Landlord or Landlords, Landlady or Landladies, Owner or Owners of the respective Premises aforesaid, wheresoever they shall be found, or of the Person or Persons inhabiting the same respectively, in the same Manner as the Rates or Assessments to be made by virtue of this Act are directed to be received, levied, and recovered: Provided always, that no such Landlord or Landlady, or Owner, shall be charged with or liable to pay for any increased Rent reserved or made payable to him for or on account of such Land-

lord or Landlady, or Owner having agreed to pay the several Rates or Assessments herein-before made chargeable on the Occupier of such Premises.

Trustees may compound with Landlords of Houses at 20*l.* by mutual Consent.

XXV. And be it hereby further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees of the Poor, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, if they shall think proper, to agree and compound with the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of all and every House or Houses, Tenement or Tenements, and Hereditaments in the said Parish, not exceeding in the yearly Rent or Value the Sum of Twenty Pounds for each of such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments, on the Application of and by and with the Consent of such Landlords or Owners in Writing, under his or their Hand or Hands for the Payment of the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments to be made for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish by such Landlords or Owners, instead of the Tenants or Occupiers of such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments, at such reduced Sums as the said Trustees and the said Landlords or Owners shall mutually agree upon and approve, to be testified by an Entry thereof in the Books of the Orders and Proceedings of the said Trustees, signed by Three of the said Trustees, and by such Landlords or Owners, or some Persons duly authorized by them for that Purpose; and that from and after such Composition and Agreement, such Landlords or Owners shall be deemed and taken to be the Occupiers of the said Houses, Tenements, and Hereditaments, and shall be rated and assessed to, and shall pay such reduced Sums instead of the several Rates or Assessments charged on the said Houses, Tenements and Hereditaments, for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish; and the same shall and may be levied and recovered from such Landlords or Owners in the same Manner and by the same Means as any Rates or Assessments made by virtue of this Act may be levied and recovered from any Occupiers of any Premises included within and charged by any such Rates or Assessments.

Rates recovered of Tenants to be paid by Landlords.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That the Goods and Chattels of any Person or Persons renting or occupying any such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments or any Part or Parts thereof, (the Poors Rates of which the Landlord or Landlords, Landlady or Landladies, Owner or Owners, is or are hereby made subject and liable to), shall be liable at all Times to be distrained and sold for Payment of so much of the said Rates or Assessments, and of all Arrears thereof which accrued due and became payable upon the said Premises during the Time of their Occupancy only, and all reasonable Costs, Charges, and Expences attending thereupon; and that each and every Person who shall pay any such Rates or Assessments as ought to have been paid by his, her, or their Landlord or Landlords, Landlady or Landladies, or upon whose Goods and Chattels the same shall be levied in pursuance of this Act, shall and may deduct the same from and out of the Rent due and payable to his, her, or their Landlord or Landlords, Landlady or Landladies so letting out the same, unless there shall be some Agreement to the contrary between the Landlord or Landlady and Tenant, and the Receipt or Receipts for such Payment shall be a sufficient Discharge to every such Person for so much Money as he, she, or they shall have so paid, or which shall have been so levied on his, her, or their Goods and Chattels in pursuance of this Act, and shall be allowed by any such Landlord or Landlords, Landlady or Landladies of such Houses,

Tenements, or Hereditaments, in part or in full Payment (as the Case may be), of the Rent due or to become due to him, her, or them from such Person or Persons as aforesaid: Provided always, that no such Tenant or Occupier shall be liable or required to pay for or in respect of any such Rates or Assessments, or for or in respect of any such Costs, Charges, and Expences, any Sum or Sums of Money beyond the Amount of the Rent which shall be then actually due in respect of the said Premises from him, her, or them respectively; and provided also, that no such Tenant or Occupier, by Payment of any such Rate or Rates, Assessments or Assessment in Manner aforesaid, and which have been so compounded for as aforesaid by the Landlord or Landlady, or Owner thereof, shall or may be deemed to acquire any Settlement in the said Parish; but that such Landlord or Landlady or Owner shall be deemed and construed to all Intents and Purposes to have paid the same; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

