



ANNO TRICESIMO NONO

GEORGI II. REGIS.

Cap. 28.

An Act for building a Bridge over the River *Severn*, from or near *Cressage*, in the County of *Salop*, to the opposite Shore; and for making proper Roads or Avenues to and from the same.

[10th May 1799.]

WHEREAS the Passage over the River *Severn*, by a Ford and Ferry near *Cressage*, in the County of *Salop*, is often obstructed by Floods, and is inconvenient, and not suited to the Accommodation of Passengers from either Side; and it would be a great Convenience to the said County and to the Publick, if a Communication were made across the said River by a Bridge, and commodious Roads or Avenues were made to and from the same; (which the several Persons herein-after named are willing and desirous to complete at their own Expence): But as such good Purposes cannot be effected without the Authority of Parliament; may it 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 Sir *William Pulteney* Baronet, *Henry Cresset Pelham* Esquire, *Frances Pelham* Spinster, the Reverend *John Wilde*, the Reverend *Prosser*, *John Dodson*, *John Beck*, *Thomas Horderon*, *Abraham Ward*, *John Smitheman* Esquire; *John Corfield*, *Richard Davies*, *William Langley*,
[Loc. & Per.] 4 N

Preamble.

Trustees.

Langley, Eleanor Goffnell, Robert Hayward, John Jenkins, William Clayton, Edward Jenkins Esquire, the Reverend Archibald Alison, George Hayward, John Hogins, John Flint Esquire, John Clarke, Thomas Smith, Jonathan Cotton Symonds, Thomas Otley, Robert Nichols, Elizabeth North Spinster, and William Rowton, together with such Person or Persons as they or such of them as shall be present at any Meeting to be held for that Purpose shall admit, by Writing under their Hands and Seals, in Manner herein-after mentioned, and their respective Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, shall be, and are hereby appointed Trustees for carrying on, building, completing, and maintaining, at their own proper Costs and Charges, a Bridge of Cast Iron, Stone, Brick, or Timber, across the River *Severn*, from or near *Cressage* to the opposite Shore, and for making, and keeping in good and sufficient Repair, a Road from the South End of the said Bridge to the Road which leads from *Cund* to *Cressage* and *Much Wenlock*; and from the North End of the said Bridge, along the present Road, which passes through the several Parishes and Townships of *Eaton Constantine, Wroxeter, Wellington, Rushton, Uppington, and Aston*, to near the Nine Mile Stone on the Road leading from *Shrewsbury* to the *Watling Street*, or as near as conveniently may be; and also a Branch from or near the North End of the said Bridge to the Colliery, at or near the *Long Wood*, and there to join the Road leading from *Atcham* to *Buildwas Bridge*; and for that Purpose shall have full Power and Authority, by themselves, and their Agents, Servants, Workmen, and others, to remove any Shelves or other Obstructions in the said River, and to dig up, take, and carry away all Beds of Gravel, Sand, Mud, or any other Impediment, and also to dig and cut the Banks of the said River, in such Manner as shall be necessary and proper for the building the said Bridge, and to erect and make, in and over the said River, and the Lands adjoining or near the same, any Campshots, Trenches, and Landing Places, and from Time to Time, and at all Times hereafter, to do all other Matters and Things necessary and convenient for erecting, supporting, and maintaining the said Bridge, doing as little Damage as may be, and first making Satisfaction and Recompence to the Owners, Proprietors, or Occupiers of and Persons interested in any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, that shall be made use of, damaged, or prejudiced, by, for, or upon Account of erecting and maintaining the said Bridge, or by, for, or upon Account of turning, widening, altering, and making proper Roads or Avenues as aforesaid, or by, for, or upon Account of the doing and performing any other Act, Matter, or Thing, hereby authorized to be done and performed for carrying the Purposes of this Act into Execution.

Bridge to be
built, and
Roads made.

Satisfaction to
be made for
Damages.

Power for
Corporations
to sell Lands.

II. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for all Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, and all Feoffees in Trust, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, Committees for Lunaticks and Idiots, and other Trustees whatsoever, for and on Behalf of themselves, their Heirs and Successors, Infants or Issue unborn, Lunaticks, Idiots, Femes Covert, or Cestuique Trusts, and other Persons whatsoever, and to and for all Femes Covert who are or shall be seised in their own Right, and to and for all and every other Person or Persons whomsoever, who are or shall be seised or possessed of or interested in any such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, of any Tenure whatsoever, to treat, contract, or agree with the said Trustees,

Trustees, or any Three or more of them, for the Purchase thereof, or of any Part thereof, or for their Interest therein, or by way of Annual Rent for the same, and to sell and convey the same as Occasion shall be or require; and all Contracts, Agreements, Sales, and Conveyances; which shall be so made, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes; any Law, Statute, Usage, or any other Matter or Thing to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding; and all Feoffees in Trust, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, and Trustees, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, and all other Persons, are and shall be hereby indemnified for what they shall do by virtue or in pursuance of this Act.

