ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO SECUNDO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

****

Cap. 37.

An Act for enlarging the present or providing a new Workhouse for the Use of the Parish of *Strood* in the County of *Kent*; for better governing, maintaining, and employing the Poor of the said Parish; and also for repairing or rebuilding the Church and Tower of the same Parish, and for other Purposes relating thereto. [25th *March* 1812.]

WHEREAS the Parish of *Strood* in the County of *Kent* is very populous, and the Poor belonging thereto are very numerous, and maintained and supported at a great and burthensome Expence: And whereas the Buildings and Appurtenances now used as a Poor's House and Workhouse in and for the said Parish are not sufficiently large for the proper Accommodation and Employment of such Poor: And whereas the Laws and Statutes now in force within this Realm for the assessing and collecting of Monies for the Relief of Parochial Poor are found inconvenient and ineffectual in the said Parish, and the Payment thereof much evaded, by reason that divers Houses, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said Parish are let out in separate Apartments, and other Houses therein are let either furnished or unfurnished to weekly Occupiers, and also let out in Parcels to Under Tenants and to Lodgers and Inmates, and others are let at small yearly Rents, whereby the Rates

made in the said Parish are by such Means in many Respects evaded and rendered unproductive: And whereas the Enlargement of such Buildings and Premises, or otherwise providing other proper Buildings and Premises in lieu thereof, for the general Reception and Employment of the said Poor, and the granting of proper and further Powers for the better assessing and collecting the Poor's Rates, would tend greatly to the better Government, Maintenance, and Provision of such Poor, and the Rates for their Relief would be rendered much less burthensome to the said Parish: And whereas the Parish Church of *Strood* is a very ancient Fabric, and in many Parts so decayed and in such a ruinous Condition that it is necessary that the Whole or a great Part thereof should be taken down and rebuilt, and the Tower thereof repaired, and the Cemetery belonging to the said Church is in its present State too small for the decent Interment of the Dead, and it is necessary that the same should be enlarged; but inasmuch as the several Purposes aforesaid cannot be effected without the Aid and Authority of Parliament: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That the perpetual Curate, and the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish of *Strood* for the Time being, together with *Robert Boreman*, *Edward Butcher*, *James Bridge*, *Charles Bathurst*, *William Buck*, *Thomas Joseph Brunker*, *John Cobb*, *Henry Dunning*, *Edward Edwards*, *William Friend*, *John Frederick Freeland*, *John Gibbs*, *John Gouge*, *John Goldston*, *Thomas Edward Hulkes*, *Henry James Kidd*, *John Lash*, *Robert Mace*, *Thomas Maiden*, *John Reader*, *John Stubbersfield*, *George Telfer*, and *Thomas Wood*, and their Successors, to be elected as herein-after mentioned, are hereby nominated and appointed Trustees for carrying this Act and the several Powers herein contained into execution.

Appointment of Trustees.

Qualification of Trustees.

II. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Person (except the Persons who are Trustees in right of their respective Office or Station) shall be capable of acting as a Trustee in the Execution of this Act, unless he shall at the Time of acting be a resident Householder in the said Parish, and be seised or possessed in his own Right, or in the Right of his Wife, or be in the actual Possession or Receipt of the Rents and Profits of Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, Freehold or Leasehold, within the said Parish, of the clear yearly Value of Fifty Pounds or upwards, or unless he shall be a Tenant or Occupier of Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments within the said Parish, and shall be assessed to the Parish Rates at the Rent of Fifteen Pounds *per Annum* or upwards, and shall be possessed of a Personal Estate to the Amount or Value of Three hundred Pounds.

Penalty on Persons acting not being qualified.

III. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons (except as aforesaid) not being so qualified, shall nevertheless presume to act in the Execution of this Act, every such Person shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same; to be recovered in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, wherein no Essoign, Protection, Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance, shall be allowed; and every Person (except as aforesaid) so sued or prosecuted shall prove that he was qualified as aforesaid,

or

or otherwise shall pay the said Penalty, without any other Proof or Evidence being given, on the Part of the Plaintiff or Prosecutor, than that such Person hath acted as a Trustee in the Execution of this Act: Provided nevertheless, that all Acts and Proceedings of any Person or Persons acting as a Trustee or Trustees in the Execution of this Act, although not duly qualified as aforesaid, previous to his or their being convicted of the said Offence, 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 effectual, although not qualified.

IV. Provided always nevertheless, and be it enacted, That no Person shall be capable of acting as a Trustee in the Execution of this Act during the Time he shall hold any Office or Place of Profit, or have any Share or Interest in any Contract or Work to be made or done in pursuance of this Act; but it shall be lawful for such of the said Trustees, who are or shall be in the Commission of the Peace for the said County of *Kent*, or Justices of the City of *Rochester*, to act as Justices of the Peace in or relating to the Execution of this Act (except where they shall be personally interested), notwithstanding their being Trustees under this Act.

Trustees not to hold any Place of Profit, but Justices of the Peace may act as Trustees.

V. And be it further enacted, That in case of the Death of any of the said Trustees, (except those who are hereby declared to be Trustees by virtue of their Situation or Office as aforesaid,) or their Removal out of the said Parish, or the Refusal of any or either of them to act as Trustees under this Act, it shall be lawful for the surviving or remaining Trustees, and they are hereby required from Time to Time, within Three Calendar Months next after such Death, Removal, or Refusal to act, to cause Notice to be given, upon some *Sunday* immediately after Divine Service, in the Church of the said Parish, or in the Church of any adjoining Parish, in case the said Parish Church shall be shut up for the Purpose of Repair, or some unavoidable Cause (which Notice, and also all other Notices hereby so directed to be given, the Clerk officiating in such Church is hereby required to read or cause to be read immediately after Morning or Afternoon Service, and before the Sermon), and also by Writing to be affixed on the principal Door of such Church, of the Time of a Meeting to be held in the Vestry Room of the said Parish of *Strood*, or some other convenient Place within the same Parish, for the Purpose of electing and appointing a new Trustee in the Room of every Trustee so dying, removing, or refusing to act, and such Meeting shall be appointed to be held within the Space of Seven Days from the Time of giving such Notice; and the Majority of the Inhabitants of the said Parish of *Strood* present at any such Meeting, who shall occupy Houses respectively assessed to and paying the King's Taxes and Poor's Rates at the Rent or Value of Ten Pounds a Year or upwards, shall and may elect and appoint One other fit Person, being an Inhabitant of the same Parish, qualified as herein-before is mentioned, to be a Trustee in the Room of every Trustee so dying, or removing, or refusing to act; and every Trustee so from Time to Time to be elected and appointed shall have the same Power and Authority to act in the Execution of this Act as the Trustee in whose Room or Stead he shall be so elected and appointed.

In case of the Death or Removal of any Trustees, Parishioners to elect others.

VI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in case the said Parishioners or Inhabitants of the said Parish shall neglect or refuse to elect a Trustee

In case Parishioners neglect to

elect, Trustees may.

a Trustee or Trustees as herein-before mentioned, then and in every such Case the other Trustees nominated by and under the Authority of this Act shall proceed in the Execution of the Powers hereby granted, as fully and effectually as if the said Elections of all the Trustees for the said Parish had actually taken place.

If Trustees neglect to act for Six Months, to be deemed a Refusal.

VII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons herein nominated or so to be elected a Trustee or Trustees as aforesaid (save and except the Persons who are Trustees in right of their respective Office or Station as aforesaid), shall neglect to act in the Execution of this Act for, and during the Space of Six Calendar Months, then and in every such Case such Neglect shall be and be deemed to be a Refusal to act within the Meaning of this Act.

Trustees to take an Oath to execute their Office impartially.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That no Person shall be capable of acting as a Trustee in the Execution of this Act, (except in administering the Oath or Affirmation herein-after directed,) until he shall have taken and subscribed the following Oath or Affirmation, which Oath or Affirmation the said Trustees or any Three or more of them, at any of the Meetings to be holden in pursuance of this Act, are hereby empowered and required to administer; (that is to say,)

'I *A. B.* do hereby swear [*or* affirm, being one of the People called '*Quakers*] that I will truly and impartially, according to the best of 'my Skill and Knowledge, execute and perform all and every the Trusts, 'Powers, and Authorities vested in me as a Trustee, in pursuance of an 'Act of Parliament made in the Fifty-second Year of the Reign of His 'present Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act* [*here set forth 'the Title of this Act,*] and that without Malice or Prejudice, Favour or 'Affection. So help me GOD.'

First and subsequent Meetings.

IX. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees, or any Thirteen or more of them shall, on the *Thursday* Fortnight next after the passing of this Act, meet together between the Hours of Ten and Twelve of the Clock of the Forenoon of that Day, at the Vestry Room in the said Church, or in the Committee Room in the Poor's House of the Parish of *Strood* aforesaid, and shall and may and they are hereby required to proceed in the Execution of this Act, and shall and may afterwards meet at the Place or Places aforesaid, and between the Hours aforesaid, on the First *Thursday* in each and every Month, for the Purpose of carrying this Act into execution, without any Notice being given to the said Trustees of such monthly Meeting.

Trustees may adjourn for a shorter or a longer Space of Time than the next Meeting.

X. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, or any Five or more of them, to adjourn for a longer or shorter Space of Time than the monthly Meeting immediately subsequent to the last Meeting, or to any other Place or Places than the said Vestry Room or Committee Room; but then, and in every such Case, Notice of such Adjournment in Writing or printed (to which Notice the Name of the Clerk of the said Trustees shall be affixed) shall be given to and left for each Trustee at his last or usual Place of Abode, Three Days at least before such Meeting; and all Proceedings of such Trustees at such adjourned Meeting shall be as good and valid as they would have been in case such Trustees had met in pursuance of any monthly Meeting.

XI. And

Further Adjournment of Meetings.

XI. And be it further enacted, That if at any Time or Times it shall so happen that there shall not appear at any adjourned or other Meeting a sufficient Number of such Trustees as are herein enabled to act at such Meeting, then and in every such Case every such Meeting shall be and be deemed to be adjourned to the Meeting immediately subsequent to such Meeting, and so *toties quoties;* and at all their Meetings such Trustees shall pay their own Expences.

Meetings on Emergencies.

XII. And be it further enacted, That if after any Adjournment of any Meeting as aforesaid it shall at any Time or Times be thought necessary that a Meeting of the said Trustees should be holden at an earlier Day than the Day to which such Meeting shall have been adjourned, then and in every such Case the Clerk to the said Trustees (an Order in Writing being signed by Five or more of the said Trustees, mentioning the Time and Place and Purposes of such earlier Meeting, being given to him, or left at his last or usual Place of Abode,) shall forthwith give Notice of the Meeting to be holden on such earlier Day in manner before directed, and of the Time and Place which shall be mentioned in the Order of the said Trustees, such Time being not less than Three Days after such Notice; and all Proceedings of such Trustees at such earlier Meeting shall be as good and valid as they would have been in case such Trustees had met in pursuance of any Adjournment.

No Act valid unless at a Meeting.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That no Act of such Trustees shall be or be deemed to be good or valid unless the same be done at some Meeting of the said Trustees to be holden in pursuance of this Act, and that all the Powers and Authorities by this Act granted to or vested in such Trustees shall and may from Time to Time be exercised by the major Part of them who shall attend at any Meeting to be holden as is herein directed, the Number of such Trustees present at such Meetings not being less than Seven; and all the Orders and Directions of the major Part of such Trustees present at such Meetings shall have the same Force and Effect as if the same were made or done by all such Trustees for the Time being (save and except as may be herein excepted); and at every such Meeting of the said Trustees a Chairman shall and may be appointed; and when and as often as it shall so happen that there shall be an equal Number of Votes upon any one Question (including the Vote of the said Chairman), then and in such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Chairman to give the casting or decisive Vote.

Chairman to administer an Oath.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for such Chairman, or to or for any Justice or Justices of the Peace in and for the said County of *Kent* or City of *Rochester* then present, to administer an Oath to any Person or Persons for the more certain Information of the said Trustees in any Matter or Business then depending; and if any Person or Persons shall, upon his, her, or their Examination upon Oath before the said Trustees, wilfully and corruptly give false Evidence, such Person or Persons so offending, and being thereof duly convicted, shall be, and he, she, and they is and are hereby declared to be, subject and liable to such Pains and Penalties as by any Law now in being Persons convicted of wilful and corrupt Perjury are subject and liable to.

Proceedings not valid unless confirmed at a subsequent Meeting.

XV. Provided always, and be it enacted, That the Proceedings of the Trustees to be holden in pursuance of this Act shall not be valid until approved of and confirmed at some subsequent Meeting to be holden by the said Trustees as aforesaid, and signed by the Chairman.

Trustees to make Bye Laws, &c., to be entered in a Book.

XVI. 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 Meeting to be holden in pursuance of this Act, (such Number present not being less than Seven,) and they have hereby full Power and Authority, from Time to Time to make such Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations for the better regulating the Proceedings at any Meeting of the said Trustees, and the Manner of convening and holding such Meetings, and for the good Conduct and Behaviour of the several Officers and Servants employed by the said Trustees in the Execution of this Act, and also for the better maintaining, governing, employing, managing, and regulating the Poor of the Parish of *Strood* aforesaid, and for the Application of the several Monies that may arise, be collected, or received by virtue of this Act, to the Purposes thereof, and likewise from Time to Time to alter, vary, amend, or repeal all or any of such Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, or Regulations, or any Part thereof, as to them shall seem right and proper, and all such Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, or Regulations, and all Alterations, Variations, and Amendments thereof, shall be printed, and shall be fixed to the Door or Doors of the Parish Church of *Strood* aforesaid, and in some conspicuous Part of the Poor's House of the same Parish; and all such Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, or Regulations, when so made and printed and affixed, shall be good and binding upon all Persons concerned, provided that the same be not inconsistent with or repugnant to the Laws of that Part of the United Kingdom called *England*, or inconsistent with or repugnant to the Provisions and Directions in this Act contained, and the same shall be subject to Appeal as herein-after mentioned.