Old Rates to be deemed good, &c.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That each and every Rate or Assessment made previous to *Easter Day* last before the passing of this Act, and ordered and directed to be levied, assessed, and collected by and under the Authority of the said recited Act, shall and may be levied, assessed, and collected by such Ways and Means, and under such Restrictions and Regulations as any of the Rates and Assessments directed to be made in pursuance of this Act are directed in and by this Act to be levied, assessed, and collected, until new Rates are made, levied, and assessed by virtue of this Act; and shall and may be paid and applied according to the Purposes of this Act; any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

Overseers to collect the Rates.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That until and unless Collectors shall be appointed by virtue of this Act, or of the said recited Act, all Rates, Assessments, and Sums of Money to be made or raised under and by virtue of this Act, and all Arrears of Rates due under and by virtue of the said recited Act, shall be collected and received by the Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, in the same Manner as the Rates made for the Relief of the Poor are now by Law directed to be collected and received in other Parishes and Places; and in case any Overseer or Overseers shall omit or neglect to collect and get in the said Monies, or shall not use his best and utmost Diligence in collecting and getting in the same, or as much thereof as can be collected and gotten in within Thirty Days after the Delivery of the Book or Books containing such Rate or Assessment to him or them, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees of the Poor to summon such Overseer or Overseers before them, by Notice under the Hand or Hands of their Clerk or Clerks, to shew Cause why he or they have not collected the said Rate or Rates, and in case such Overseer or Overseers shall not appear, or appearing shall not shew sufficient Cause to the Satisfaction of the said Trustees then assembled at such Meeting, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees to set and impose a Fine on every such Overseer not exceeding Twenty Pounds for the First Offence, and not exceeding Thirty Pounds for the Second and every subsequent Offence, to be recovered, levied, and applied in the same Manner as other Penalties and Forfeitures are by this Act or by the said recited Act directed to be recovered, levied, and applied; and every such Overseer or Overseers shall pay over the Monies so received, and shall be liable to account from Time to Time to the said Trustees, and to incur such

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and the same Penalties, and suffer such and the same Proceedings on refusing or neglecting so to do when required for that Purpose by the said Trustees, to which any Collectors appointed by virtue of the said recited Act might be liable or subject.

Rates to be applied for the Purposes of this Act.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That all the Monies to be raised by the Rates or Assessments in Manner aforesaid, shall be issued, paid and applied in discharging the Debts due and owing by the said Parish in the maintaining and relieving the Poor of the said Parish, and maintaining and supporting the Workhouse of the said Parish, and in the Payment of any Annuities or Interest of Monies borrowed by the said Parish for the building or fitting up the Workhouse of the said Parish, or in repaying the Principal Monies so borrowed by Instalments or otherwise, or in building any Additions to the said Workhouse, or repairing or upholding, or furnishing the same, and in the Payment of any Sum or Sums of Money from Time to Time ordered to be paid by the said Trustees for the Poor, or the Vestrymen or Co-vestrymen of the said Parish, and for any other Uses and Purposes necessary for carrying this Act into complete Execution, and in such Manner as the Trustees of the Poor shall from Time to Time at any of their Weekly or Monthly Meetings herein directed order, direct, and appoint; and in case the Money assessed or collected in any One Half Year or any One Year, by virtue of this Act, shall not be sufficient to answer the respective Purposes for which the same was so rated or assessed, such Deficiency shall be supplied out of the Rates or Assessments of the next ensuing Half Year or ensuing Year, and in case there shall remain at the End of any one Quarter, Half Year, or Year, any Surplus of the respective Rates, after the Payments herein-before directed, such Surplus shall from Time to Time, as the same shall happen to arise, be applied in Aid of the succeeding Quarter's, Half-Year's, and succeeding Year's Expence in putting in Execution the Purposes of this Act.

Trustees to divide themselves into Committees, and establish Rule for Attendance.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees of the Poor or any Nine or more of them, at their First Meeting after their Appointment by virtue of this Act, and after *Easter Day* in every Year, shall divide themselves into Twelve distinct Committees, each of the said Committees to consist of Six Trustees, exclusive of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor for the Time being of the said Parish (who shall be Members of each of such Committees), and shall then fix and establish an annual Rule or Rotation for the Attendance of each of the said Committees, and one of the said Committees shall meet on a certain Day to be appointed by the said Trustees in every Week, and shall attend weekly on that Day for so long Time as shall by the said Rule or Rotation be fixed and established, and afterwards the next Committees on such Rule or Rotation shall attend weekly on that Day in like Manner, until such annual Rule or Rotation shall be perfect and complete; and such Committee so appointed shall at such their Meetings carry this Act into Execution, and General Meetings of the said Trustees shall also be held once at least in every Calendar Month; and all or any of the said Trustees may, if they think fit, attend any such weekly Meetings so to be appointed as aforesaid, and may act, proceed, and vote at any such Meeting in such Manner as if he or they were a Member or Members of the Committee then attending in rotation.