III. And be it further enacted, That in case any Money or Recompence to be paid for any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, which shall be purchased, taken, or used, by virtue of the Powers of this Act, for the Purposes thereof, to any Corporation, Feme Covert, Infant, Lunatick, or Person under any other Disability or Incapacity, shall not be less than the Sum of One hundred Pounds, the same shall, with all convenient Speed, be invested in the Purchase of other Tenements or Hereditaments, which shall be conveyed and settled upon and subject to the like Uses, Trusts, and Limitations, as the said Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, belonging to such Corporation, or other Person as aforesaid, so purchased, taken, or used, were settled, limited, or assured; and in the mean Time and until such Purchase can be made, such Money shall 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, pursuant to the Method prescribed by the Act of the Twelfth Year of King *George* the First, Chapter the Thirty-second, and the General Orders of the said Court, and without Fee or Reward, according to the Act of the Twelfth Year of King *George* the Second, Chapter the Thirty-fourth, and shall, when so paid in, be laid out in the Purchase of Navy or Victualling Bills, or Exchequer Bills; and the Interest arising from the Money laid out in such Bills, and the Money received for the same, as they shall be respectively paid off by Government, shall be laid out in the Name of the said Accountant General, in the Purchase of other Navy or Victualling Bills, or Exchequer Bills; all which said Navy and Victualling Bills, and Exchequer Bills, shall be deposited in the Bank in the Name of the said Accountant General, and shall there remain until a proper Purchase or Purchases shall be found and approved of by the said Trustees, or any Three or more of them, and until the same shall, upon a Petition, setting forth such Approbation, (to be preferred to the Court of Chancery, in a summary Way, by the Person or Persons who would be entitled to the Rents and Profits of any of the Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to be purchased therewith, if the same were purchased and settled), be ordered to be sold by the said Accountant General for the completing such Purchase, in such Manner as the said Court shall think just and direct; and it shall and may be lawful for the said Court to make such Order or Orders, in a summary Way, touching the Payment or Application of the Monies so to be paid into the Bank, and touching such Navy, Victualling, or Exchequer Bills, and the Interest thereof, in pursuance of the Directions of this Act, as the said Court shall think fit; but in case any such Money shall be less than the Sum of One hundred Pounds, and not less than the Sum of Twenty Pounds, then such Money

For reinvesting the Purchase Money.

Money shall be paid to such Person or Persons as the Party or Parties entitled thereto shall respectively nominate to receive the same, in Trust, with all convenient Speed to be reinvested in the Purchase of other Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, which shall be conveyed and settled to, upon, and subject to the like Uses, Trusts, Limitations, Remainders, and Contingencies, as the Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, and Premises, which shall be purchased from them respectively by the said Trustees, were respectively settled, limited, or assured to, upon, or subject to, at the Time of purchasing the same, or such of them as at the Time of making such Conveyances and Settlements shall be existing and capable of taking Effect; and in the mean Time, and until such Purchase or Purchases shall be made, the said Money shall be placed out by such Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, or other Person or Persons as aforesaid, in some of the Publick Funds, or on Government or Real Securities, in the Names of Two or more Persons, to be nominated by the Party or Parties interested therein, and to be approved of by the said Trustees, or any Three or more of them, and the Dividends or Interest arising or to be produced from such Funds or Securities shall be paid to such Person or Persons respectively as would, for the Time being, be entitled to the Rents and Profits of such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, so to be purchased, conveyed, and settled, by virtue of this Act; and in case any such Money shall be less than the Sum of Twenty Pounds, then the same shall be paid to the Person or Persons, Party or Parties respectively, entitled thereto.

To determine Differences.

IV. And be it further enacted, That in case any Difference or Dispute shall arise between such Owners, Occupiers, or Persons interested, and the said Trustees, concerning the Recompence or Satisfaction to be made for the Purchase of any such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or for any Interest therein, or Loss or Damage as aforesaid, or in case any such Owner, Occupier, or Person interested as aforesaid, shall neglect or refuse to treat, for the Space of Fourteen Days after Notice to him, her, or them given in Writing, or left at the House of the Tenant in Possession of the Premises respectively, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Justices of the Peace for the County of *Salop*, or any Two or more of them, to hear, settle, adjust, and determine the same; and for that Purpose it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Justices, or any Two or more of them, to cause the Matter in Dispute to be enquired into by and upon the Oaths of a Jury of Twelve indifferent Men, and to ascertain what Damages will be sustained by, and what Satisfaction and Recompence shall be made to such Owners, Occupiers, and Proprietors of, or other Person or Persons respectively interested in any such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments; and they the said Justices, or any Two or more of them, are hereby empowered and authorized, from Time to Time, to issue their Warrant or Warrants, Precept or Precepts, directed to the Sheriff of the County of *Salop*, thereby requiring him to impanel, summon, and return a Number of substantial and disinterested Persons, qualified to serve on Juries, not less than Twenty-four, nor more than Forty-eight; which Persons such Sheriff, or his Deputy or Deputies, is and are hereby required to impanel, summon, and return accordingly; and out of the Persons so impanelled, summoned, and returned, or out of such of them as shall appear according to or upon such Summons, a Jury of Twelve shall be drawn by such Justices, or any Two or more