Penalty for Non-conformity to Bye Laws.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That such reasonable Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures shall and may be inserted in such Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations respectively, not exceeding Forty Shillings, for Non-conformity thereto, as shall be agreed upon at the Time of making the same, and to be recovered in like Manner as other Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures are herein directed to be recovered, and to be paid unto the Order of the said Trustees or any Seven or more of them, and the same shall be applied to the Purposes of this Act.

Bye Laws not to be repealed without Notice.

XVIII. Provided always, and be it 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 Purpose thereof Ten Days Notice at the least, either written or printed, with the Name of the Clerk to the said Trustees annexed thereto, shall be given to or left at the last or usual Place of Abode of each and every Trustee.

Entries of Proceedings good Evidence.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That fair and regular Entries shall be made in a Book or Books to be provided for that Purpose of all the Acts, Orders, Bye Laws, Rules, Regulations, Directions, and Proceedings of the said Trustees relative to the Execution of this Act, and of the Names of the Trustees who shall be present at the respective Meetings; and the same

same shall, when so approved of and confirmed, be subscribed with the Name of the Chairman of the next Meeting; and all such Entries being so signed shall be deemed Originals, and shall be allowed to be read in Evidence in all Courts whatsoever in all Causes, Suits, and Actions touching any thing done in pursuance of this Act.

Actions to be in the Name of the Clerk.

XX. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and may sue and be sued in the Name of their Clerk; and that no Action that may be brought or commenced by or against the said Trustees or any of them, by virtue or on account of this Act, in the Name of their Clerk, shall abate or be discontinued by the Death or Removal of such Clerk, or by the Act of such Clerk without the Consent of the said Trustees; but the Clerk to the said Trustees for the Time being shall always be deemed Plaintiff or Defendant in such Action (as the Case may be): Provided always, that every such Clerk 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 and Charges as by the Event of any such Proceedings he shall be put to or become chargeable with by reason of his being so made Plaintiff or Defendant therein.

Trustees to appoint Officers and remove them, and allow themSalaries.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees may and they are hereby empowered by Writing under their Hands to appoint a Treasurer or Treasurers, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, Architect or Architects, Surveyor or Surveyors, Clerk or Clerks, Collector or Collectors, and also an Assistant Overseer or Assistant Overseers, Superintendent or Superintendents, as they shall deem necessary, for inquiring into the State and Circumstances of the Poor, dispensing casual Relief, and inspecting the Supplies and Management of the said Workhouse, under the special Instructions of the said Trustees, and also to appoint such other Officers and Persons for the Execution of this Act as the said Trustees shall think proper, and from Time to Time to remove such Officers and Persons respectively as the said Trustees shall see Occasion, and out of the Monies to be received by virtue of this Act to allow and pay such Salaries, Wages, and Allowances to the said Officers and other Persons as the said Trustees shall think reasonable; and the said Trustees shall and they are hereby required to take sufficient Security from every such Treasurer and other Officer for the due Execution of his Office, as they shall think proper; and all such Officers so to be appointed shall, under their Hands, at such Time or Times and in such Manner as the said Trustees shall direct, deliver to the said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint, true and perfect Accounts in Writing of all Matters and Things committed to their Charge by virtue of this Act, and also of all the Monies which shall have been by such Officers respectively received by virtue and for the Purposes of this Act, and how much thereof hath been expended and disbursed, and for what Purpose, together with proper Vouchers for such Payments, and shall pay all such Monies as shall remain due from them respectively to the said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint to receive the same; and every such Treasurer shall, when thereunto required by the said Trustees, lay his Account before the said Trustees in order that the same may be audited, passed, and allowed by them, if approved of; and every such Master or Mistress of the said Workhouse shall, when thereunto required, lay before the said Trustees a true and distinct

distinct Account of the Number of Persons in the said Workhouse, distinguishing their Ages and Sex, and how they are employed, and of all other Matters or Things committed to his or her Charge; and all the said Officers so accounting as aforesaid shall upon Oath (which Oath any One of the said Trustees is hereby empowered to administer) verify their said Accounts; and if any such Officer shall refuse or neglect to make, render, or to verify upon Oath any such Account, or produce and deliver up the Vouchers relating to the same, or to make Payment 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 Seven Days after being thereunto required by the said Trustees by Notice in Writing 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 give Satisfaction to the said Trustees respecting the same, then and in every such Case, upon Complaint made by the said Trustees, or by such Person or Persons as they shall appoint for that Purpose, of any such Refusal or wilful Neglect as aforesaid, to any Justice of the Peace for the County, City, or Place wherein such Officer so refusing or wilfully neglecting shall be or reside, such Justice may and he is hereby authorized and required to issue a Summons or Warrant under his Hand and Seal for the Officer so refusing or neglecting to appear before him, and upon his appearing without some reasonable or sufficient Excuse, or not being to be found, 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 and raised by virtue of this Act shall remain due from such Officer, 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 levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Officer; and if no Goods or Chattels of such Officer can 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 Justice that such Officer shall have refused or wilfully neglected to render and give such Account, or to verify the same as aforesaid, or to produce the Vouchers relating thereto, or that any Books, Papers, or Writings relating to the Execution of this Act shall be in the Custody or Power of such Officer, and he shall have refused or wilfully neglected to deliver or give Satisfaction respecting the same as aforesaid, then and in each and every such Case such Justice shall commit such Offender to the Common Gaol or House of Correction for the County, City, or Place where such Offender shall be or reside, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until he shall give and make a true and perfect Account and Payment as aforesaid, or until he shall have compounded with the said Trustees for such Money, and shall have paid such Composition in such Manner as they shall appoint (which Composition the said Trustees are hereby empowered to make and receive), and until he shall deliver up such Books, Papers, and Writings, or give Satisfaction in respect thereof, to the said Trustees; but no such Offender shall be detained or kept 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 Twelve Calendar Months.

XXII. And

Officers not to take any Fee or Reward besides the Salary.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That if any Officer or other Servant employed by the said Trustees in putting this Act or any of the Powers thereof into execution shall exact, take, or accept any Fee or Reward whatsoever, other than such Salaries, Allowances, and Rewards as shall be appointed and allowed to them respectively by the said Trustees, for or on account of any thing done or to be done by virtue of this Act, or on any Account whatsoever relative to putting this Act into execution, or shall anywise be concerned or interested in any Bargain or Contract made or to be made by the said Trustees for any of the Purposes of this Act, every such Person so offending shall be for ever incapable of serving or being employed under this Act in any Office of Profit or Emolument, and shall, over and above, forfeit and pay the Sum of Ten Pounds to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, within Three Calendar Months after the Offence committed, in which said Suit no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance, shall be allowed.

Trustees to state annual Accounts.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall, within Three Calendar 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 under and by virtue of this Act during the preceding Year, distinguishing for what such Monies were received and paid, and showing 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 the Poor's House of the said Parish; and also an Account of all Rates made, and the Deficiencies in the Collection thereof, during the preceding Year.

Trustees may hire or purchase Lands, &c. not exceeding Three Acres.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to rent or hire for any Life or Lives, or for any Term or Number of Years, any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, from any Person or Persons who shall be able or willing to let the same, or to contract and agree for the absolute Purchase of any Freehold or Copyhold or Leasehold Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments within the said Parish of *Strood*, (not exceeding Three Acres in the whole,) with any Body Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, or any Tenant or Tenants for Life, or in Fee Tail General or Special, or for any Term or Terms of Years absolute or determinable on any Life or Lives, or with any Feoffees in Trust, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, Committees for Lunatics and Idiots, or other Trustees whomsoever, not only for and on behalf of themselves, their Heirs and Successors, but also for and on behalf of their Cestuique Trusts, whether Infants or Issue unborn, Lunatics, Idiots, or Femes Covert, who are or shall be seised, possessed of, or interested in their own Right, or with any Person or Persons, who shall be willing to sell the same, for the Purpose of making, erecting, and maintaining a Workhouse and other Works and Conveniences thereto, for the Reception and Maintenance of the said Poor of the said Parish; and also such other Buildings, Works, and Conveniences as the said Trustees shall find necessary for their Meetings, or for any other Purposes of this Act; and

also for the Purpose of improving and enlarging the Cemetery or Burial Ground to the said Parish Church, and of fencing and inclosing the same; and it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees to hold such Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, so purchased, without incurring or being subject to any of the Penalties or Forfeitures of the Statutes of Mortmain, or of any other Law or Statute whatsoever to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Bodies to be empowered to sell and Trustees to purchase Estates, for erecting a Poor House, &c.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, and all Corporations, whether Aggregate or Sole, Spiritual or Lay, and all Feoffees in Trust, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, Committees of or for Lunatics and Idiots, and other Trustees whomsoever, not only for and on behalf of themselves, their Heirs and Successors, but also for and on behalf of their Cestuique Trusts, whether Infants or Issue unborn, Lunatics, Infants, Idiots, or Femes Covert, and also to and for all Femes Covert who are or shall be seised in their own Right, and to and for all Persons, whether Tenants for Life, or Tenants in Tail General or Special, or for Years determinable on any Life or Lives, and to and for all and every Person or Persons whomsoever, who are or shall be seised, possessed of, or interested in any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or any Part thereof, which the said Trustees may deem necessary for any of the Purposes of this Act, to contract and agree with the said Trustees for the Sale thereof, or of any Part thereof, and to sell and convey all or any Part thereof, and all Estate, Right, Title, and Interest whatsoever, of, in, and to the same, to the said Trustees and their Successors, for any of the Purposes of this Act; and all Contracts, Agreements, Bargains, Sales, and Conveyances, which shall be so made by virtue and in pursuance of this Act, shall, without any Fine or Fines, Recovery or Recoveries, or other Conveyances or Assurances in the Law whatsoever, be good, valid, and effectual to and for such Ends, Intents, and Purposes, not only to convey the Estate and Interest of the Person or Persons conveying, but also to convey all Estate, Right, Interest, Use, Property, Claim, and Demand whatsoever of their said several and respective Cestuique Trusts, and all claiming or to claim by, from, or under them, any Law, Statute, Usage, or any other Matter or Thing whatsoever to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding; and all such Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations, whether Aggregate or Sole, Spiritual or Lay, and all Feoffees in Trust, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, Committees, Trustees, and other Persons, are and shall be hereby indemnified for what they shall do by virtue and in pursuance of this Act as aforesaid.

Application of Compensation Money exceeding 200*l.*

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That if any Money shall be paid or agreed to be paid for any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments purchased, taken, or used by virtue of the Powers of this Act, for the Purposes thereof, which shall belong to any Body Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Feoffee in Trust, Executor, Administrator, Husband, Guardian, Committee, or other Trustee for or on behalf of any Infant, Lunatic, Idiot, Feme Covert, or other Cestuique Trust; or to any Person whose Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments are limited in strict or other Settlement, or any other Person or Persons under any other Disability or Incapacity whatsoever, such Money shall, in case the same shall amount to or exceed the

Sum of Two hundred Pounds, with all convenient Speed be paid into the Bank of *England* in the Name and with the Privity of the Accountant General of the High Court of Chancery, to be placed to his Account there *ex parte* the Trustees for executing this Act; to the Intent that such Money shall and may be applied, under the Direction and with the Approbation of the said Court, to be signified by an Order made upon a Petition to be preferred in a summary Way by the Person or Persons who would have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the said Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, in the Purchase or Redemption of the Land Tax, or towards the Discharge of any Debt or Debts, or other Incumbrance, or Part thereof, as the said Court shall authorize to be paid, affecting the same Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or affecting other Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments standing settled therewith to the same or the like Uses, Intents, or Purposes; or where such Money shall not be so applied, then the same shall be laid out and invested, under the like Direction and Approbation of the said Court, in the Purchase of other Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, which shall be conveyed and settled to, for, and upon such and the like Uses, Trusts, Intents, and Purposes, and in the same Manner, as the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments which shall be so purchased, taken, or used as aforesaid stood settled or limited, or such of them as at the Time of making such Conveyance and Settlement shall be existing undetermined and capable of taking effect; and in the meantime, and until such Purchases shall be made, the said Money shall, by Order of the said Court of Chancery, upon Application thereto, be invested by the said Accountant General in his Name in the Purchase of Three Pounds *per Centum* Consolidated or Three Pounds *per Centum* Reduced Bank Annuities; and in the meantime, and until the said Bank Annuities shall be ordered by the said Court of Chancery to be sold for the Purposes aforesaid, the Dividends and annual Produce of the said Consolidated or Reduced Bank Annuities shall from Time to Time be paid, by Order of the said Court, to the Person or Persons who would for the Time being have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments so hereby directed to be purchased, in case such Purchase or Settlement were made.