Clerk to summon weekly Committees.

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That the Clerk or Clerks to the said Trustees shall Two Days previous to every such weekly Meeting give

or

or leave a written or printed Notice to or for every Trustee, being a Member of such Committee, whose Turn it shall or may be to attend according to the Rotation so fixed and established, such Notice expressing that such Trustee is appointed to attend at such Meeting; and in case any such Trustee shall neglect to attend Two successive Meetings, without giving sufficient Reason for such Non-attendance to the Trustees assembled at the next Monthly Meeting, he shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Twenty Shillings, to be levied and recovered as other Penalties and Forfeitures directed and imposed by this Act and by the said recited Act.

No Business valid unless Three be present at a Weekly Meeting.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That no Business transacted, or any Orders made by the Trustees of the Poor at any Weekly Meeting, shall be good, valid, and effectual unless Three or more Trustees are present at the Meeting at which such Business shall be transacted or Order made; and it shall be lawful for any Three or more of the Trustees of the Poor under this Act assembled at any Weekly Meeting of the Trustees of the Poor, to do any Act, Matter, or Thing, or make any Order which by this Act may be done and made by the Trustees of the Poor, save and except in such Cases in which any greater Number is required and specified by this Act to be necessary to do such Act, Matter, or Thing, or make such Order; and that no Business transacted at the said Monthly Meetings, or any Order made by them at such Monthly or at any General Meeting of the said Trustees of the Poor, shall be good, valid, and effectual, unless Seven at least of the Trustees of the Poor shall be present at such Monthly or General Meeting, and unless the same shall be confirmed at the next Monthly or General Meeting, except in such Cases as from the Exigency of the Occasion it may be necessary to act upon such Order previous to such Confirmation.

In case of Non-attendance Clerk may adjourn the Meeting.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That in case Seven Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish shall not attend at any such Monthly or General Meeting, or in case Three Trustees of the Poor shall not attend at any such Weekly Committee, within One Hour after the Time appointed for such Meetings respectively, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Clerk or Clerks to such Trustees of the Poor to adjourn such Monthly or Weekly Meeting, or Committee, to any Day within Two Days after such Meeting was appointed to be, or ought to have been held, and forthwith to give Notice of such Adjournment to every Member of such Committee, or to every Trustee, as the Case may happen to be.

Trustees may call a General Meeting.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That if any Three or more Trustees of the Poor shall on any Occasion think it necessary or expedient to call or convene a General Meeting of the said Trustees of the Poor, it shall and may be lawful for such Trustees of the Poor, or the Clerk or Clerks to the said Trustees, to summon such General Meeting of the Trustees to meet at the Time the said Trustees shall then require, by a Notice specifying the particular Purpose of such Requisition, and of which Meeting of the Trustees a written or printed Notice shall be given to each of the said Trustees, or left for them at their last or usual Place of Abode, Two Days at the least before the Time appointed for such Meeting.

Officers acting under recited Act to account.

XXXV. And be it further enacted, That all and every Treasurer, Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, Collector, Clerk, Master and Mistress