Justices may cause the Value to be ascertained by a Jury.

more of them, or some Person to be by them appointed in such Manner as Juries for the Trials of Issues joined in His Majesty's Courts at *Westminster*, by an Act, passed in the Third Year of His late Majesty's Reign; intituled, *An Act for the better Regulation of Juries*, are directed to be drawn; and the Persons so to be impannelled, summoned, and returned, are hereby required to appear before the said Justices, or any Two or more of them, at such Time and Place as in such Warrant or Warrants, Precept or Precepts, shall be directed and appointed, (of which Time and Place all Parties interested shall have Fourteen Days Notice given or left in Manner aforesaid), and to attend them from Day to Day till they shall be discharged by such Justices, or any Two or more of them; and all Parties concerned shall and may have their lawful Challenges against any of the said Jurymen; and the said Justices, or any Two or more of them, are hereby authorized and empowered by Precept or Precepts under their Hands from Time to Time, as Occasion shall require; to call before them any Person or Persons, in order to be examined as Witness or Witnesses upon Oath before the said Justices, or any Two or more of them, or such Jury, touching and concerning the Premises; and such Justices, or any Two or more of them, if they shall think fit, shall and may cause the said Jury to view the Place or Places in question, and shall have Power to adjourn such Meeting from Day to Day as Occasion shall require, and to order such Jury, Witnesses, and Parties, to attend until all the Matters for which they were summoned shall be concluded; and the said Jury, upon their Oaths, (which Oaths, and also the Oaths to such Person or Persons as shall be called upon to give Evidence, the said Justices, or any One or more of them, is and are hereby empowered and required to administer), shall enquire touching the Value of such Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, and of the respective Estates and Interests of all the Persons, Bodies Politick, Corporate or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, seised or possessed, or interested therein, or of or in any Part thereof, or the Damages which shall or may be done to any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, by the doing or performing any of the Matters and Things by this Act authorized to be done and performed, and shall assess the Sum or Sums, Rent or Rents, to be paid to every such Person or Persons, Bodies Politick, Corporate or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, for such their Estates and Interests, and as a Recompence or Satisfaction for the Damages they shall sustain as aforesaid; and the said Justices, or any Two or more of them, shall give Judgement for such Sum and Sums of Money, Rent or Rents, so to be assessed; and the Verdict or Inquisition of such respective Juries, and the Judgements, Orders, and Decrees of the said Justices thereupon, shall be final, binding, and conclusive, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, against the King's Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and all Parties or Persons whomsoever, as well absent as present, Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, claiming any Estate, Right, Title, Trust, Use, or Interest, in, to, or out of such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, either in Possession, Reversion, Remainder, or Expectancy, or otherwise, as well Infants and Issue unborn, Lunaticks, Idiots, and Femes Covert, and Persons under any legal Incapacity or Disability whatsoever, and all other Cestuique Trusts; his, her and their Heirs, Successors, Executors, and Administrators, as against all other

Persons whomsoever; and all and every such Owners, Occupiers, and Proprietors, and all and every Person and Persons interested in such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, shall thereby, after Payment or Tender, and Refusal or Neglect, in Manner herein-after mentioned, be from thenceforth to all Intents and Purposes divested of all Right, Claim, Interest, or Property, of, in, to, or out of the same; and Two Transcripts of all such Verdicts or Inquisitions, and Judgements, Orders, or Decrees, and other Proceedings of the said Justices and Juries, so to be made, given, or pronounced as aforesaid, shall be fairly written on Parchment, and signed and sealed by the Justices making and pronouncing the same, One of which Transcripts, so signed and sealed, shall be forthwith transmitted to the Clerk or Treasurer to the said Trustees; and the other of the said Transcripts, so signed and sealed, shall be forthwith transmitted to the Clerk of the Peace for the County of *Salop*, to be preserved amongst the Records of the said County; and the said Transcripts, so signed and sealed, shall be deemed and taken to be Records to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever; and the same, or true Copies thereof, signed and proved to be signed by the said Clerk or Treasurer to the said Trustees for the Time being, or by the said Clerk of the Peace for the Time being, shall be good and sufficient Evidence in any Court of Law or Equity whatsoever; and all Persons concerned may have Recourse to the said Transcripts *gratis*, and take Copies thereof, paying for each Copy not exceeding the Sum of Sixpence for every Two hundred Words, and so in proportion for any greater or less Number of Words; and upon Payment of the Sum or Sums of Money so assessed by such Juries, and adjudged or decreed by such Justices, to the Party or Parties concerned or entitled thereto as aforesaid, or to their Agent, or legal Tender thereof made to him or them, and Refusal to accept the same; or in case any such Person or Persons, after Fifteen Days Notice given to him, her, or them, or left at the House of the Occupier of the Premises, shall refuse or neglect to receive the same, then upon Payment thereof into the Hands of such Person or Persons as the said Justices, or any Two or more of them, shall by any Writing under their Hands appoint, for the Use of the Party or Parties interested as aforesaid, and to be paid upon Demand to him, her, or them, or to his, her, or their Agent or Agents; or after such Annual Rent or Rents shall be so assessed, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, their Heirs, Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, to have, hold, use, and enjoy such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, to and for the Purposes of this Act; and it shall be lawful to and for their Agents, Workmen, and Servants, to pull down and dispose of any such Tenements, but no others, and to make Use of any such Lands, Hereditaments, and other Premises, for the Purposes of this Act; and this Act shall be sufficient to indemnify as well the said Justices as the said Trustees, and all and every Person and Persons by them appointed and employed, or acting by Authority under them, against such Owners, Proprietors, Occupiers, and Persons interested, their Heirs, Successors, Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, and against all and every other Person and Persons whomsoever, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