Under 200*l.* and exceeding 20*l.*

XXVII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Money so agreed to be paid for any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments purchased, taken, or used for the Purposes aforesaid, and belonging to any Corporation, or to any Person or Persons under Disability or Incapacity as aforesaid, shall be less than the Sum of Two hundred Pounds, and shall amount to or exceed the Sum of Twenty Pounds, then and in all such Cases the same shall, at the Option of the Person or Persons for the Time being entitled to the Rents and Profits of the Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments so purchased, taken, or used, or of his, her, or their Guardian or Guardians, Committee or Committees, in case of Infancy or Lunacy, to be signified in Writing under their respective Hands, be paid into the Bank of *England* in the Name and with the Privity of the said Accountant General of the High Court of Chancery, and be placed to his Account as aforesaid, in order to be applied in manner herein-before directed; or otherwise the same shall be paid, at the like Option, to Two Trustees, to be nominated by the Person or Persons making such Option, and approved of by Five or more of the said Trustees for executing this Act, (such Nomination and

Appro-

Approbation to be signified in Writing under the Hands of the nominating and approving Parties,) in order that such Principal Money, and the Dividends arising thereon, may be applied in manner herein-before directed, so far as the Case be applicable, without obtaining or being required to obtain the Direction or Approbation of the said Court of Chancery.

Under 20*l.*

XXVIII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That where such Money agreed to be paid as last before mentioned shall be less than Twenty Pounds, then and in all such Cases the same shall be applied to the Use of the Person or Persons who would for the Time being have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments so purchased, taken, or used for the Purposes of this Act, in such Manner as the said Trustees shall direct; or in case of Infancy or Lunacy, then such Money shall be paid to his, her, or their Guardian or Guardians, Committee or Committees, to and for the Use and Benefit of such Person or Persons so entitled respectively.

Respecting disputed Titles.

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

Trustees to pay the Expences of Purchases where Persons incapable of selling, &c.

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

XXXI. And

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That upon Payment of the Money so agreed to be paid for the Purchase of any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments by the said Trustees to the Party or Parties respectively entitled to such Monies, or to their Agents, or upon Payment thereof or on placing the same in the Bank of *England* in manner by this Act directed, and upon the Conveyance in manner herein-after directed of all such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, all the Estate, Right, Title, Interest, Use, Trust, Property, Claim, and Demand in Law and Equity of the Person or Persons respectively to whose Credit or Use the same shall have been paid in, to, and out of such Lands, Tenements, or other Hereditaments, shall vest in the said Trustees in Trust for effecting the Purposes of this Act, and they shall be deemed in Law to be in the actual Seisin or Possession thereof to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, as fully and effectually as if every Person having any Estate in the Premises had actually conveyed the same by Lease and Release, Bargain and Sale inrolled, Feoffment with Livery of Seisin, Fine, Common Recovery, Surrender, or any other Conveyance or Assurance whatsoever; and such Payments shall not only bar all Right, Title, Interest, Claim, and Demand of the Person or Persons to whose Use or Credit such Payment shall have been made as aforesaid, but also shall extend to and be deemed and construed to bar the Dower and Dowers of the Wife and Wives of such Person and Persons, and all Estates Tail and other Estates in Possession, Reversion, Remainder, or Expectancy, and the Issue or Issues of such Person or Persons, and every Person claiming under them, as effectually as Fines or Common Recoveries would do if levied or suffered by the proper Parties in due Form of Law; any Law, Statute, Usage, or Custom to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

Purchase Monies for Estates to be paid out of the Monies raised by this Act, and thereupon the Estates to vest in Trustees.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That all Sales, Conveyances, and Assurances of any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to be made to the said Trustees and their Successors shall be made in the following Form, or in any other Words to the same Effect:

Form of Conveyance.

'I *A. B.* of in consideration of the Sum of to me paid by the Trustees acting by virtue of an Act made in the Fifty-second Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, intituled [*here insert the Title of this Act*], do hereby grant and convey to the said Trustees and their Successors, all [*here describe the Premises to be conveyed*], and all my Right, Title, and Interest to and in the same and every Part thereof, to hold to the said Trustees and their Successors for ever. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the Day of in the Year of our Lord'

And every such Sale, Conveyance, and Assurance so made shall be good, valid, and effectual to vest the Premises so conveyed in the said Trustees and their Successors, freed and absolutely acquitted and discharged of and from all Claims, Rights, Interests, Charges, and Incumbrances of all Persons whomsoever, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever; any Law, Statute, Usage, or Custom to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

XXXIII. And whereas the said Trustees under the Provisions of this Act may purchase Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments which may be found not necessary for the Purposes thereof; be it therefore enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees or any Seven

Trustees empowered to resell Land.

or more of them acting in the Execution of this Act to sell and dispose of, and by Indenture or Indentures under their Hands and Seals to grant and convey, by way of absolute Sale in Fee Simple for a Consideration in Money, all or any Part or Parts of the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments as may have been so purchased as shall in the Judgment of the said Trustees of the said Parish, at any of their Meetings to be holden in pursuance of this Act, not be wanted for the Purposes of this Act; and upon Payment of the Money which shall arise by or from the Sale or Sales of such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or any Part or Parts thereof, it shall and may be lawful for the Treasurer or Treasurers, Clerk or Clerks, for the Time being to the said Trustees, to sign and give Receipts for the Monies for which the same shall be sold, which Receipts shall be sufficient Discharges to any Person or Persons for the Purchase Money for which such Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments shall be so sold, or for so much thereof as in such Receipts shall be expressed or acknowledged to be received; and such Person or Persons shall not afterwards be answerable or accountable for any Losses, Misapplication, or Nonapplication of such Purchase Money or any Part thereof.

Monies received for Sale of Lands to be applied for the Purposes of this Act.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That the Monies arising from the Sale of such Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments shall be applied and disposed of by the said Trustees in or towards carrying the several Purposes of this Act into execution.

Trustees empowered to make Contracts for building Poor's House, Church, and Tower, &c.

XXXV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, at any of their Meetings, from Time to Time to contract and agree with any Person or Persons for providing Materials for building or erecting, finishing and completing, the Whole or any Part of any Workhouse, with requisite Offices and Outbuildings, for maintaining and employing the Poor of the said Parish, and for providing from Time to Time such Furniture, Goods, Chattels, Provisions, Clothing, Utensils, and Materials as may be requisite and necessary for maintaining, clothing, and employing the Poor to be received into the said Workhouse; and also from Time to Time to contract and agree with any Person or Persons for the taking down, repairing, or rebuilding the said Church and Tower to be taken down, repaired, or rebuilt by virtue of this Act, and for providing Materials for building or erecting, repairing, finishing, and completing, the said Church and Tower respectively, or any Part or Parts thereof; and also for the building, repairing, erecting, finishing, or completing any Building or Buildings, Fence or Fences, or other Work or Works hereby authorized or directed to be built, erected, repaired, and made; and also for any other Matter or Thing to be provided for by virtue of this Act; and all such Contracts and Agreements, when made and entered into by the said Trustees, and any other Person or Persons, shall be reduced into Writing at the Expence of the Parties with whom such Contracts or Agreements shall be made by the said Trustees, and signed by the Parties thereto, and shall be good, valid, and binding as well upon the said Trustees as upon all other Parties, his, her, and their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns; and the said Trustees shall and may pay or order Payment to be made of the Monies due upon any such Contract or Contracts, Agreement or Agreements, to the Person or Persons entitled to receive the same.

XXXVI. Pro-

Notice to be given of Meetings to make Contracts.

XXXVI. Provided always, and be it enacted, That before any such Contract or Contracts shall be entered into Fourteen Days Notice at the least shall be given in Two or more of the public Newspapers circulated in the said County of *Kent* and City of *Rochester*, expressing the Purpose of every such Contract or Contracts, in order that any Person or Persons willing to undertake the same may make Proposals for that Purpose, to be offered and presented to the said Trustees at a certain Time and Place to be mentioned in such Notice: Provided also, that no Contract or Agreement made by the said Trustees shall be valid, binding, or effectual until the same shall be approved and confirmed at their next Meeting to be holden in pursuance of this Act; and every such Contract and Agreement shall be signed by the Chairman presiding at such Meeting; and Copies of all Contracts made in pursuance of this Act shall be entered in a Book or Books to be kept for that Purpose; and such Book and Books shall from Time to Time and at all convenient Times be open to the Inspection of all and every Person or Persons who shall pay to the Rates to be made by virtue of this Act, on Payment of One Shilling to the Clerk or Person in whose Custody the same shall be.

Trustees may compound for Breach of Contracts.

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

Trustees to erect Workhouse and necessary Buildings.

XXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and may and they are hereby required, as soon as conveniently may be after they shall have hired or so purchased any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments as aforesaid, to build, make, and erect, or cause to be built, made, and erected, in a plain and durable Manner, One or more House or Houses, with requisite Offices, Outbuildings, and Fences, for the maintaining and employing of the Poor of the said Parish, and also such other Buildings, Works, Fences, and Conveniences as the said Trustees shall find necessary for their Meetings, or for the Purpose of fencing or inclosing the said Cemetery or Burial Ground, or for any other Purposes of this Act; and the said Trustees shall and they are hereby required to keep such Buildings and other Works and Fences in good and sufficient Repair, and from Time to Time to alter and enlarge the same or any of them in such Manner as they shall think necessary and convenient; and all the Expences of purchasing such Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, and of building, making, and erecting such Buildings, Works, Fences, and other Conveniences, and of repairing, altering, enlarging, and keeping the same in repair, and of hiring any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments for the Purposes of this Act, shall be defrayed out of the Monies to be from Time to Time borrowed, collected, or received by virtue of this Act.

Trustees to furnish the Houses, &c. when finished.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and may, as soon as conveniently may be next after the finishing or fitting up of such Workhouse or other Building or Buildings, provide and furnish the

the same with all necessary Furniture, Household Goods, and Utensils, and also all such Materials as shall be deemed necessary for the Employment of the Poor by the said Trustees, the Costs and Charges of which shall be paid and discharged out of the Monies to be borrowed, collected, or received by virtue of this Act.

Power to dispose of the present Workhouse.

XL. And be it further enacted, That when and so soon as the said Trustees shall have provided a new and proper Workhouse for the Use of the said Parish it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, or any Seven or more of them, and they are hereby required, to let or sell and dispose of the Workhouse now belonging to the said Parish, and the Ground and Buildings adjoining thereto and occupied therewith, according to the several Natures or Tenures thereof, for the best Price that can be got for the same by public Auction, and apply the Monies arising from such Sale either in enlarging and properly fencing the said Cemetery or Burial Ground belonging to the said Parish Church, or for any other of the Purposes of this Act: Provided always, that no Lease or Leases, Demise or Demises, for any Term or Number of Years, of the said present Workhouse, and the Grounds and Buildings adjoining thereto and occupied therewith, or any Part or Parts thereof, shall be made or granted by the said Trustees for any longer Term or Number of Years than Ninety-nine Years.

Trustees empowered to repair old Workhouse if they shall deem it advisable.

XLI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if the said Trustees shall deem it more beneficial for the said Parish that the present Workhouse, with the Offices and Outbuildings thereto belonging, should be repaired, altered, amended, and enlarged, rather than any new Workhouse erected and built in manner herein-before directed, then and in such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to repair, alter, amend, and enlarge the said present Workhouse, with the Offices and Outbuildings thereto belonging, and to contract and agree with any Person or Persons for the Purpose of providing Materials for making such Repairs, Alterations, Amendments, and Enlargements (any thing herein-before contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding); and all Costs and Expences attendant thereon shall be paid by the said Trustees out of the Monies to be borrowed, collected, or received by virtue of this Act: Provided nevertheless, that every such Contract or Agreement shall be made conformable to the Provisions and Directions herein-before contained concerning any other Contract to be made by virtue of this Act.

Trustees may direct the Church to be repaired or pulled down.

XLII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Trustees, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to repair, take, and pull down, or cause to be repaired, taken, or pulled down, the Whole or any Part or Parts of the present Church of *Strood* and of the Tower thereof, and to sell and dispose of the Timber, Stones, Bricks, Iron, Lead, and other Materials thereof, or any Part or Parts thereof, to any Person or Persons whomsoever; and the Monies arising by such Sale shall be applied in aid of the usual Church Rates, or towards the Expence of repairing or rebuilding the said Church and Tower, or it shall be lawful for the said Trustees and they are hereby empowered to employ or apply such Timber, Stones, Bricks, Iron, Lead, and other Materials, or any Part or Parts thereof, as to them shall seem right, in repairing or rebuilding the said Church and Tower to be repaired,

or

or rebuilt by virtue of this Act, in such Manner as they shall think proper.

Trustees empowered to build the Church.

XLIII. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and they are hereby authorized and required to rebuild or cause to be rebuilt the Whole of the said Church or any Part or Parts thereof; and the same shall be built of such Size and Dimensions, and of such Materials, and after such Specification and Model as to the said Trustees shall seem right and proper; and the said Trustees shall make, erect, and set up, or cause to be made, erected, and set up, in such new Church, such Pews, Seats, Galleries, Bells, Organ, Ornaments, and Conveniences as to the said Trustees shall seem right and proper.

Estates and Effects vested in the Minister, Churchwardens, and Overseers, to become vested in the Trustees under this Act.