Mistress of the Workhouse, and all and every other Person or Persons appointed by virtue of or acting or who have acted in Execution of the said recited Act, or who shall have in his, her, or their Custody or Power any Monies collected by virtue of, or any Books, Papers, or Writings relating to the Execution of the said recited Act relating to the Affairs of the Poor, shall, when thereunto required by Notice in Writing, signed by any Five or more of the said Trustees of the Poor assembled at a General Meeting, given to him, her, or them, or left at his, her, or their then or last or usual Place or Places of Abode, within Seven Days after the Service of such Notice, deliver up to the said Trustees, or to any Person or Persons appointed by them for that Purpose, at the Time and Place to be mentioned in such Notice, all the Monies received by him, her, or them by virtue of the said Act, and all the Books, Papers, and Writings relating to the Execution thereof, as to the Affairs of the Poor, and all the Accounts of the several Monies received or disbursed by him, her, or them, together with the Vouchers relating thereto; and if any such Treasurer, Churchwarden, or Overseer of the Poor, Collector, Clerk, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, or other Person, shall refuse or wilfully neglect to make and render any such Account, or to produce and deliver up the Vouchers relating thereto, or to make Payment as aforesaid, or shall refuse or wilfully neglect to deliver up in Manner aforesaid all Books, Papers, and Writings relating to the Execution of the said recited Act, as to the Relief or Maintenance of the Poor, or to give Satisfaction to the said Trustees, or Vestrymen or Co-Vestrymen, in respect of the same, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for any Justice of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, upon Complaint made to him by the said Trustees, or by such Person or Persons as they shall appoint for that Purpose, and he is hereby authorized and required to issue a Warrant under his Hand and Seal for the Treasurer, Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, Collector, Clerk, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, or other Persons so refusing or neglecting, to appear before him, and upon his or their appearing, or having been summoned and not appearing, or not being to be found after due Endeavours used for that Purpose, to hear and determine the Matter in a summary Way, and if upon the Confession of the Party or by the Testimony of any credible Witness or Witnesses upon Oath (which Oath such Justice is hereby empowered to administer), it shall appear to such Justice that any of the Monies that shall have been collected or received by virtue of the said recited Act shall be due from such Treasurer, Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, Collector, Clerk, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, or other Persons, such 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 raised by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Treasurer, Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, Collector, Clerk, Master, Mistress, or other Person as aforesaid, and if no Goods and Chattels of such Treasurer, Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, Collector, Clerk, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, or other Person, can be found, sufficient to answer and satisfy the said Money, and the Charges of distraining and selling such Goods and Chattels, or if it shall appear to such Justice that such Treasurer, Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, Collector, Clerk, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, or other Person, shall have refused or neglected to render and give such Account, or to produce the Vouchers relating thereto, or that any Books, Papers, or Writings relating to the Execution of the

said recited Act, had been in the Custody or Power of such Treasurer, Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, Collector, Clerk, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, or other Person, and he, she, or they shall have refused or neglected to deliver up, or give Satisfaction respecting the same as aforesaid, then and in each and every such Case such Justice shall commit such Offender to the Common Gaol or House of Correction of the said County, for any Time not exceeding Six Calendar Months, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until he, she, or they shall give and make a true and perfect Account, and make Payment as aforesaid, or until he or she shall have compounded with the said Trustees, Vestrymen, or Co-Vestrymen for the said Money, and shall have paid such Composition in such Manner as they shall appoint; which Composition the said Trustees, and Vestrymen or Co-Vestrymen, are hereby respectively empowered to make and receive, and until he or she shall deliver up all such Books, Papers, and Writings, or give Satisfaction in respect thereof, to the said Trustees, Vestrymen, or Co-Vestrymen, or to the Persons appointed by them respectively to receive the same: Provided always, that no Treasurer, Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, Collector, Clerk, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, committed for Want of sufficient Distress, shall be detained or kept in Prison by virtue of such Warrant for any longer Space of Time than Six Calendar Months.

Trustees may make Bye-Laws.

XXXVI. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, or the major Part of them present at any General Meeting to be holden in pursuance of this Act (the Number present not being less than Fifteen), from Time to Time to make such Bye-Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations for the better regulating their own Proceedings at any of their Monthly or General or Weekly Meetings, and the Manner of convening and holding such Meetings, and of enforcing the good Conduct and Behaviour of the several Officers and Servants employed by the said Trustees in the Execution of this Act, within the Workhouse of the said Parish, and for the Application of the several Monies that may be levied, collected, and received by virtue of this Act to the Purposes thereof, and likewise from Time to Time to vary, alter, amend, or repeal all or any of such Bye-Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations, and to fix and appoint such reasonable Fines and Penalties for the Breach or Non-performance of any such Bye-Law, Rule, Order, and Regulation, or of any Part thereof, as to them shall seem right and proper, so that no such Fine or Penalty shall exceed the Sum of Ten Pounds; and all such Bye-Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations when made, and all Alterations, Variations, and Additions and Amendments thereof, shall be printed, and shall be affixed on the Doors of the Church of the said Parish, and all such Bye-Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations when so made, printed, and affixed, shall be good and binding upon all Persons concerned; provided, that the same be not inconsistent with nor repugnant to the Laws of that Part of the United Kingdom called *England*, nor inconsistent with or repugnant to the Provisions and Directions in this Act contained: Provided always, that any Person aggrieved by such Bye-Law, Rule, Order, and Regulation, may appeal against the same to the Justices assembled at the Session of the Peace for the said County in the Manner prescribed by the said recited Act.