In Default of
a sufficient
Number of
Jurymen.

V. And be it further enacted, That in case a sufficient Number of Jurymen shall not attend to be sworn for the Purposes of this Act, the
said

said Sheriff or his Deputy shall return such other honest and indifferent Men of the Standers-by, or that can be speedily procured to attend that Service, as shall be necessary to make up the Number of Twelve to serve on such Jury; and that all Persons concerned shall from Time to Time have their lawful Challenges as aforesaid, against any of such Jurymen, when they come to be sworn; and the said Justices, or any Two or more of them, acting in the Premises, shall have full Power from Time to Time to impose any reasonable Fine or Fines on such Sheriff, his Deputy or Deputies, Bailiffs or Agents respectively, making Default in the Premises, or upon any Person or Persons who shall be summoned and returned on any such Juries, and shall not appear, or who shall refuse to be sworn on the said Jury or Juries, or being so sworn shall not give his or their Verdict, or in any other Manner wilfully neglect his or their Duty in the Premises, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act; and likewise upon such Person or Persons summoned as aforesaid to give Evidence, who shall neglect or refuse to appear at such Time or Times, Place or Places as shall be appointed for that Purpose as aforesaid, or appearing shall refuse to be sworn or give Evidence, or to be examined by or before the said Justices, or any Two or more of them, and from Time to Time to levy such Fine or Fines by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of any Person or Persons offending in any of the Matters or Things aforesaid, by Warrant or Warrants under the Hands and Seals of such Justices, to be directed to the Constable or other Peace Officer of the Township, Parish, or Place, where such Offender or Offenders shall live, which Constable or other Peace Officer is hereby required to execute the same, so as no such Fine exceed the Sum of Forty Shillings, which Fine shall be paid to the Treasurer or Clerk to the said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons as the said Trustees shall appoint to receive the same.

VI. Provided always, That no Person or Persons whomsoever shall sit or act as a Justice or Justices, in any Case where he or they is or are in any ways directly or indirectly interested or concerned of or in the Matter or Matters in question; nor shall any Person whomsoever be sworn to serve on any Jury, or be examined as a Witness, where he or she is any ways directly or indirectly interested or concerned.

Persons interested not to act.

VII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall not take Possession of, or enter into any such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, until such Payment or Deposit of the Recompence or Satisfaction assessed and adjudged as aforesaid shall be made, or in case of Rent, until the same shall be assessed and adjudged as aforesaid, otherwise than for the Purpose of surveying, taking a Level of, and marking out the Ground, which they intend to make use of for the Purposes aforesaid, and which it shall and may be lawful for them the said Trustees, with Workmen, Surveyors, and other proper Assistants, to do from Time to Time, and at every convenient Time, doing thereby as little Damage as may be, and giving Four Days Notice to the Owner, Proprietor, Occupier, or Possessor of such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, of the Time of coming to make such Survey, or to take such Levels, or to mark out such Ground, in order that such Owner, Occupier, or Possessor may be present, if he, she, or they shall think fit; and making Satisfaction for all Damages that shall be done to any Grass or Corn, by making

Possession not to be taken till Satisfaction made.

making such Survey, taking such Level, or marking out such Ground, so as such Damage exceed the Value of One Shilling.

Damages ascertained by a Jury.