XLIV. And be it further enacted, That all and every the Messuages or Tenements, Poor's Houses, Workhouses, Edifices, Buildings, Lands, Hereditaments, Monies, Rates, Assessments, and Arrears of Rates and Assessments, Goods, Chattels, and Effects, which from and immediately before the passing of this Act the Minister, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the said Parish, or any other Person or Persons whomsoever, were entitled unto or possessed of in Trust for the Parishioners thereof, for and towards the Relief, Maintenance, Use, and Benefit of the Poor of the said Parish, and all Rights and Property of and in all the Wares, Furniture, Materials, Tools, Utensils, Clothes, Provisions, and Things whatsoever, provided to and for the Use and Maintenance, Employment, or clothing of the Poor of the said Parish, either in the Poor's House which now is or hereafter may be provided for the Reception, Maintenance, and Employment of the Poor of the Parish aforesaid, and for carrying into execution the Purposes of this Act, and also all Monies received or due for the Poor's Work or otherwise, shall from and immediately after the passing of this Act (subject to any existing Lease or Leases thereof made and granted) be vested in, possessed by, paid, delivered, and belong unto, and the same is and are hereby absolutely vested in the said Trustees for the Purposes aforesaid, by virtue and in pursuance of this Act, as fully, effectually, and beneficially, and in as large and ample Manner and Form, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, as they the said Minister, Churchwardens, and Overseers, or other Person or Persons, at or immediately before the passing hereof, were entitled thereto, or were in possession thereof as aforesaid, subject nevertheless to be used, possessed, applied, and disposed of upon the Trusts in this Act contained, and not otherwise; and also all Stones, Bricks, Timber, and other Materials of which the Body of the present Church and Tower thereof are constructed and built, or which may hereafter be bought or procured by the said Trustees for the Purpose of repairing or rebuilding and completing the same, or for fencing the said Cemetery or Burial Ground, shall be and the same are hereby vested in the said Trustees for the Purposes of this Act; and the said Trustees shall and may and they are hereby authorized and empowered to bring or cause to be brought any Action or Actions, or to prefer and prosecute, or order or direct the preferring and prosecuting of any Bill or Bills of Indictment, as the Case may require, against any Person or Persons who shall or may steal, take or carry away, detain, spoil, injure, or destroy, the several Wares, Furniture, Materials, Tools, Utensils, Clothes, Provisions, and Things hereby vested in them the said Trustees as aforesaid, or any of them, or any Part or Parts thereof; and in all such Actions and Bills of

Indictments respectively it shall be and be deemed and taken to be sufficient to state generally that the Article or Articles, Thing or Things, for or on account of which such Action or Actions shall be brought, or Bill or Bills of Indictment preferred, is or are "the Property of the Trustees of the Poor of the Parish of *Strood* in the County of *Kent*," without particularly stating or specifying the Name or Names of all or any of the said Trustees; and if any Person or Persons shall wilfully or maliciously break, injure, destroy, or otherwise damage, any of the said several Wares, Furniture, Materials, Tools, Utensils, Clothes, Provisions, and Things hereby vested in them the said Trustees, or any of the Works done by them, every Person so offending therein, and being thereof convicted upon the Oath of One or more Witness or Witnesses before any Justice or Justices of the Peace for the said County or City of *Rochester*, shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, and shall moreover pay such Sum and Sums of Money as shall be a full Satisfaction for the Damage so by him, her, or them done as aforesaid, such Damages to be ascertained by the said Justice or Justices of the Peace before whom such Conviction shall take place; and in case such Offender shall not on Conviction pay such Forfeiture and also such Satisfaction as aforesaid, the said Justice or Justices shall be and is and are hereby required to commit such Offender to the House of Correction of and for the said County or City, there to be kept to hard Labour for any Space of Time not exceeding Three Calendar Months; and such Offender or Offenders shall not be discharged before the Expiration of the Time for which he, she, or they shall be so committed, unless such Penalty and Satisfaction shall be sooner given and paid.

Lands, Money, &c. left for charitable Purposes, coming to the Hands of the Minister, Churchwardens, and Overseers, to be paid to the Trustees, and applied by them for the Purposes directed.

XLV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That all or any Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, Estates, Sum and Sums of Money, or other Effects that shall come to the Hands of the Minister, Churchwardens, or Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, or any other Person or Persons in Trust for the said Parish, to be applied in any particular Manner for the Use of the Poor of the said Parish, by virtue of any Will or Deed, or by any other Means whatever, shall be by them conveyed, assigned, and paid to the said Trustees or their said Treasurer, and shall be applied and disposed of by the said Trustees in the Manner and for the Uses and Purposes appointed and directed for the Application thereof by the same Deed, Will, Donation, Gift, Agreement, or otherwise, and to no other Use or Purpose whatsoever: Provided also, that the said Trustees and their Successors may and are hereby empowered to permit and suffer the Trustees, Treasurers, or others who now are or hereafter may be chosen to conduct the Management, Direction, and Distribution of any Trust, Estate, or Fund devised, granted, or given to or for the Benefit of the Poor of the said Parish, to continue in the Management, Direction, and Distribution of such Trust, Estate, or Fund for the Benefit of the said Poor for so long and for such Time as they the said Trustees and their Successors, or the major Part of them, shall think proper and expedient.

Trustees to have same Powers as Overseers.

XLVI. And be it further enacted, That from *Easter Day* next after the passing of this Act the said Trustees and their Successors shall be and they are hereby declared to be invested with all and every the Powers and Authorities which Overseers of the Poor, by the Laws made or to be made in all or any Cases touching or concerning the Relief or Management or Employment of the Poor, or the Application of any of the Rates made for their

their Use or Maintenance, are or shall be invested, (save and except as may herein be mentioned or otherwise provided,) and the said Trustees for the Time being are hereby declared competent to do and perform all and every Act or Acts, and shall be subject to the like Pains, Penalties, and Forfeitures, Rules, Regulations, and Restrictions, which Overseers of the Poor are by Law enabled to do and perform, and are subject and liable to (except as aforesaid); and they shall and may institute or defend any Appeal under any Order of Removal, and issue or receive any Notices respecting the same, in the same Manner as Overseers of the Poor are by any Law in force or effect empowered or required to do, and they shall and may take any Securities or Indemnifications in Trust for the Parishioners of the said Parish which they shall deem necessary or prudent to be taken in any Case or Cases whatsoever; any thing herein contained, or any Law or Statute to the contrary thereof, in anywise notwithstanding.

To purchase Materials, and employ the Poor in and practise Trades, &c.

XLVII. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and may and they are hereby authorized and empowered to keep, maintain, and employ, and to cause to be kept, maintained, and employed, in any Work, Trade, Manufactures, and Employments whatsoever, all and every the Poor maintained in any Poor's House or Poor's Houses, or any other Houses or Tenements made use of for the Purposes of this Act, and shall and may provide a convenient Stock of Flax, Hemp, Wool, Cotton, Thread, Iron, Stone, Wood, Leather, or other Materials for the Employment of the Poor received into such House or Houses, and for that Purpose only may set up, use, and occupy any Trade, Mystery, or Occupation whatsoever in such House or Houses, and may sell, vend, and dispose of such Goods, Wares, and Merchandize as shall be manufactured or made by such Poor in such Poor's House or Poor's Houses; and all Monies arising from any Work or Labour done by the Poor in any Poor's House or Poor's Houses, or other Houses made use of for the Purposes of this Act, shall go in aid of the Poor's Rates of the said Parish; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Encouragement given to industrious Poor.

XLVIII. And to the end that all the Poor that now are or hereafter shall be in the said Poor's House or Poor's Houses may be encouraged to apply themselves to the Labour or Tasks in which they may be employed with Diligence and Attention, be it further enacted, That out of the Profits arising from the Work which shall be done by such Poor such Rewards shall be distributed to the industrious and skilful, in proportion to the Quality and Perfection of their Work, as to the said Master or Mistress of the said Workhouse shall appear reasonable, under the Direction of the said Trustees.

Trustees may apprentice poor Children.

XLIX. And be it further enacted, That all poor Children who shall hereafter be maintained by the said Trustees at any Time in the Poor's House or otherwise shall be and remain under their Care and Government until they arrive at the Age of Fourteen Years respectively; and the said Trustees, after such Children shall attain the Age of Ten Years, may, and the said Trustees or any Three or more of them are hereby empowered, by Writing under their Hands, to bind and put forth any such Children Apprentices to any reputable Person in *England* or *Wales*, to be taught any Art, Trade, Mystery, or Occupation, or any Business or Manufacture, or to be employed in the Sea Service, as the said Trustees shall think most

suited

suited to the Strength and Activity of such Child or Children, for any Term not exceeding Seven Years, or until such Child (being a Male) shall attain the Age of Twenty-one Years, or (being a Female) until such Child shall attain the Age of Eighteen Years or Day of Marriage; and that every such Writing shall be mutually binding as an Indenture between the Master, Mistress, and Apprentice, and shall in all respects be enforced according to the Laws in force concerning the apprenticing of poor Children whose Parents are not able to provide for them; and that the said Trustees shall and they are hereby required to provide necessary Clothing for every such Apprentice upon his, her, or their being bound as aforesaid.

Poor misbehaving may be punished.

L. And be it further enacted, That if any poor Person maintained in any Poor's House belonging to the said Parish of *Strood* shall embezzle or purloin any Part of the Apparel provided for or belonging to the said Poor's House, or any Materials for Work, or make waste of the Provisions, Materials, or Things provided in or for the said Poor's House, or be guilty of profane Cursing, Swearing, Drunkenness, or any lewd, immoral, indecent, or disorderly Behaviour, or shall use any abusive or improper Language, or refuse or neglect to perform the Work or Service which he, she, or they shall be required to do, or shall be remiss therein, such Work or Service being suited to his, her, or their Age, Capacity, and Strength, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees, or any Five or more of them, to cause such Person or Persons so offending to be punished in such Poor's House, either by Confinement, not exceeding Forty-eight Hours, or by Distinction in Dress or Diet, as may best tend to remedy such Offences for the future; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Trustees may discharge and hire out the Poor.

LI. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees may and they are hereby empowered to discharge out of the said Poor's House, or to hire out, either before or after any Child shall have attained the Age of Fourteen Years, any of the Children in the said Poor's House or Poor's Houses to be Servants in Husbandry, Housewifery, or otherwise, for One whole Year at the least, for the Benefit of such Child or Children.

Penalty on Persons receiving into Pawn, &c. any of the Clothes of the Poor.

LII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall knowingly buy, receive into Pawn, or secrete any of the Clothes and Wearing Apparel of the Poor who at any Time shall be received into and maintained in the said Poor's House or Poor's Houses, or any Goods or Materials carried into the same to be wrought up, manufactured, or used by the Poor therein, or any of the Goods or Furniture thereof, or shall buy or receive any of the Provisions allotted or provided for the Poor of the said Poor's House, every Person so offending shall forfeit for every such Offence any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, upon Conviction, on the Oath or Affirmation of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, before One or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Kent* or City of *Rochester*; which Penalty, when recovered and paid, shall go, one Moiety to the Informer or Informers, and the other Moiety to the Trustees, for the Use of the Poor of the said Parish; and in default thereof such Person or Persons shall be committed to the House of Correction for the said County or City for any Period of Time not exceeding Thirty Days.

LIII. And

Penalty on Persons carrying Spirituous Liquors into the Poor's House.

LIII. And be it further enacted, That no Spirituous or other Strong Liquors shall be conveyed into the Poor's House for the Use or Reception of any of the Poor of the said Parish, unless with the Permission of the said Trustees or any Three of them, or by the special Order of the Apothecary or other Medical Person appointed to attend the Poor in the said House; and every Person who shall be convicted of any such Offence before One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the said County or City shall forfeit any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds.

Justices may proceed on the Complaint of a Trustee as if made by a Churchwarden or Overseer.

LIV. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace is or are empowered by the Laws in being to proceed on the Complaint of any Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor of any Parish, it shall and may be lawful for any Justice or Justices of the Peace, and he and they is and are hereby required, to proceed on the Complaint of any One or more of the said Trustees, or of such Person or Persons as shall have been duly appointed Assistant Overseer or Superintendent, by Writing under the Hands of the said Trustees for that Purpose, in such and the like Manner, to all Intents and Purposes, as if such Complaint had been made by One of the Churchwardens or Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish.

Vagrants, and Persons threatening to leave their Families.

LV. And whereas divers Persons, belonging to and who ought by the Laws now in force to be relieved by the said Parish, are found wandering and begging in the said Parish, and committing Acts of Vagrancy, and misbehaving themselves, by exposing in an indecent Manner their Persons and Limbs: And whereas divers Persons, by their idle and disorderly living, neglect or refuse to maintain or threaten to desert their Families, not being able to maintain themselves; and if Power were given to apprehend such Persons, and send them to such Workhouse, there to be dealt with in manner herein mentioned, it might tend to inure them to a Habit of Industry, and make them useful to the Public; be it therefore further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and they hereby have full Power and Authority to receive, and to order and compel all and every Person found wandering and begging in the said Parish, or committing Acts of Vagrancy, and also all and every idle and disorderly Person neglecting or refusing to maintain or threatening to desert their Families, not being able to maintain themselves, and who shall belong to or ought by any Law now in force to be relieved and provided for by the said Parish, to come in to, work, dwell, and inhabit the said Workhouse, and to detain, keep, maintain, and employ all such respective poor Persons therein, so long as it shall not appear to the said Trustees, on the Part of any such poor Person, that any of them respectively are of Ability, or can otherwise be sufficiently maintained and provided for without the Aid and Provision of the said Trustees, and shall have Power and Authority to employ, set, and compel all such Poor who shall be received or come in to, dwell, and be in the said Workhouse, during such their Abode and Residence there, and whilst maintained by the said Trustees, to do, execute, and perform such Work, Labour, Business, and Employ as the said Trustees at any of their Meetings shall think and judge such respective Poor are and shall be able and fit to do and perform for the Use of the said Parish, and to detain and keep all such Persons found wandering and begging in the said Parish, and committing Acts of Vagrancy, and also all such idle and disorderly Persons who shall have so deserted, threatened to leave, neglected or refused to

maintain his or their Families, and to set each of them to work in such Workhouse, during such Time and until every such Person, by his or her Work or Labour there, shall have got and raised so much Money above their Maintenance as shall be sufficient to repay and reimburse to the said Trustees the Charges and Expences they shall have sustained in the maintaining and providing for every such Person, and his or her Family; and in case such Person shall not by his or her Work and Labour have gained so much Money as shall be sufficient to reimburse to the said Trustees the Charges and Expences of having maintained him or her, or any of his or her Family as aforesaid, and shall neglect or refuse to apply himself or herself to such reasonable Work or Labour as shall be given to him or her by the Master or Mistress of such Workhouse, under the Directions of the said Trustees, then the said Trustees at any of their Meetings shall have Power to detain and keep such Person within such Workhouse to hard Labour for the Space of Thirty Days.