XXXVII. Pro-

Bye-Laws not to be repealed without Notice.

XXXVII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no such Bye-Law, Rule, Order, or Regulation when so made by the said Trustees shall be varied, altered, amended, or repealed, save and except at some Meeting to be holden for that Purpose, of which Meeting and of the Purposes thereof Seven Days Notice at the least, either written or printed, with the Name of the Clerk or Clerks to the Trustees annexed thereto, shall be given to each and every Trustee, or left at his last or usual Place of Abode.

Directions to Overseers to attend the Workhouse.

XXXVIII. And for the better governing, maintaining, regulating, and employing the Poor of the said Parish, be it further enacted, That the Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being shall and are hereby required to attend alternately at the Workhouse of the said Parish, separately, one on each Day in the Week (the *Lord's Day* in every Week excepted) during the Time of their continuing in the said Office of Overseer, and to examine into the State of the Poor, and of their Complaints, and Provisions and Necessaries, and which of them are or are not able to work; and also to examine all such Bills as shall be delivered in for any Goods or Wares received at the said Workhouse, and check and compare the same with the Master or Mistress of the said Workhouse, before such Bills shall be audited by the said Trustees of the Poor, and each of the said Overseers shall also examine and see that the Poor, as well as the Master and Mistress of the said Workhouse, do severally conform to the Rules and Regulations which shall be from Time to Time made by the said Trustees of the Poor, and each of them shall at every Time of his Attendance as aforesaid sign his Name in a Book to be provided for that Purpose, and kept at the said Workhouse, and also the Day of the Month, and the Time of their attending at the said Workhouse; and in case any Complaint shall be made, or Things shall be found amiss, or shall appear to any of the said Overseers to want Amendment, the Overseer to whom the same shall so appear shall enter the Particulars thereof in the said Book so to be signed as above mentioned, which said Book the Master or Mistress of the Workhouse for the Time being shall from Time to Time lay or cause to be laid before the said Trustees of the Poor, at each and every of their Weekly Meetings, for the Inspection and Direction of the said Trustees of the Poor; and that in case any Overseer of the Poor shall neglect or refuse to attend at the said Workhouse, or to sign the said Book in manner as aforesaid, or in case any Master or Mistress of the said Workhouse shall neglect or refuse to lay or cause to be laid the said Book before the said Trustees at their several Weekly Meetings as aforesaid, every such Overseer and Overseers, Master or Mistress, shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Ten Shillings for his First Neglect, or Twenty Shillings for his Second Neglect, and Two Pounds for every subsequent Neglect during his Continuance in Office, to be paid to the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish: Provided always, that no Overseer directed by the said Trustees of the Poor not to attend, or prevented from attending by Sickness, or any unavoidable Cause, to be explained by him to the Satisfaction of the Trustees of the Poor, at their next Monthly or General Meeting, or who shall procure another Overseer to attend for him, shall be liable to pay any Penalty for any such Non-attendance.

XXXIX. And

Trustees to appoint an Officer to relieve casual Poor.