VIII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons at any Time after the said Trustees, their Agents, Workmen, or Servants, shall begin to erect the said Bridge, shall sustain any Damage or Injury in his, her, or their Lands, or other Hereditaments; (for which he, she, or they shall have had no Recompence), by any Act, Neglect, or Default of the said Trustees, then and in such Case the said Justices, or any Two or more of them, shall enquire of and ascertain such Damage and Recompence by a Jury, to be impannelled and returned as aforesaid; in like Manner and Form as Damages and Recompence are herein-before appointed to be assessed and adjudged; and in Default of Payment thereof by a certain Day, to be appointed by the said Justices, or any Two or more of them, they the said Justices, or any Two or more of them, shall and may, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, authorize and empower such Person or Persons as they shall think fit, to levy the same by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the said Trustees, or of any One of them, together with such Costs and Charges as such Justices, or any Two or more of them, shall in such their Warrant direct, rendering to the said Trustees or Trustee the Overplus (if any be) after deducting the Charges of such Distress and Sale; or otherwise such Party or Parties so aggrieved shall and may have Remedy for the Sum of Money so assessed and not paid, according to the Judgement of such Justices as aforesaid, by Action of Debt in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, or any other Court of Record, against the said Trustees, or any One of them, or against their Clerk or Treasurer for the Time being.

Expences of the Commissioners, Jury, etc. how to be paid.

IX. Provided always, That in case any Verdict or Assessment shall be given for more Money as a Recompence or Satisfaction for the Right, Interest, or Property of any Person or Persons in any such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or for any Loss or Damage, than what shall have been agreed to and offered by the said Trustees before the summoning and returning such Jury, then the Costs and Expences of summoning the Jury and Witnesses, and of the said Justices, and all other Expences incident thereto, shall be paid by the said Trustees out of the Tolls arising by virtue of this Act, or out of any Money to be borrowed upon the Credit thereof; but in case the Verdict or Assessment given shall be for no more or for less Money than shall have been first agreed to and offered by the said Trustees as aforesaid, then such Costs and Expences shall be borne and paid by the Person or Persons with whom the said Trustees shall have such Controversy or Dispute; any Law or Statute to the contrary notwithstanding.

Action for Rent.

X. And be it further enacted, That all and every Annual Rent or Rents to be agreed for or assessed as aforesaid for any Lands, Tenements, or other Hereditaments, shall from Time to Time, as the same shall become due, be paid by the said Trustees, or by their Clerk or Treasurer, Half Yearly to the Person or Persons who shall be entitled thereto, and such Person or Persons shall have the same Estate and Interest in such Annual Rent or Rents as they would have had to the said Premises in case this Act had never been made; and in Default of Payment thereof

thereof within Thirty Days after the same shall become due, (and being lawfully demanded), it shall and may be lawful for the Person or Persons who shall from Time to Time be entitled to the said Annual Rents, or any of them, to commence or prosecute One or more Action or Actions at Law, on the Case or in Debt, against the said Trustees, or any One of them, or against their Clerk or Treasurer for the Time being, and shall and may upon such Action or Actions recover the Money then due, together with Costs of Suit, and have such Remedies for the same as are allowed by Law in other Cases.

XI. And be it further enacted, That for and in consideration of the great Charges the said Trustees, their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, will be obliged to defray in erecting the said Bridge, and making proper Roads or Avenues as aforesaid, and repairing and supporting the same, and also in doing and performing the several other Matters and Things necessary, and herein-before authorized to be done and performed, the said Bridge, when built, shall be, and is hereby vested in the said Trustees, their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, for ever; and it shall be lawful to and for the said Trustees, from Time to Time, and at all Times thereafter, to ask, demand, receive, recover, and take, to and for their own proper Use, Behoof, and Benefit, at any Turnpike or Toll House to be erected by virtue of this Act, before any Passage shall be permitted through or over the same, the several Sums following; that is to say,

For every Coach, Chariot, Landau, Berlin, Hearse, Chaise, Calash, Chair, or other such like Carriage, drawn by Six Horses, Mares, Geldings, or Mules, the Sum of Two Shillings; and drawn by Four Horses, Mares, Geldings, or Mules, the Sum of One Shilling and Sixpence; and drawn by Two Horses, Mares, Geldings, or Mules, the Sum of One Shilling; and drawn by One Horse, Mare, Gelding, or Mule, the Sum of Sixpence:

For every Horse, Mare, Gelding, Mule, or Ass, and for every Pair or Yoke of Oxen or Horned Cattle, drawing, or harnessed or yoked and intended to draw in any Waggon, Wain, Cart, or other such like Carriage, the Sum of Three-pence:

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

For every Horse, Mare, Gelding, Mule, or Ass, carrying Double, the Sum of Two-pence:

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

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

For every Sledge, Drag, or such like Carriage, the Sum of Sixpence:

And for every Foot Passenger, One Penny.