Trustees may order Paupers to be removed by a Beadle, &c.

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

Trustees may grant Certificates to poor Persons.

LVII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Trustees of the Poor present at any General or other Meeting, or any Five or more of them, and they are hereby fully authorized and empowered, to grant Certificates under their Hands to any Person whose legal Settlement shall be in the said Parish of *Strood,* and who shall be willing to remove or who shall have removed out of the said Parish; which respective Certificates, attested by the Clerk to the said Trustees, shall be good and valid to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

Trustees may contract for the Indemnification of Persons on account of Bastard Children.

LVIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, or any Five or more of them, to take, accept, and receive Security from any Person or Persons whomsoever for Payment of any Sum or Sums of Money, or other Consideration, as the said Trustees shall be willing to accept and take from any Person or Persons whomsoever, to indemnify him or them for or on account of any Claim or Demand to be made by the Trustees of the Poor of the said Parish of *Strood,* for the Maintenance of any Child or Children respectively born, or likely to be born a Bastard or Bastards in the said Parish, or in anywise occasioned by the Birth or Support of any Child or Children born a Bastard or Bastards within the said Parish, or chargeable thereto, and thereupon

upon absolutely to acquit and discharge him, her, or them from any Claim or Demand of the said Parish on account thereof; and the said Trustees, or any Seven or more of them, at a General Meeting of the Trustees to be held by virtue and in pursuance of this Act, shall and may, if the Majority of those present shall approve of such Contract, give and execute any Deed or other Instrument whatsoever under their respective Hands which they shall deem necessary for effecting such Indemnification and Purpose aforesaid.

Certificates and Bonds to be delivered to Trustees.

LIX. And be it further enacted, That all Bonds or other Securities already 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 which may arise from Bastard Children, or any other Documents or Papers whatsoever relating thereto, shall be and the same are hereby vested in the Trustees nominated and appointed by virtue of this Act, who shall and may and they are hereby authorized and required to sue on such Bonds or other Securities, and shall recover the Penalties, in like Manner as if such Bonds and Securities had been originally made to them; and all Bonds and other Securities hereafter to be given for the same or like Purposes shall be made to the said Trustees only; any Law, Statute, or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Allotments of Pews.

LX. And be it further enacted, That when the said Church shall be repaired or rebuilt, and such Seats or Pews as are intended to be erected therein shall be completed, the said Trustees are hereby authorized and required to allot and appoint the several Seats and Pews therein to the several Persons who are now legally entitled by Faculty to Pews or Seats within the said Parish Church, and such Pews or Seats shall be made convenient to accommodate as many Persons as the Pews or Seats to which such Person or Persons is or are now legally entitled; and then the said Trustees shall and they are hereby authorized, empowered, and required to appropriate the Residue of the Pews or Seats in the said Church for the Use of such of the other Inhabitants of the said Parish, as to the said Trustees shall appear to have the best Claim or Right thereto, and in such Manner and subject to such Regulations as they shall direct or appoint.

Trustees empowered to let the Pews in the Church, &c.

LXI. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, if they shall think proper, or any Person appointed by them, to let the Pews or Seats to be erected or placed within the said Church, (save and except the Pews or Seats to be appropriated for the Persons so entitled as aforesaid,) to such Persons only who shall be Inhabitant Householders within the said Parish; and in case the Rent of any such Pew or Seat shall be behind and unpaid for the Space of Thirty Days next after the same shall have become due and payable and demanded, or in case any such Person to whom any such Pew or Seat shall be let as aforesaid shall cease to be an Inhabitant Householder, then and in every such Case the said Trustees, or any Person appointed by them, may enter upon and take Possession of such Pew or Seat, and let the same to any other like Person or Persons as aforesaid, and may sue for and recover the Rent so in arrear, and up to the Time of taking such Possession, by Action of Debt or on the Case in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*.

LXII. And

Power to remove Grave Stones and Monuments.

LXII. And be it further enacted, That such of the several Monuments and Grave Stones as may be necessary to be removed for the Purposes of carrying on and completing the Repairs or rebuilding of the said Church shall and may be taken down and removed at the Discretion of the said Trustees, and that such Monuments or Grave Stones shall and may be preserved and kept, by or by the Order of the said Trustees, in such Place or Places as they shall think proper, until the said Church shall be repaired or rebuilt, or the same can be conveniently replaced, and that the same shall be replaced and fixed in such Manner as the said Trustees shall think proper, being as near to the Place or Places from whence they shall have been respectively removed as conveniently may be.

No Person to be buried in the Church unless the Graves shall be built with Bricks, and arched over.

LXIII. And be it further enacted, That after the said Church shall, by virtue of this Act, be put into repair or rebuilt, no Grave or Vault shall at any Time thereafter be opened, made, or allowed for the Interment or Burial of any Person or Persons whomsoever, in or under the Scite of the said Church, unless the same shall be built on all Sides with Brick, and arched over with the same Materials, and so as no Vault or Grave be sunk, opened, or made within Four Feet of the Walls or of any of the Pillars or Columns within the said Church, and that the same do not exceed the Depth of Seven Feet from the Surface of the Pavement; and that no Corpse shall be interred in the Churchyard within Five Feet of the exterior Walls of the said Church.

Trustees empowered to purchase the Chancel.

LXIV. And whereas, in order to complete the Repairs of or rebuild the said Church, it is necessary that the said Trustees should be empowered to purchase the private Chapel or Chancel on the South Side thereof, and also the Chancel at the East End of the said Church; be it therefore enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to contract and agree with all and every Person and Persons interested in the said Chapel or Chapels for the absolute Purchase thereof, and also to and for all and every such Person and Persons to sell and convey such Chapel or Chancels, and each of them, and all his, her, and their Estate and Interest therein, unto the said Trustees and their Successors, for the Purposes of this Act, such Purchase or Contract, as to the Chancel at the East End of the said Church, being made with the Consent and Approbation of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese.

Trustees empowered to stop up Paths in Burial Grounds, and make others.

LXV. And whereas the Cemetery or Burial Ground belonging to the said Church is in its present State too small for the decent Interment of the Dead, and the same might be considerably enlarged if the several Footways and Footpaths leading through the same, and which are totally unnecessary, and of no essential Convenience to the Public, were stopped up; be it therefore enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, by and with the Consent and Concurrence of any Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the City of *Rochester* or County of *Kent*, in Writing under their Hands, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to stop up all and every the Footways and Paths leading through the said Cemetery or Burial Ground (save and except such Footways and Paths as may be deemed necessary for a free Ingress and Egress to and from the said Church); and all such Footways and Paths when so stopped up shall for ever thereafter constitute and form Part of the said Cemetery

or

or Burial Ground; and the said Trustees are hereby also authorized and empowered to make any other Footways and Paths leading into or over any Part of the said Cemetery or Burial Ground for the necessary and free Ingress and Egress to and from the said Church.

Poor's Rates to be made.

LXVI. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall once or oftener in every Year meet together at the said Vestry Room or Committee Room, or at some other convenient Place within the said Parish, and they the said Trustees, or any Seven or more of them, so assembled, shall and they are hereby required then and there to settle and ascertain the Sum of Money necessary to be raised and laid by an equal and indifferent Pound Rate upon all and every Person and Persons who do or shall inhabit, use, occupy, possess, or enjoy any Messuages, Shops, Warehouses, Coach-houses, Stables, Vaults, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said Parish, for the Relief, Maintenance, Lodging, and Employment of the Poor therein, and also for Payment of the several Principal Sums, Annuities, and Interest charged or to be charged on such Rate or Assessment by this Act directed to be made, which Rate or Assessment shall be laid according to the annual Rent or Value of all such Messuages, Shops, Warehouses, Coach-houses, Stables, Vaults, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, and when so settled and ascertained, and signed by the said Trustees or any Seven or more of them so assembled as aforesaid, shall be laid upon all and every Person and Persons who do or shall inhabit, hold, use, occupy, possess, or enjoy any such Messuages, Shops, Warehouses, Coach-houses, Stables, Vaults, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, and shall be raised, levied, and collected in manner by this Act described.

Church Rates to be made.

LXVII. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and may once or oftener in every Year meet together at the said Vestry Room or Committee Room, or at some other convenient Place within the said Parish, and they the said Trustees, or any Seven or more of them, so assembled, shall and they are hereby required then and there to settle and ascertain the Sum of Money necessary to be raised by an equal and indifferent Pound Rate upon all and every the Person and Persons who do or shall inhabit, hold, use, occupy, possess, or enjoy any Messuages, Shops, Warehouses, Coach-houses, Stables, Vaults, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said Parish, not exceeding Two Shillings in the Pound by the Year on the annual Rent or Value of all such Messuages, Shops, Warehouses, Coach-houses, Stables, Vaults, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, for the Purpose of repairing or rebuilding, completing and finishing the said Church and Tower and Cemetery, and for the Payment of the several Principal Sums, Annuities, and Interest charged or to be charged on such Rate or Assessment by this Act directed to be made, and for all other Purposes of this Act not herein-before otherwise provided for; and after such Rate or Assessment shall be so settled and ascertained, and signed by the said Trustees or any Seven or more of them so assembled as aforesaid, the same shall be laid upon all and every Person and Persons who do or shall inhabit such Messuages, Shops, Warehouses, Coach-houses, Stables, Vaults, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, and shall be raised, levied, and collected in manner by this Act directed.

Trustees may rectify Omissions in Rates.

LXVIII. And be it further enacted, That if it shall appear to the said Trustees at any Time after making any Rate or Assessment to be made under

under the Authority of this Act, that the Name of any Person liable to be included in such Rate or Assessment hath been omitted therein, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees to add or cause to be added to such Rate or Assessment the Name of the Person so omitted, together with the Sum for which he or she ought to be so rated, and the Amount of such Rate or Assessment in respect thereof; and every such Addition made to any of the said Rates 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 out.

Rates for the Poor to be allowed by Justices.

LXIX. And be it further enacted, That no Rate or Assessment so to be made and signed as aforesaid for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish shall be valid unless allowed for that Part of *Strood* which lies within the County of *Kent* by Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace acting in and for the said County of *Kent*, and for that Part of *Strood* which lies within the City, by Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the City of *Rochester;* and Notice thereof shall be given in the Parish Church of *Strood* aforesaid on the *Sunday* next after the same shall be allowed, or in the Church of any adjoining Parish in case the said Parish Church of *Strood* shall be shut up for the Purpose of Repair or some unavoidable Cause.

And being allowed to be valid.

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

For rating Places of public Worship, &c.

LXXI. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Trustees, or any Seven or more of them, from Time to Time to rate and assess all Meeting-houses and other Places of public Worship, public Schools, Societies, Markets, and other public Buildings, Warehouses, Wharfs, and vacant Spaces of Ground, situate, lying, and being in the said Parish, to all and every the Rates and Assessments by this Act directed to be made, which Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, shall be paid by the Owner or Owners, Proprietor or Proprietors thereof respectively, and shall be recovered and applied as the Rates or Assessments hereby made payable are to be recovered and applied.

The Deficiency or Surplus of Rates in any one Year to be made good out of or carried to the Rates made for the succeeding Year.

LXXII. And be it further enacted, That in case the Money assessed or collected in any one Year by virtue of this Act shall not be sufficient to answer the respective Purposes for which the same was so rated and assessed, such Deficiency shall be supplied out of the Rates or Assessments for the next ensuing Year to be made for such respective Purposes; and in case there shall remain at the End of any one Year any Surplus of any or either of the said respective Rates, such Surplus shall from Time to Time as the same shall happen to arise be applied in aid of the succeeding Year's Expence for putting in execution the Purposes of this Act respectively.

How Rates to be levied.