XXXIX. And whereas it may happen that by Casualties or sudden Illness many poor Persons within the said Parish may stand in need of immediate Relief, before Application can be made for the same at the Weekly Meeting of the Committee of the Trustees of the Poor to be held in pursuance of this Act, and to which Meeting all Paupers requiring Relief are to apply; for Remedy whereof be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Trustees, or any Seven or more of them, at any General Meeting to be held for that Purpose, on special Notice being given Seven Days at least before such Meeting, specifying the Cause thereof, to nominate and appoint under their Hands One or more fit Person or Persons for the Purpose of relieving such casual Poor, and to allow and pay to him or them such Salaries or Gratuities as they shall think proper, and he or they shall thereupon be authorized (in such Manner for so long a Time, and by such Ways and Means as the said Trustees or any Seven or more of them at any General Meeting shall from Time to Time direct and appoint) to pay or cause to be paid, upon Application made to him or them (or upon his or their own Knowledge of the Fact and Necessity of the Case) unto any such Person any reasonable Sum or Sums of Money for his, her, or their Support, until the next Meeting of the Weekly Committee of the Trustees shall be held in pursuance of this Act, any such Person or Persons if so appointed, and in case of their Non-appointment, then all and every the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish who shall have given such Relief, shall, at the next Weekly Meeting as aforesaid, lay before such Meeting in Writing the Name and Residence, State and Circumstances, of each and every Person or Persons so relieved, and also a particular Account in Writing of the Sum or Sums of Money that shall have been so expended in relieving each and every of such Persons, and shall verify the same upon Oath if thereunto required, before One or more Justices of the Peace acting in and for the said County, and which Oath every such Justice is hereby empowered to administer, and the said Trustees shall and may then give such further Directions for the Maintenance and Relief of every such poor Person, as to them shall seem most expedient, any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Notice to be given of the Appointment of such Officer to Overseers, with Orders to them not to relieve casual Poor.

Money expended after such Orders not to be repaid.

XL. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Trustees, on any Appointment of such Person or Persons as aforesaid, for the Purpose of relieving such casual Poor, to notify the same in Writing to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, and to direct and order them and each of them to forbear to give any Relief to any poor Person by or under any Authority derived from their and each of their Office or Offices of Churchwardens or Overseers of the Poor respectively (except by any legal Order from any of His Majesty's Justice or Justices of the Peace in and for the said County), and if after such Notice given they or any of them shall, by any Account delivered to the Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish, or otherwise, make any Charge or Demand on the said Parish for Money expended in the Relief of poor Persons (except by any legal Order from any of His Majesty's Justice or Justices of the Peace in and for the said County), it shall and may be lawful for such Trustees to reject and refuse to pay or allow every such Charge and Demand as illegal, and the same shall be irrecoverable, and of no Effect, any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Clerk to deliver Copies of Accounts after Demand.

XLI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for all and every the Annuitants and Creditors of the said Parish, and all other Persons rated to the Rates or Assessments made in the said Parish for the Relief of the Poor thereof, at all convenient Times to peruse and inspect, and to make and take Extracts from all Rates or Rate Books, and all other Book or Books, Accounts, Vouchers, Papers, or Writings whatsoever which have been or shall be kept under the said recited Act or under this present Act, in relation to the Affairs of the said Parish, in the Custody or Power of the Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being without Fee or Reward, and that the Clerk or Clerks to the said Trustees within Fourteen Days after Demand made thereof in Writing, signed by any one of the Persons before mentioned, and delivered to or left for him at his usual or last Place of Abode, shall make and deliver, or cause to be made and delivered a Copy or Copies of all and every such Book and Books, Accounts, Vouchers, Papers, and Writings whatsoever, or of any Part or Parts thereof, to the Person or Persons demanding the same, he or they paying for the same on the Delivery thereof at and after the Rate of One Shilling and Sixpence for every Three hundred Words, and so in proportion for any less Number of Words contained in such Copy or Copies so demanded and delivered as aforesaid; and in case any such Clerk or Clerks shall at any Time refuse or wilfully neglect to make and deliver or cause to be made and delivered such Copy or Copies of all and every such Book and Books, Accounts, Vouchers, and Papers, and of every Part thereof respectively, to the Person or Persons demanding the same, within Fourteen Days after Demand thereof as aforesaid, then every such Clerk shall for every such Refusal or Neglect forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds, one Moiety thereof to the Treasurer to the Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, 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 an Action of Debt or on the Case, wherein no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance shall be allowed.

Trustees to print Statement of Accounts annually.