Which said several and respective Sum and Sums of Money shall be demanded and taken in the Name of or as a Toll or Duty; and the Money arising thereby, and also all other Monies to be received by Authority of this Act, are hereby vested in the said Trustees, their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, and shall be applied to and for the several Uses, Intents, and Purposes, and in such Manner, as by this Act is directed and appointed; and the same and every Part thereof shall be paid to them accordingly, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint to receive

[*Loc. & Per.*]

4 P

the

Power to erect
Turnpikes
and Toll
Houses.

the same; and they the said Trustees, by themselves, or by any Person or Persons by them appointed and employed, shall and may erect, or cause to be erected, a Turnpike or Toll House upon, across, or near to the said Bridge, and also upon, in, or across the Roads or Avenues leading to or from the same, and from Time to Time take down and remove such Turnpikes or Toll Houses as Occasion shall be or require, and thereat to collect and receive, or cause to be collected and received, and to levy the Tolls or Duties hereby made payable upon any Person or Persons who shall, after Demand thereof, neglect or refuse to pay the same; and the Person or Persons from Time to Time appointed to collect and receive the said Tolls or Duties shall be, and he and they is and are hereby authorized and empowered to seize and distrain any Horse, Cattle, or other Thing, upon or in respect of which any Toll or Duty is by this Act imposed, or any other of the Goods and Chattels of any Person or Persons refusing or neglecting to pay as aforesaid, and to detain the same for any Time, not exceeding the Space of Four Days, and then if the Tolls or Duties for which such Distress shall have been made, together with the Charges attending the detaining and keeping the same, shall not be fully paid and satisfied, he or they shall and may sell the same, rendering the Overplus (if any be) after deducting the Charges of distraining, keeping, and selling the Goods or Chattels so distrained, to the Owner or Owners thereof.

Proviso.

XII. Provided always, That the Person or Persons who shall have paid any of the said respective Tolls, shall only be entitled to pass over the said Bridge, and through the several Gates or Turnpikes to be erected in pursuance of this Act, with the same Horse, Beast, Cattle, or Carriage, for and in respect whereof such Toll shall have been demanded and paid, for One Day, for passing and repassing over the said Bridge, and along the said Road.

Drivers ex-
empted from
Toll.

XIII. Provided also, That the Driver of any Pack Horse, or of any Cart or other Carriage drawn by Horses or other Cattle, shall be permitted to pass Toll-free through any Gate or Turnpike to be erected in pursuance of this Act, any Thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding; and no Toll shall be demanded or taken from any Person or Persons who shall have Occasion to pass through any Gate or Turnpike to be erected upon any Road or Avenue leading to the said Bridge on Foot, nor for or in respect of any Carriage or Beast, unless they shall have passed One hundred Yards along or over the same.

Reducing the
Tolls.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, at any Meeting to be held for that Purpose, (whereof Fourteen Days previous Notice shall be given and affixed on the Market House at *Strewsbury*, and on the Turnpikes or Toll Houses to be erected in pursuance of this Act), with the Consent of such and so many of the Trustees as shall have advanced the greater Part of the Money borrowed upon the Credit of the Tolls hereby granted, to lessen or reduce the several and respective Sums by this Act authorized to be demanded and taken at any Gate or Turnpike to be erected by virtue hereof, (particularly, and in the First Place, the Tolls payable by Foot Passengers), and from Time to Time afterwards to advance and augment the same again, so as not to exceed the several Sums herein-before specified; and the Tolls so lessened or reduced, and raised again, shall be collected

collected and levied in such Manner, and applied for such Uses and Purposes, as the Tolls hereby granted are directed to be collected, levied, and applied.

XV. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees, or any Seven or more of them, shall and may, and they are hereby empowered, by Writing under their Hands and Seals, to let, demise, or to farm let, the Tolls or Duties by this Act granted, to any Person or Persons who shall be willing to take or farm the same, from Year to Year, or for any Term or Time, not exceeding Three Years, for the best Price such Trustees can get for the same, payable at such Times, and under such Restrictions and Covenants as the said Trustees shall think fit; and if the Money which shall be agreed to be paid for the said Tolls, or any Part thereof, shall not be paid to the said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint to receive the same, within the Space of Five Days next after the same shall become due and payable, then upon Proof of such Letting and of such Nonpayment before any Justice of the Peace for the County of *Salop*, on the Oath of One Person, (which Oath such Justice is hereby empowered to administer), the Money so due and owing shall and may be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Person or Persons who ought to pay the same, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of such Justice, and the Overplus (if any be) after deducting the reasonable Charges of such Distress and Sale, shall be returned to the respective Owner or Owners of such Goods and Chattels upon Demand; and if sufficient Goods and Chattels of the Person or Persons neglecting to pay as aforesaid cannot be found, to answer and satisfy the Money in Arrear as aforesaid, and the reasonable Charges of such Distress and Sale, then such Justice of the Peace may and is hereby required, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to cause such Person or Persons to be committed to the Common Gaol of the County of *Salop*, there to remain until the Money so in Arrear and unpaid, and also the Charges of such Distress and Sale, shall be fully paid and satisfied, or until he or they shall have compounded with the said Trustees for the same, and shall have paid such Composition to the said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint; which said Composition the said Trustees are hereby empowered to make and receive.