LXXIII. And for the better and more effectually raising and levying the several Rates and Assessments by this Act directed to be made, be it further

further enacted, That in case any Landlord or Occupier, or any Owner or Owners, Proprietor or Proprietors, Lessee or Lessees of any Land, Ground, Messuage, Shop, Warehouse, Coach-house, Stable, Vault, Tenement, or Hereditaments within the said Parish, shall refuse or neglect to pay the Money rated and assessed upon him, her, or them respectively by virtue of this Act, it shall be lawful for any One or more of the Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Kent* or City of *Rochester*, according to the Residence of the Person rated, and he or they is and are hereby authorized and directed, by Writing under his or their Hand or Hands, on Complaint by the said Trustees, to summon all and every Person and Persons who shall have refused or neglected as aforesaid (upon Oath being made before such Justice or Justices of the Peace by the Collector or Collectors appointed by the said Trustees as aforesaid for the Time being of his or their having attended upon or at the Dwelling House or last Place of Abode of all and every Person and Persons then intended to be summoned, or who are or shall be liable to the Payment of the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and having demanded the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and of the Neglect or Refusal of such Person or Persons to pay the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments,) to appear before such Justice or Justices at a Time and Place to be mentioned in such Summons; and it shall be lawful for the said Collector or Collectors appointed or to be appointed by the said Trustees, or for any of the Constables or Beadles of the said Parish, to serve all and every such Summons and Summonses upon all and every Person and Persons so neglecting or refusing to pay as aforesaid, either by delivering the same to the Person or Persons thereby intended to be summoned, or leaving the same at his, her, or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, or at the Premises for which the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments mentioned in such Summons shall remain due and owing; and if any Person or Persons so summoned shall refuse or neglect to attend at the Time and Place mentioned in such Summons, or if he, she, or they shall attend and shall not shew good and sufficient Cause to such Justice or Justices that he, she, or they is or are not chargeable with such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, then and in every such Case every such Person or Persons shall pay the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, in respect of which such Summons was issued, and the reasonable Costs and Charges of such Summons; and in all Cases where such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or any of them, shall not be paid upon the Return of such Summons, it shall be lawful for the Justice or Justices who shall have directed such Summons or Summonses to be issued as aforesaid, and he and they is and are hereby authorized and required, upon Oath made before him or them of the due Service of the Summons or Summonses by the Party who shall have served the same, to grant a Warrant or Warrants under his or their Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals, authorizing or directing the said Collector or Collectors, or any Constable or Beadle of the said Parish, to collect or levy such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and all Arrears thereof, and the Costs and Charges of the Summons (if the same shall not have been paid before), and the Costs, Charges, and Expences of the said Warrant and of executing the same, by Distress of the Goods and Chattels of the Party so neglecting or refusing which shall be found either within the said Parish or elsewhere; and if within Five Days next after any such Distress shall be made the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, with all Arrears due thereon, shall not be paid, together with all the reasonable

sonable Charges of the said Summons and Warrant, and of making such Distress, and keeping such Goods and Chattels, the said Collector or Collectors, Constable or Constables, Beadle or Beadles, shall cause the said Goods to be appraised by One or more Appraiser or Appraisers, and to be sold, or such Part or Parts thereof as shall be sufficient to pay the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, together with all Arrears due thereon, and the reasonable Costs, Charges, and Expences of appraising and selling the same, returning the Overplus (if any) to the Owner or Owners of such Goods and Chattels respectively, upon Demand thereof made by him, her, or them.

Form of Warrant of Distress.

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

'Kent to wit.' To the Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poor, and Collectors of the Poor Rate [*or as the Case may be*] of the Parish of *Strood* in the County of *Kent*, and to all Constables and other Peace Officers for the same Parish.

'WHEREAS the under-mentioned Persons, now or late Inhabitants, Householders, Landlords, Tenants, Occupiers, or Enjoyers of Lands, Houses, Shops, Warehouses, Coach-houses, Stables, Cellars, Vaults, or other Buildings or Hereditaments, or Part of some Building or Tenement, within the said Parish of *Strood*, were and are rated and assessed or liable to the Rate or Rates duly made for the Purposes of an Act made in the Fifty-second Year of the Reign of His Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled [*here set forth the Title of this Act*]: And whereas the said Persons have refused or neglected to pay the several Sums of Money at and against their Names hereunder respectively set down for Money due from them for or towards the Purposes in the said Act mentioned, and the said several Sum and Sums are still remaining due, in arrear, and unpaid, as appeareth upon Oath to of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County, *or* City of *Rochester* [*as the Case may be*]; and the said several Persons having been summoned to appear before to answer the Premises, as also appeareth to the said Justice [*or* Justices] upon Oath, and nor either of them having shewn any sufficient Cause why such Sum and Sums of Money should not be paid: These are therefore in His Majesty's Name to will and require you or either of you forthwith to levy the said several Sums due from the said Persons and hereunder joined to or set against their Names respectively by Distress and Sale of their respective Goods and Chattels (such Goods and Chattels being kept for the Space of Days before the same are sold), rendering to them respectively the Overplus (if any), the reasonable Charges of such Distress, Sale, and Keeping being first deducted; and if no sufficient Distress can be had or taken, that then you certify the same to us, to the end such further Proceedings may be had therein as to the Law doth appertain: And I [*or* we] do hereby strictly charge and command all and singular the Constables and other His Majesty's Peace Officers for the said County [*or* City] to be aiding and assisting in all Things relating to the Premises. Given under my Hand

'and

'and Seal [*or* our Hands and Seals] this Day of
in the Year of our Lord .'

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

Better Recovery of Rates on small Houses let at small Rents, or to weekly or monthly Lodgers.

LXXV. And whereas divers Houses, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said Parish are let at small Rents, or to weekly or monthly Tenants, or let out in Lodgings or separate Apartments, or let ready furnished, and the Collection of the Poor's Rate and other Rates from such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments is attended with much Difficulty, and has frequently been evaded, so that much Loss has on that Account been sustained by the said Parish; for Remedy whereof be it enacted, That where the yearly Rent or Value of any such House, Tenement, or Hereditament shall not exceed Fourteen Pounds, or where the House, Tenement, or Hereditament shall be let to weekly or monthly Tenants, or at Rents which shall become payable and be collected at any shorter Periods than Quarterly, or let out in Lodgings or separate Apartments, or let ready furnished, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees (if they shall think proper) to compound with the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, of all and every or any such House or Houses, Tenement or Tenements, and Hereditaments in the said Parish, for Payment of the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, to be made by virtue of this Act, at such reduced yearly Rental as the said Trustees shall think reasonable, so that such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments be not rated at less than Two-thirds nor more than Four-fifths of the Rack Rent at which the same shall then be let, or of the annual Value of the said Premises respectively; and the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, of such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments as shall not exceed the yearly Rent of Fourteen Pounds, and of such as shall be let to weekly or monthly Tenants, or from whence the Rents shall become due and be collected at any shorter Periods than Quarterly, or which shall be let out in Lodgings or separate Apartments, or shall be let ready furnished, is and are hereby enabled to enter into such Composition with the said Trustees; and in case such Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, shall refuse or object to enter into such Composition, such Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, shall from thenceforth be deemed and taken to be the Occupier or Occupiers of such Premises, and shall be thereupon rated and assessed to, and from Time to Time shall pay or cause to be paid, the several Rates or Assessments charged upon the respective Premises by virtue of this Act, unto the Overseers of the Poor, Collector or Collectors, for the Time being, who is and are hereby authorized and empowered to receive and collect the same; and upon Nonpayment thereof, to levy the same by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, of the respective Premises aforesaid, wheresoever they shall be found, or of the Person or Persons inhabiting the same respectively, in like Manner as any Rate or Assessment may be raised, levied, and collected by virtue of this Act; provided that no such Person or Persons so inhabiting the same respectively shall at any Time be required to pay or be subject or liable to pay any greater Sum for or towards the Discharge of the said

Rates or Assessments or any of them, or of any Arrears thereof, than the Amount of the Rent actually due or payable by such Tenant or Tenants for and on account of the Premises so occupied by him, her, or them; and it shall and may be lawful to and for any such Person paying any such Sum or Sums of Money to deduct the same from his, her, or their Rent or Rents: Provided also, that no such Landlord or Owner shall be charged with or liable to pay for any increased Rent, reserved or made payable to him for or on account of such Landlord or Owner having agreed to pay the several Rates or Assessments heretofore chargeable upon the Occupier; and where any House, Tenement, or Hereditaments shall be let out in Lodgings or separate Apartments, or ready furnished, the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, of all such Premises shall be deemed and taken to be the Occupier or Occupiers thereof, and shall be rated to and pay the Rates or Assessments made by virtue of this Act in respect of all such Houses, Tenements, and Hereditaments.

Tenants Goods liable for the Rates payable by the Landlord to the Extent of the Rent due.

LXXVI. 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, or any separate Apartments or Lodgings furnished or unfurnished therein, (of which the Rates, or any Part thereof, the Landlord or Landlords, Landlady or Landladies, Owner or Owners, is or are hereby made subject or 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 and became due and payable upon the said Premises during the Time of their Occupancy only, and all reasonable Costs, Charges, and Expences attending thereupon; and each and every such Person and Persons is and are hereby required to pay such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be rated and assessed upon every such Landlord or Landlady or Owner in pursuance of this Act; and each and every such Person or Persons 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, or Owner (unless there shall be some Agreement to the contrary between the Landlord or Landlady and Tenant or Tenants); and the Receipt or Receipts for such Payment shall be a sufficient Discharge to every such Person or Persons 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, as if the same had been actually paid to the Landlord or Landlords, Landlady or Landladies, to whom his, her, or their Rent shall be due and payable; and every such Landlord or Landlords, Landlady or Landladies, of such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments, is and are hereby required to allow such Deductions 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 that no such Tenant or Occupier, by Payment of any such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, in manner aforesaid, shall or may be deemed to acquire any Settlement in the said Parish, but that such Landlord or Landlady, Landlords or Landladies, 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: Provided also, that

that no such Tenant or Occupier shall at any Time be required to pay or be subject or liable to pay any greater Sum or Sums of Money towards the Discharge of any such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or of any Arrears thereof, than the Amount of the Rent actually due or payable by such Tenant or Occupier for or on account of the Premises so occupied by him or her.

Tenants enabled to recover of Landlord Rates paid on his Account.

LXXVII. And be it further enacted, That in case any Tenant or Tenants, Occupier or Occupiers, shall pay to the said Collector or Collectors any more Money, on account of the Part or Parts of the said Rates and Assessments respectively as is or are hereby imposed and laid on the respective Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners thereof, than shall be due from the said Tenant or Tenants, Occupier or Occupiers, for the Rent or Rents of his, her, or their House, Building, Land, Ground, or Hereditament, then and in every such Case the Overplus thereof shall and may be levied on the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, of such House, Building, Land, Ground, or Hereditaments, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals of any One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the County, City, Borough, Town, Division, or Place where such Goods and Chattels shall be, in case such Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, shall have refused or neglected to pay the same for the Space of Six Days after Demand made thereof by such Tenant or Tenants, Occupier or Occupiers, or by his, her, or their Attorney or Agent for that Purpose appointed; and such Money, when so raised and levied, shall be paid to the said Tenant or Tenants, Occupier or Occupiers, who shall have so advanced the same.

Not to make void Contract between Landlord and Tenant for paying Rates.

LXXVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend, or be construed, deemed, or taken to extend, so as to alter, impeach, or make void any Contract, Covenant, or Agreement made between Landlord and Tenant, expressed in any Lease already granted, or to be expressed in any Lease hereafter to be made pursuant to any Contract or Agreement for a Lease now subsisting, touching or concerning the Payment of any Rates for that Purpose; but that every Person who by virtue of any such Lease already granted, or any such Lease hereafter to be made pursuant to any Contract or Agreement for a Lease now subsisting, is, are, or ought to be obliged or liable to pay any Rates for that Purpose, shall in lieu thereof be obliged to pay the Rates hereby directed to be assessed on the several Landlords, Owners, or Proprietors of the said Houses, Buildings, Lands, Grounds, and other Hereditaments respectively, or so much thereof as by the said Trustees shall be deemed just and reasonable, according to the true Meaning of such Lease, Contract, or Agreement, for and during such Time as such Lease, Contract, or Agreement shall remain in force or ought to have continuance; and in case any Dispute shall arise concerning any such Lease, Contract, or Agreement, the said Trustees shall and they are hereby authorized and required to hear and determine the same.

Premises to remain charged.

LXXIX. And be it further enacted, That in default or failure of Payment of the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or if any Arrears remain due or unpaid, or any Part thereof as aforesaid, the same shall be and remain

remain a Charge upon the Premises in respect whereof the same shall be so rated or assessed, and shall and may, after Six Days Notice left upon the Premises, be sued for and recovered of and from such Owner or Owners, Leaseholder or Leaseholders, or Landlord or Landlords respectively, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, to be commenced and prosecuted in the Name of the Clerk to the said Trustees, in which Action no Protection, Essoign, or Wager of Law, nor more than One Imparlance, shall be allowed; and if the Plaintiff shall recover in any such Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, he shall have full Costs, to be levied and recovered as other Monies upon Judgment are now by Law levied and recovered.

Persons removing, and others succeeding them, to pay due Proportion, to be settled by Justices.

LXXX. 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, Building, Land, Tenement, or Hereditament, before the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, charged thereon respectively by virtue of this Act shall be paid and discharged, or if any Person or Persons shall enter into the Occupation of any House, Building, Land, Tenement, or Hereditament out of or from which any Person or Persons shall have so removed before such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, shall have been paid and discharged, then and in every such Case the Person or Persons so removing out of or from, or quitting the Possession of, and the Person or Persons entering into the Occupation of any such House, Building, Land, Tenement, or Hereditament, shall be respectively subject and liable to the Payment of all such Rates or Assessments in proportion to the Time that such Person or Persons respectively possessed or occupied the same respectively, in the same Manner as if the Person or Person so removing or quitting as aforesaid had remained in the Possession or Occupation of such House, Building, Land, Tenement, or Hereditament, or the Person or Persons so entering into the Occupation thereof had been originally rated and assessed to such Rates or Assessments, which Proportion shall, in case of Dispute, be settled by Two Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Kent* or City of *Rochester*, whose Determination shall be final.