XLII. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees of the Poor and their Treasurer for the Time being, shall within Two Months after the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* in each and every Year, cause their Clerk or Clerks to transcribe from the Books of Accounts kept by them of and for the Use of the said Parish, a full and true Statement of the Accounts of all the Monies received and paid by them during the preceding Year, distinguishing for what such Monies were received and paid, and shewing in what Sum the said Parish at the Expiration of the Year was in Debt or entitled to Credit, and which Statement of the Accounts shall contain an Account of the Number of Paupers at the End of each Calendar Month during each preceding Year, inhabiting in the Workhouse of the said Parish, and of the Number of all other Persons relieved during each preceding Year, distinguishing casual from other Relief, and also an Account of all Rates made, and the Deficiencies in the Collection thereof during the preceding Year; and which Statement of the Accounts shall be printed, and every Inhabitant of the said Parish rated to the Relief of the Poor thereof, on paying One Shilling, shall receive one such Statement of the Accounts from the Clerk or Clerks to the said Trustees, and every such Trustee,

Trustee, Treasurer, and Clerk who shall neglect or refuse to do as above directed, shall for every Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds, One Moiety thereof to the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, 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, Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance shall be allowed.

Trustees may sue and be sued in the Name of their Clerk.

XLIII. And be it further enacted, That the Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish respectively, shall and may sue and be sued, and take all Bonds and Securities in the Name or Names of their Clerk or Clerks for the Time being to be appointed under this Act, and that no Action or Suit which may be brought by or against the said Trustees of the Poor or any of them in relation to this Act or to the said recited Act, in the Name of their Clerk or Clerks, shall abate or be discontinued by the Death or Removal of such Clerk or Clerks, or by the Act of him or them, without the Consent of the said Trustees of the Poor; but the Clerk or Clerks for the Time being shall always be deemed Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Defendant or Defendants in every Action or Suit, as the Case may be: Provided always, that all and every such Clerk or Clerks shall be reimbursed out of the Monies to be raised by virtue of this Act all such Costs, Damages, and reasonable Expences as he or they shall be put unto, or become charged or chargeable with by reason of his or their being so made Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Defendant or Defendants as aforesaid; provided that the said Action or Defence shall be prosecuted, carried on, and continued with the Consent of the said Trustees of the Poor.

How Justices are to proceed on Complaint of Trustees.

XLIV. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace is or are or may be empowered by Law to proceed on the Complaint of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of any Parish or Parishes, or of any of them, it shall and may be lawful for such Justice or Justices of the Peace, and he and they is and are hereby required to proceed on the Complaint of any Three of the said Trustees, or of any Person or Persons whom any Three or more of them shall appoint for that Purpose, in such and the like Manner to all Intents and Purposes, as if such Complaint had been made by such Churchwardens and Overseers, or any of them; and that in every Case wherein no Provision is made by this Act, or by the said recited Act, by how many of the said Trustees any Act, Matter, or Thing shall be done, the same may be done, and shall be as effectual to all Intents and Purposes if done by any Three or more of them, as if done by all the said Trustees for the Time being: Provided always, that no Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall recover in any Action to be commenced against any Person or Persons for any Thing done in pursuance of this Act, unless Notice in Writing of such intended Action shall have been given to the Clerk or Clerks of the said Trustees, or left at his or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, Twenty-one Days before such Action shall be commenced, signed by the Attorney for the intended Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, specifying the Cause or Causes of such Action; nor shall any Plaintiff or Plaintiffs recover in such Action for special Damage or otherwise, or for any such Irregularity,

Trespass,

Trespass, or other Proceedings, if Tender of sufficient Amends shall be made by or on the Behalf of the Party or Parties who shall have committed or caused to be committed every or any such Irregularity, Trespass, or wrongful Proceedings before such Action shall be brought; or in case no such Tender shall have been made, it shall and may 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 be joined in such Action, to pay into such Court such Sum of Money as he, she, or they shall think fit; whereupon such Proceedings or Order and Judgment shall be had, made, or given in and by such Court as in other Actions where the Defendant is allowed to pay Money into Court.

**Persons may be removed by Beadles instead of Overseers.**

XLV. And be it further enacted, That whenever any Paupers or Vagrants shall be ordered or removed to their legal Settlements, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees, if they shall think fit, to cause such Paupers or Vagrants to be respectively removed in the usual Manner of removing Paupers or Vagrants, by a Beadle, or some Person or Persons to be appointed for that Purpose in Writing under their Hands by Three of the said Trustees of the Poor; and every Overseer and other proper Officer of the Parish or Place to which such Paupers or Vagrants shall be ordered to be removed as aforesaid, is hereby required to receive such Paupers or Vagrants in such and the same Manner as he would have been bound to do, if such Paupers or Vagrants had been delivered to him, her, or them by One or more of the Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish of *Saint John* at *Hackney*; any Law, Custom, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