Leaving the
Tolls.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall use or employ any Boat, Barge, or other Craft, to ferry or convey any Person or Persons, Cattle or Carriages, across the River *Severn*, within the Distance of Five hundred Yards above or below the Site of the said Bridge, when built, for Gain or Hire, or to evade the Payment of the Tolls hereby granted, or any Part thereof, the Owner or Owners of any such Boat, Barge, or other Craft, and the Person or Persons employing or using the same as aforesaid, shall respectively forfeit the Sum of Twenty Shillings for every Person, Horse, Mare, Gelding, Mule, Ass, Beast, Sheep, Swine, Calf, or Lamb, and for every Coach, Waggon, or other Carriage whatsoever, which shall be ferried or conveyed as aforesaid.

Penalty on
ferrying to
evade the
Tolls.

XVII. And be it enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall at any Time or Times put or leave in any House or Place any Coach, Waggon, Dray, Drag, Sledge, or any other Carriage, Horse, or any other Cattle or Beast whatsoever, chargeable with any of the Tolls hereby granted,

Penalty on
Persons evad-
ing the Tolls.

at

at or before the same shall come to any Gate or Turnpike to be erected by virtue of this Act, with Intent to evade the Payment of Toll, each and every Person offending in any of the Cases aforesaid, shall for every Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Shillings.

Property of
the Ferry, &c.
vested in the
Trustees.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That the Right and Property of the said Ferry called *Cressage Ferry*, (Compensation being first made to the Owner), and the said Bridge when built, and also of all the Turnpikes and Toll Houses, and the Materials of which the same shall be made, and all the Posts and Rails to be set up by virtue of this Act, shall be, and the same are hereby severally vested in the said Trustees, their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, and they are hereby empowered to bring, or cause to be brought, any Action or Actions, in the Name of their Clerk or Treasurer, against any Person or Persons who shall disturb or injure them in the Possession thereof; which Action or Actions shall not abate or be discontinued by the Death or Removal of such Clerk or Treasurer, but shall go on and be continued by the succeeding Clerk or Treasurer to the said Trustees; and all Damages, Satisfaction, and Costs, which shall be recovered in or by such Action or Actions, shall be accounted for and paid to the said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons as they shall direct or appoint, and shall be applied to and for the Uses and Purposes of this Act; and all Charges to be incurred in carrying on such respective Actions, or relating thereto, shall be paid out of the Monies to be raised and received by virtue of this Act.

First Meeting.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That the First Meeting of the Trustees shall be at the House of *Andrew Dodson*, in *Cund Lane*, on the *Tuesday* in the Second Week after the passing of this Act, between the Hours of Eleven and One of the Clock, (on which Day the several Powers and Authorities herein contained shall commence and take Effect), and the Trustees then present shall proceed to the Execution of the Powers hereby given and granted, and shall then and from Time to Time afterwards adjourn themselves, and the other Trustees not then present, and meet there or at any other Place, as often as it shall be necessary for putting this Act in Execution, (of which subsequent Meeting, and of every adjourned Meeting to be held in pursuance of this Act, the Clerk to the Trustees shall cause publick Notice to be given in Writing affixed on the Market House at *Sbrewsbury* aforesaid, and on the Turnpikes or Toll Houses to be erected by virtue of this Act, Ten Days at least before the Day appointed for such Meetings respectively), and that Two Trustees shall be deemed a sufficient Number for the Purpose of Adjournment only; and when and as often as it shall happen that there shall not appear at any Meeting a sufficient Number of Trustees to act or to adjourn to another Day, the Clerk to the said Trustees shall adjourn such Meeting, to be held at the same Place upon some Day within the Space of Fourteen Days from the Day of such Adjournment; and that the said Trustees shall at all their Meetings defray their own Expences; and that all Orders and Determinations of the said Trustees in the Execution of this Act, shall be made at Meetings to be held in pursuance thereof, and by the Majority of the Trustees then present, and not otherwise; nor shall any such Order or Determination be revoked or altered at any subsequent Meeting, unless Seven Trustees shall be present and consenting thereto; and that no Trustee herein named or appointed, or who shall be admitted in pursuance of this Act, shall act or be empowered

Adjourned
Meetings.

powered to do any Act in Execution of the Powers hereby given, but at a Meeting or Meetings to be held under the Directions of this Act, nor unless Three Trustees at the least be present, (other than except such of them as shall be in the Commission of the Peace for the County of Salop).