Goods of Persons rated may be distrained in another Place, County, &c.

LXXXI. And be it further enacted, That the Goods and Chattels of any Person or Persons rated or assessed as aforesaid, and neglecting or refusing to pay the Sum or Sums of Money by him, her, or them respectively payable as aforesaid, shall and may be distrained in manner aforesaid, not only in the said Parish, but in any other Place within the said County of *Kent*; and if sufficient Distress cannot be found in the said County, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Collector or Collectors, or other Persons aforesaid, by Warrant according to the Form or Effect herein-before mentioned, under the Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals of One or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Kent* or City of *Rochester* (as the Case may be), which Warrant the said Justice or Justices, upon Oath made before him or them, by such Collector or Collectors or other Persons, that such Sum or Sums of Money payable by such Person or Persons as aforesaid is in arrear and unpaid, is and are hereby authorized and required to grant, (such Warrant being backed or countersigned by some Magistrate of the County, City, or Liberty where such Distress is intended to be made, which Warrant such Magistrate is hereby required to back or countersign,) to distrain the Goods

Goods and Chattels of the said Person or Persons so neglecting or refusing to pay such Sum or Sums of Money as aforesaid, in such other County, City, Liberty, or Place where the same shall be found, and may by virtue of such Warrant be distrained in the same Manner as if the same had been found within the said Parish of *Strood*.

Power in Trustees to remit a Part of the Rates.

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

Collectors authorized to receive Rates, and to deliver Duplicate of Rate to Trustees when required to be examined.

LXXXIII. And be it further enacted, That all and every Collector and Collectors to be appointed in pursuance of this Act shall and he and they is and are hereby authorized and required to collect, levy, and receive the several Rates and Assessments directed and required to be made, raised, and levied by virtue of or in pursuance of this Act; and every Person who is hereby made liable to pay the same, and every other Sum of Money which under this Act is hereby required and ought to be paid, shall be and is hereby required to pay the said Rates and other Monies as aforesaid unto the Collector or Collectors, or other Person or Persons who shall or may be so appointed to collect, levy, or receive the same; and such Collector and Collectors, or other Person or Persons as aforesaid, is and are hereby required and directed from Time to Time, on Demand made by, and when and so often as he or they shall be thereunto required by the said Trustees, or by their respective Clerks, or other Person or Persons so nominated and appointed to receive the same, deliver the Duplicate of the Rate or Assessment whereby the Monies collected, levied, or received by virtue or in pursuance of this Act was made, together with a full, true, and particular Account in Writing, under his Hand or their Hands, of all and every Sum and Sums of Money rated or assessed, and other Matters and Things collected, levied, and received by him or them, and also of all and every Sum and Sums of Money rated or assessed in such Rate or Assessment as remains uncollected (if any be), together with the Reasons why the same have not been collected, to the end that it may appear whether the Nonpayment hath happened through the Insolvency of the Party rated, or through the Default of the Collector or Collectors.

Application of the Monies arising from Rates, &c.

LXXXIV. And be it further enacted, That all Money to arise by or from the said Rates or Assessments hereby granted, or to be levied or received from Time to Time by virtue of this Act, and all the Money which may be borrowed on the Credit thereof, or Advances for Annuities as herein-after mentioned, shall be paid to the Treasurer to the said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint, and shall be applied and disposed of in the first place in paying and defraying the Charges and Expences which shall have been incurred in or shall be incident to and attending the obtaining and passing of this Act, and of the Interest for the Money which shall have been advanced for defraying such Charges and Expences; and in the next place from Time to Time in defraying the Costs, Charges, and Expences of carrying the several Purposes of this Act into execution, and in paying and defraying all Costs, Charges, and Expences

Expences which the said Trustees or any of their Officers may sustain or be put unto in carrying this Act into execution, or in prosecuting or defending any Prosecutions, Actions, or Suits for or concerning any of the Monies granted or arising by virtue of this Act, or in any Manner relating to the Execution of this Act, or of any thing to be done by virtue thereof, and for such other Uses and Purposes as herein expressed, and for no other Use, Intention, or Purpose whatsoever.

Power to borrow Money.

LXXXV. And in order to enable the said Trustees to carry the several Purposes of this Act into immediate Execution, be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, or any Thirteen or more of them, from Time to Time to borrow and take up at Interest any Sum or Sums of Money, not exceeding in the whole the Sum of Three thousand Pounds, upon the Credit of the said Rate or Assessment for the Relief, Maintenance, Lodging, and Employment of the Poor of the said Parish of *Strood*, and also any Sum or Sums of Money, not exceeding in the whole the Sum of Seven thousand Pounds, upon Credit of the said Rate or Assessment for the repairing or rebuilding, completing and finishing, the said Church and Tower and Cemetery as herein-before mentioned, and by Writing under their Hands and Seals to assign all or any Part of the said Rates or Assessments to such Person or Persons as shall lend or advance any Money thereon, or to his, her, or their Trustee or Trustees, as a Security for the Principal Monies to be advanced, with lawful Interest; and the Charges and Expences of every such Assignment shall be from Time to Time defrayed by the said Trustees out of the Money so borrowed; and every such Assignment shall be in the Words or to the Effect following; (that is to say,)

Form of Assignment.

'WE, being Thirteen of the Trustees appointed by or in pursuance of an Act made in the Fifty-second Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, intituled [*here set forth the Title of this Act*], in consideration of the Sum of advanced and lent by *A. B.* upon the Credit and for the Purposes of the said Act, do hereby grant and assign unto the said *A. B.* [*or* to his Trustee or Trustees, *as the Case may require*], his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, such Proportions of the Rates or Assessments arising by virtue of the said Act for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parish, *or* for repairing or rebuilding, completing and finishing the said Church and Cemetery [*as the Case may be*], as the said Sum of doth or shall bear to the whole Sum which may at any Time be borrowed or become due and owing or be charged upon the Credit of the said Rates or Assessments; to be had and holden from this Day of until the said Sum of with Interest at *per Centum per Annum* for the same, to be paid half-yearly, shall be repaid and satisfied. In witness whereof we the said Trustees have hereunto set our Hands and Seals the Day of in the Year of our Lord .'

Power to Trustees to raise Monies by Annuities or Tontine.

LXXXVI. And be it further enacted, That in case the said Trustees shall think it advisable to raise all or any Part of the Money for the Purposes of this Act by granting Annuities for Lives, or by way of Tontine, instead of Assignments as aforesaid, then and in such Case it shall be lawful to

to and for the said Trustees, or any Thirteen or more of them, and they are hereby authorized and empowered so to do, and by Writing under their Hands and Seals to grant an Annuity or Annuities to any Person or Persons who shall contribute, advance, and pay into the Hands of the Treasurer or Treasurers of the said Trustees any Sum or Sums of Money for the absolute Purchase of any Annuity or Annuities, to be paid and payable during the natural Life of every such Contributor, or during the natural Lives of any Two such Contributors and the Life of the Survivor, or the natural Life of such Person, or the natural Lives of Two such Persons and the Life of the Survivor, as shall be nominated by or on the Behalf of such Contributor at the Time of the Payment of his or her Contribution or Purchase Money, so as that no such Annuity do exceed the Rate of Ten Pounds *per Centum per Annum* on a single Life, and of such Two Persons, or the Life of the Survivor; and the Expence of every such Annuity shall be paid by the said Trustees out of the Monies so contributed; and that in case the said Trustees shall raise any of the Money necessary for the Purposes of this Act by way of Tontine, then such Tontine shall be in such Classes, at such Interest, and with such Benefit of Survivorship, and subject to such Rules, Orders, and Regulations, as the said Trustees shall make respecting the same, which shall be binding upon all the Contributors thereto; and the Grant of every such Annuity shall be in the Words or to the Effect following:

Form of Grant of an Annuity.

'WE, being Thirteen of the Trustees appointed by or in pursuance of an Act made in the Fifty-second Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, intituled [*here set forth the Title of this Act*], in consideration of the Sum of paid by *A. B.* to *C. D.* the Treasurer appointed in pursuance of the said Act, do hereby grant unto the said *A. B.* an Annuity or yearly Sum of out of the Rates or Assessments granted or arising by virtue of the said Act for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parish, *or* for repairing or rebuilding, completing and finishing the said Church and Cemetery [*as the Case may be*], which Annuity or yearly Sum of shall be paid to the said *A. B.* or his Assigns during the Term of his natural Life, *or* to the said *A. B.*, his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, during the natural Life of *C. D. or* during the natural Lives of and and the Life of the Survivor [*as the Case may be*], upon the Day of the Day of the Day of and the Day of in every Year during the natural Life or Lives of him, her, *or* them, at in the said Parish, the first Payment thereof to be made upon the Day of next ensuing the Date hereof, and a proportionable Part of such Annuity or yearly Sum of shall be paid from the last quarterly Day of Payment to the Day of the Death of the said *or* to the Day of the Death of the Survivor of them the said and . In witness whereof we the said Trustees have hereunto set our Hands and Seals the Day of in the Year of our Lord .'

And every such Grant shall be good, valid, and effectual in the Law, without any Enrolment or Registry of the Memorial thereof; and every Annuity so granted as aforesaid shall be and is hereby charged upon, and shall be payable and paid by the Treasurer to the said Trustees out of the said

said Rates or Assessments, and other Money to be received by virtue of this Act, according to the Grant of such Annuity.

Securities transferable.

LXXXVII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any Person or Persons entitled to any of the Securities or Annuities aforesaid, at any Time, by Writing under his, her, or their Hand or Hands respectively, or by their last Wills or Codicils in Writing, to assign, transfer, or demise such Securities or Annuities to any Person or Persons whomsoever, and so *toties quoties;* and such Assignments or Transfers may be made by Indorsement on their said respective Securities, in the Presence of One credible Witness, after they shall be respectively entered by the Clerk to the said Trustees in manner herein-after mentioned; and shall entitle the Person or Persons to whom the same shall be respectively made, and his, her, or their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, to the Benefit of the Security or Securities so assigned or transferred; and such Assignment or Transfer shall or may be in the Form following, or in any other Words to the same Effect:

Form of Transfer of Securities.

'I *A. B.*, being entitled to the Sum of
'[*or* an Annuity of secured to *C. D.* and his
'Assigns, *or* his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, *as the Case may*
'*be,*] by virtue of an Assignment [*or* Grant of an Annuity] bearing Date
'the Day of under the Hands and Seals of the
'Trustees acting in the Execution of an Act made in the Fifty-second
'Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, intituled [*here set forth the*
'*Title of this Act*], upon the Credit of certain Rates or Assessments granted
'or payable by the said Act for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor
'of the said Parish, *or* for repairing or rebuilding, completing and
'finishing the said Church and Cemetery, [*as the Case may be,*] in con-
'sideration of the Sum of to be paid by
'of in the County of at or before the Execution
'of these Presents, the Receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, do
'hereby transfer all the said Security, and all my Right and Title in and
'to the same, and the Money thereby secured, and all Interest and other
'Money now due and owing thereon, unto *E. F.*, his Executors, Admi-
'nistrators, and Assigns. Dated the Day of in
'the Year of our Lord .'

And a Copy of every Security and Assignment and of every Grant or Annuity which shall have been made in pursuance of this Act, and an Extract or Memorial of every Transfer thereof respectively, and also so much of such Wills as relate to the Bequest of any such Security or Annuity, shall, before any Interest on any such Security or on any such Annuity shall be actually paid, be entered in a Book to be kept for that Purpose by the Clerk or Clerks to the said Trustees for the Time being, which Extract or Memorial shall signify and contain the Date and Names of the Parties to such Security or Transfer, and the Sums of Money thereby secured or transferred, to which Book any Person interested shall at all seasonable Times have Access, and have free Liberty to inspect the same, without Fee or Reward; and for the Entry of every such Security, Assignment, or Transfer the said Clerk shall be paid by the Person to whom the same shall be made the Sum of Five Shillings, and no more; and every such Security, Assignment, or Transfer, after Entry thereof as aforesaid, shall entitle the Person or Persons to whom the same shall be made, and his or her Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, to the Benefit of the

the Security thereby made or transferred, without any other Registry or Enrolment whatsoever.

Annuitants and Creditors to inspect Books, &c., and Clerk to Trustees to deliver Copies on Demand.

LXXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for all and every the Annuitants and Creditors of the Rates and Assessments to be made by virtue of this Act at all convenient Times to peruse and inspect all Rates or Rate Books, and all other Book or Books, Accounts, Vouchers, Papers, or Writings whatsoever, which shall be kept under this Act in relation to the Affairs of the said Parish in the Custody or Power of the Trustees for the Time being, without Fee or Reward; and that the Clerk or Clerks to the 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 for every One hundred Words, and so in proportion for any less Number of Words, contained in any 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 produce such Book or Books, Accounts, Vouchers, and Papers for Perusal and Inspection as aforesaid, or 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 Ten Pounds, one Moiety thereof to the Treasurer to the Trustees 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 on the Case, wherein no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance, shall be allowed.

Trustees may, if Creditors desirous, exchange Mortgages for Annuities.

LXXXIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons to whom any of the Money to be borrowed upon the Credit of this Act, or which by the Assignment of the Mortgages for securing the same may at any Time hereafter become payable, shall at any Time be desirous to exchange such Mortgage for Annuities, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees to grant Annuities accordingly in lieu of the said Mortgages upon the same Terms and in like Manner and Form as hereinbefore directed with respect to Annuities granted by virtue of this Act, the Principal and Interest due upon the said Mortgage Securities to be taken and computed as Money paid for or on account of the Purchase of such Annuities.