**Trustees may take Security for Bastard Children.**

**and may sue on Bonds given to former Officers;**

XLVI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Trustees of the Poor present at any Weekly or General Meeting, to take, accept, and receive in their own Name, or in the Names of the Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish, any Bond or Security from any Person or Persons for indemnifying the Parish against any Claim or Demand to be made by the said Parish for the Maintenance of any Bastard Child or Children respectively, or in anywise occasioned by the Birth or Support of any Bastard Child or Children born within the said Parish or chargeable thereto; and also that all Bonds and Securities which have already been given to any Churchwarden or Churchwardens, Overseer or Overseers, or other Officer or Officers of the said Parish for indemnifying such Parish from any Charge that may arise from Bastard Children, shall from and after the passing of this Act be vested in the said Trustees, who shall and may and they are hereby authorized to sue on such Bond and Securities given heretofore or hereafter to be given as aforesaid, for the Purpose of recovering the Penalties thereon, in the Name of their Clerk or Clerks for the Time being; any Law, Statute, or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

**Persons aggrieved may appeal to the Quarter or General Sessions.**

XLVII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by any Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or by any Bye Law, Rule, or Order made in pursuance of this Act, or any other Matter or Thing done or directed to be done in pursuance of this Act, such Person or Persons shall apply for Relief to the said Trustees at any Meeting to be held within Thirty Days next after Demand made of such Rate or Rates, Assessment or

or Assessments, or next after any such Matter or Thing done and committed by or by an Order of the said Trustees by which such Person or Persons shall think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved; and the said Trustees are hereby authorized and empowered to give such Relief in the Premises as to them shall seem necessary, and if such Person or Persons shall not be satisfied with the Determination of such Trustees, he, she, or they may appeal to a Quarter or General Session of the Peace to be holden for the County of *Middlesex*, as the Case shall be, within Two Months next after such Determination of the said Trustees shall be made, such Appellant first giving or causing to be given Seven Days Notice at the least in Writing of his, her, or their Intention to bring such Appeal, and of the Matter thereof, to the Clerk or Clerks of the said Trustees, or leaving such Notice for him or them at his or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, and within Three Days next after such Notice entering into a Recognizance before one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County, with Two sufficient Sureties in the Sum of Forty Pounds, conditioned to try such Appeal and to abide the Order of and to pay such Costs as shall be awarded by the Justices at such Quarter or General Session of the Peace for the said County, upon due Proof of such Notice being given as aforesaid, and of the entering into such Recognizance, shall hear and determine the Causes and Matters of such Appeal in a summary Way, and award such Costs to the Party appealing or appealed against as they the said Justices shall think proper; and the Determination of such Justices at their Quarter or General Sessions shall be final, binding, and conclusive.

**Inhabitants not to be deemed incompetent Witnesses.**

XLVIII. And be it further enacted, That no Inhabitant of the said Parish shall in any Action, Prosecution, Information, Cause, Hearing, Examination, or Proceeding whatsoever relating to or concerning the said Parish, be deemed an incompetent Witness on account of his or her being charged with or liable to pay any Rate or Assessment to be raised, levied, and collected by virtue of this Act.

**Powers of the former Act continued.**

XLIX. And be it further enacted, That all and every the Powers, Rights, and Authorities of the Vestrymen of the said Parish, and all the Powers, Authorities, Provisions, Regulations, Clauses, Matters and Things in the said recited Act contained (except such as relate to Exemption from Stamp Duties, or so far as the same are hereby varied, altered, or repealed) shall be and the same are hereby continued, and declared to be in as full Force and Effect as if this Act had not been made; and such Powers, Authorities, Provisions, Regulations, Clauses, Matters, and Things in the said recited Act contained shall be deemed and taken to apply to this Act, as if the same were inserted herein and hereby re-enacted.

**How the Expences of this Act shall be paid.**

L. And be it further enacted, That all Costs, Charges, and Expences of passing this Act, and all other Charges incident to or attending the obtaining thereof, shall be borne, paid and defrayed out of the first Monies to be levied, collected, and received by virtue of this Act, in the Hands of any Treasurer, Collectors, or other Persons, raised, collected, or received by virtue of the said recited Act, for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parish.

Public Act.

LI. 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.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN,
Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1823.