Creditors to be paid by Ballot.

XC. And in order that no Preference may be given to any of the Persons who shall have advanced and lent Money upon the Credit of the Rates and Assessments to be made and raised respectively by virtue of this Act, be it further enacted, That the said Trustees (if there shall be more Creditors than One) shall cause the Numbers of all Assignments or Securities granted and then in force for securing the Principal Monies lent and

advanced upon the Credit of the said Rates or Assessments, of which Part shall be then intended to be paid off, to be written upon distinct Pieces of Paper of an equal Size, and all such Papers shall be rolled up in the said Form as nearly as may be, and put into a Box or Wheel, and the Number or Numbers of as many of the said Assignments or Securities as are intended to be paid off shall be drawn separately out of the said Box or Wheel by the Clerk to the said Trustees; and after every such Ballot the said Trustees shall cause Notice, signed by their Clerk, to be given to or left at the last or usual Place of Abode of the Person or Persons who shall be entitled to the Money to be paid off pursuant to such Ballot; and where there is only One Creditor, to give Notice to such Creditor of the said Trustees Intention to pay him or her as aforesaid; and every such Notice shall express the Sum to be paid off, together with the Interest due thereon, and that the same will be paid on a Day and at a Place to be specified in such Notice, such Day not being sooner than Six Calendar Months after the Day of giving or leaving such Notice as aforesaid; and the Interest of the Principal Money to be paid off shall, from and after the Day to be so specified, cease and be no longer paid or payable, unless such Money shall be demanded pursuant to such Notice, and not paid, but the Principal Money in respect whereof such Notice shall be given, and also the Interest thereof to the Day so specified, shall nevertheless be payable on Demand; but nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend so as to require the said Trustees to pay off and discharge any Monies lent on the Credit of the said Rates or Assessments by way of Annuity until all other the Creditors of the said Rates or Assessments shall be paid off and discharged, and the several Parties so lending Money by way of Annuity shall agree to accept the Sum or Sums of Money offered by the said Trustees for the Repurchase of such his, her, or their Annuity or Annuities.

Trustees may borrow Money at less Interest, and pay off former Securities.

XCI. And be it further enacted, That in case the said Trustees can at any Time borrow or take up any Sum or Sums of Money at a lower Rate of Interest than the Mortgages, Assignments, or Securities which shall be then in force shall bear, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees from Time to Time to charge the said Rates or Assessments in manner aforesaid with such Sum or Sums of Money as they shall think proper, and the Interest thereof at such low Rate as aforesaid, and to pay off and discharge the Assignments or Securities bearing a higher Rate of Interest, according to the Directions and Regulations herein prescribed for paying off Assignments and Securities.

Obstructing Trustees and their Officers in their Duty.

XCII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall at any Time or Times assault, obstruct, hinder, or molest any of the said Trustees, or any Treasurer, Clerk, Collector or Collectors, Surveyor or Surveyors, Inspector or Inspectors, Assistant Overseer, or Superintendent, Watchman, Beadle, or other Officer, Workman, or other Person whomsoever, who is, are, or shall be employed by virtue of this Act in the Performance or Execution of their Duty, or any of the Matters or Things required or directed to be done by virtue of this Act, such Person so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Ten Pounds, as the Justice or Justices before whom any Offender shall be convicted shall from Time to Time adjudge.

XCIII. And

XCIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful to or for any Treasurer or Treasurers to the said Trustees, or either of them, to pay any Sum or Sums of Money to or for any Person or Persons on any Account whatsoever without first obtaining an Order in Writing, made at a Meeting of the said Trustees, specifying the Sum and Purpose for which the same shall be paid; and all such Orders so received by the said Treasurer or Treasurers shall be a sufficient Receipt for all such Sums of Money so paid, and shall be allowed in the said Treasurer's Accounts.

The Treasurers to the Trustees not to pay Money without an Order.

XCIV. And be it further enacted, That all Penalties and Forfeitures by this Act incurred or imposed (for the Recovery whereof no other Method hath been directed by this Act) shall be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Person or Persons offending, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals of any One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace of the said County of *Kent* or City of *Rochester*, as the Case may be, (which Warrant such Justice or Justices is and are hereby authorized and required to issue,) upon Confession of the Party or Parties, or upon the Evidence of any credible Witness upon Oath (which Oath such Justice is hereby required and empowered to administer); and the Overplus of the Money (if any), after such Penalties and Forfeitures, and the Charges of such Distress and Sale (such Charges to be settled by the said Justice or Justices) are recovered and deducted, shall be returned, on Demand, to the Owner or Owners of such Goods and Chattels; and all such Penalties and Forfeitures, when so recovered or paid (if not otherwise directed to be applied by this Act), shall from Time to Time be paid to the said Trustees or to their respective Treasurer or Clerk, to be applied for the Purposes of this Act as the said Trustees shall order and direct; and in case sufficient Distress cannot be found, or such Costs, Charges, Penalties, and Forfeitures shall not be forthwith paid, it shall be lawful for such Justice or Justices, and he and they is and are hereby authorized and required, by Warrant under his or their Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals, to cause the Offender or Offenders to be committed to the Common Gaol or House of Correction for the said County or City, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for any Time not exceeding Three Calendar Months, unless such Costs, Charges, Penalties, and Forfeitures shall be sooner paid and satisfied.

Recovery and Application of Penalties.

XCV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees to reward any Informer or Informers as they shall think proper, so as such Reward does not exceed One Half of the Penalty or Forfeiture proved by the Information of such Informer or Informers to have been incurred, any thing herein contrary notwithstanding.

Trustees may reward Informers.

XCVI. And for the more easy Conviction of Offenders against this Act, be it further enacted, That all and every Justice and Justices of the Peace before whom any Person or Persons shall be convicted of any Offence against this Act, or against any Rule, Order, or Bye Law to be made by virtue or in pursuance thereof, shall and may cause the Conviction to be drawn in the Form following, or in any other Words to the same Effect:

Form of Conviction.

'County of Kent, } BE it remembered, That on the Day of
'or
'City of Rochester. } in the Year of the Reign of
'[*as the Case may be*] One thousand eight
'hundred

'hundred and *A. B.* is [*or* are, *as the Case may require*] convicted before me [*or* us, *as the Case may be*], One [*or* Two] of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace acting in and for the said County of *Kent*, *or* City of *Rochester* [*as the Case may be*], by virtue of an Act of Parliament passed in the Fifty-second Year of the Reign of His Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled [*here set forth the Title of this Act*], of [*here specify the Offence, Time and Place when and where committed, as the Case shall be*], contrary to the said Act, [*or* contrary to a certain Bye Law, *as the Case may be*,] made on the Day of pursuant to the said Act, for which Offence I [*or* we, *as the Case shall be*] adjudge the said *A. B.* to have forfeited the Sum of . Given under my Hand and Seal [*or* our Hands and Seals, *as the Case may be*] the Day and Year first above written.'

Inhabitants may be Witnesses.

XCVII. And it is hereby further enacted, That in all Actions, Prosecutions, Informations, and Causes of Proceedings whatsoever relating to or concerning the Execution of this Act, or of any Order, Rule, or Bye Law made in pursuance hereof, no Inhabitant of the said Parish of *Strood*, notwithstanding his being a Member or Officer of the same, or contributing to the Rates thereof, nor the Treasurers nor any other Officer of the said Trustees, nor any Person maintained within the said Poor's House, or otherwise relieved or supported by and at the Expence of the said Parish, shall be deemed to be an incompetent Witness by reason of his or her paying or being liable to pay any Rates or Duties imposed by virtue of this Act, or any Part thereof, or by reason of being such Treasurer or Officer as aforesaid.

Proceedings not to be quashed for Want of Form.

XCVIII. And be it further enacted, That no Action, Verdict, Judgment, Conviction, or Order, or other Proceedings which shall or may be had or taken in pursuance of or under or by virtue of this Act, shall be made void, quashed, or vacated for Defect or Want of Form only, or be removed or removable by Certiorari, or any other Writ or Process whatsoever, into any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster* or elsewhere, any Law or Statute to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding; and that where any Distress shall be made for any Sum or Sums of Money to be levied by virtue of this Act such Distress shall not be deemed unlawful, or the Party or Parties making the same be deemed a Trespasser or Trespassers, on account of any Defect or Want of Form or any other Irregularity in the Summons, Conviction, Order, Warrant, Distress, or other Proceedings relating thereto, nor shall the Party or Parties making the same be deemed a Trespasser or Trespassers *ab initio* on account of any Irregularity which shall be afterwards done by the Party or Parties distraining, but the Person or Persons aggrieved by such Irregularity shall and may recover Satisfaction for the special Damage only in an Action upon the Case.

Limitation of Actions.

XCIX. And be it further enacted, That no Action or Suit shall be commenced or prosecuted against any Person or Persons for any thing done or to be done by virtue or in pursuance of this Act, or any of the Powers hereby given, or in anywise relating thereto, until Twenty-one Days Notice thereof shall have been first given in Writing by the intended Plaintiff or Plaintiffs to the Treasurer or Clerk to the Trustees, signed by the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, or his or their Attorney, specifying the Cause and

and Intentions of and for commencing such Action or Suit, and the Time when such Action or Suit will be commenced, nor at any Time whatsoever after sufficient Satisfaction or Tender thereof shall have been made to the Party or Parties aggrieved, or to his or their Attorney, by or on behalf of the Defendant or Defendants, nor after Three Calendar Months next after the Fact committed for which such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits shall be so brought, and in case there shall be a Continuation of Damages, then and after Three Calendar Months next after the doing or committing such Damages shall cease, and not otherwise; and all Actions and Suits shall be laid and tried in the County of *Kent*, and not in any other County or Place; and the Defendant or Defendants in every such Action or Suit may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the special Matter in Evidence, at any Trial or Trials which shall be had thereupon, and that the Matter or Thing for which such Action or Suit shall be brought was done in pursuance and by the Authority of this Act, or of some Rule, Order, or Bye Law in pursuance thereof; and if the said Matter or Thing shall appear to have been so done, or if it shall happen 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 aforesaid, or paid into Court with the Leave thereof, either before or after Issue joined in such Action or Suit, or if any such Action or Suit shall not be commenced within the Time herein-before for that Purpose limited, or shall be laid or brought in any other County or Place than as aforesaid, then the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants therein; and also if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall become nonsuited, or suffer a Discontinuance of such Action or Actions after the Defendant or Defendants shall have appeared thereto, or if Judgment shall be given for the Defendant or Defendants therein, or if any Verdict shall pass upon the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, or if upon Demurrer or otherwise Judgment shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants shall have Treble Costs, and shall have such Remedy for the recovering the same as any Defendant or Defendants hath or may have for his, her, or their Costs in any other Cases by Law.

Persons aggrieved may appeal.

C. Provided always, and be it enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by any Rate or Assessment, Rates or Assessments, made by virtue of this Act, or by reason of any of the Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations, Judgments or Determinations of the said Trustees, or by any other Matter or Thing done or directed to be done by or by the Order of the said Trustees, such Person or Persons may appeal to the said Trustees at any Meeting to be holden within Two Calendar Months next after the Cause of Complaint shall have arisen, or any Matter or Thing done or committed by or by Order of the said Trustees, and such Trustees or any Seven or more of them are hereby authorized and empowered, if they shall think such Persons aggrieved, to give such Relief in the Premises as to them shall seem necessary; and if any such Person or Persons shall not be satisfied with the Determination of the said Trustees, or if any Person or Persons shall think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by any Judgment, Order, or Determination of any Justice or Justices of the Peace acting in the Execution of this Act, then and in such Case he, she, or they may appeal to the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the Western Division of the said County, or to the General Quarter Sessions of the

Peace for the City of *Rochester*, as to any thing which arises in that Jurisdiction, within Two Calendar Months next after such Determination of the said Trustees, or after the Cause of Complaint shall have arisen, such Appellant or Appellants first giving or causing to be given Ten Days Notice at least in Writing of his, her, or their Intention to bring such Appeal, and of the Matter thereof, to the Clerk to the said Trustees, and within Five Days next after such Notice entering or causing a Recognizance to be entered into before some Justice or Justices of the Peace for such County, with Two sufficient Sureties, conditioned to try such Appeal, and to abide the Order thereof, and to pay such Costs as shall be awarded by the Justices at such Quarter Sessions; and the said Justices at such Quarter Sessions, upon due Proof of such Notice being given as aforesaid, and of entering into such Recognizance, shall hear and determine the Causes and Matters of every such Appeal in a summary Way; and the said Justices shall and may award such Satisfaction and Costs to the Parties respectively appealing or appealed against as they the said Justices shall think proper; and the said Justices may, if they see Cause, mitigate any Fine, Penalty, or Forfeiture, and may order any Money to be returned which shall have been levied in pursuance of any such Bye Law, Rule, Order, Regulation, Judgment, or Determination, and may also order and award such further Satisfaction to be made to the Party injured as they shall think reasonable; and the Determination of such Justices at such Quarter Sessions shall be final and conclusive.

Charges of obtaining this Act to be paid.

CI. And be it further enacted, That all Costs, Charges, and Expences incident to or attending the obtaining and passing of this Act shall be borne, paid, and defrayed by the said Trustees, or their Treasurer or Collector, out of the first Monies raised by any of the Rates or Assessments authorized to be raised, collected, and received by virtue of this Act.

Public Act.

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

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