XX. And to the End that the said Trustees may be enabled to carry on so useful an Undertaking, and to execute the several Purposes of this Act with Effect, be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, to raise and contribute amongst themselves, or by the Admission of other Trustees, in such Proportion as to them shall seem meet and convenient, a competent Sum of Money, not exceeding in the Whole the Sum of Six thousand Pounds, and the same to divide into One hundred and twenty Shares, or such less Number of Shares as the whole Amount of the Sums advanced and paid will admit, reckoning Fifty Pounds to each Share; and no Person hereinbefore appointed, or who shall be admitted a Trustee in pursuance of this Act, shall be qualified to sit or act as such, who shall be a Proprietor of less than One Share, or more than Ten Shares, either in his own or in the Name or Names of any other Person or Persons in Trust for him or her, (except the same shall come to him or her by Descent, Bequest, Marriage, or Act of Law), upon Pain of forfeiting to the said Trustees, their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, all such Shares exceeding Ten Shares as aforesaid; and the Money so to be raised is hereby directed and appointed to be laid out and applied, in the first Place, for and towards the Payment, Discharge, and Satisfaction, of the Costs, Charges, and Expences of applying for, obtaining, and passing this Act; and all the Residue and Remainder of such Money shall be applied for and towards making, completing, and maintaining the said Bridge, and other the Purposes of this Act, and to no other Use, Intent, or Purpose whatsoever; and all and every the said Shares shall be deemed to be Personal Estate, and transmissible as such, and not of the Nature of Real Property; and all and every Person and Persons, their several and respective Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, who shall severally advance and pay in the Sum of Fifty Pounds, or such Sum or Sums as shall be demanded in lieu thereof, towards executing the several Purposes of this Act, shall be entitled to receive, and shall receive an entire and net Distribution of a One hundred and twentieth Part, or such greater Share or Proportion of the Profits arising from the Tolls or Duties hereby granted or received by the Authority of this Act, as the said Sum of Fifty Pounds will bear in Proportion to the whole Amount of the Money advanced and paid on the Credit thereof; and so in Proportion for any Number of Shares, not exceeding Ten as aforesaid.

Power to raise Money.

Qualification of Trustees.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That all and every Person and Persons, who shall have advanced and paid, or undertaken to advance and pay, for One Share as aforesaid, their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, and also all such Person and Persons as shall, after the passing of this Act, be admitted to subscribe by the said Trustees, or such of them as shall be present at any Meeting to be held for that Purpose, shall be deemed a Trustee, and shall be entitled to vote at any Meeting or Meetings to be held in pursuance of this Act, either personally, or by his,

Directing the Manner of voting at Meetings.

[Loc. & Per.]

4 2

her,

her, or their Proxy duly constituted under his, her, or their Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals, (such Proxy or Proxies being a Trustee or Trustees); and such Vote or Votes by Proxy or Proxies shall be and are hereby deemed good and sufficient to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever; and such of the said Trustees as shall be possessed of more than One Share shall have and be entitled to One Vote personally for each Share, not exceeding Ten Shares; and that no Trustee or Trustees shall be entitled to vote by his, her, or their Proxy or Proxies for more than Ten Shares; and whatever Question, Election, Matter, or Thing, shall be proposed, discussed, or considered, at any Meeting of the Trustees to be held by virtue of this Act, the same shall be finally determined by the Majority of Votes and Proxies then present.

Tolls to be assigned for Money borrowed.

XXII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the said Trustees assembled at such First Meeting, or any Seven or more of them, or at any subsequent Meeting to be held for that Purpose, (of which subsequent Meeting, and of every other subsequent Meeting for borrowing Money, Fourteen Days previous Notice shall be given and affixed upon the Market House at *Shrewsbury*, and upon the Gates or Turnpikes to be erected in pursuance of this Act), shall and they are hereby authorized and empowered to execute proper Assignments of the Tolls or Duties hereby granted, or of any Part thereof, (the Costs and Charges of assigning the same to be borne and paid out of such Tolls or Duties), as a Security for any Sum or Sums of Money advanced and paid on the Credit thereof, to such Person or Persons as shall advance and pay the same, under their Hands and Seals, by the following Form of Assignment, or by any other Words to the same Effect:

Form of Assignment.

BY virtue of an Act, made in the Thirty-ninth Year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Third, for building a Bridge across the River Severn, at or near *Cressage*, in the County of Salop, to the opposite Shore; and for making proper Roads or Avenues to and from the same: We whose Names are hereunto set, being Seven of the Trustees appointed by and in pursuance of the said Act, in Consideration of the Sum of Fifty Pounds [or such Sum as shall be advanced and paid in lieu thereof] to us in Hand paid by *A. B.* of _____ do assign unto the said *A. B.* his [or her] Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, One entire Share or Hundred and twentieth Part or Proportion of the net Produce of the Tolls or Duties by the said Act granted, [or, such Part or Share as the said Sum of Fifty Pounds shall bear in Proportion to the whole Amount of the Money borrowed on the Credit of such Tolls], to be made in equal Payments, on the _____ Day of _____ and the _____ Day of _____ yearly. Given under our Hands and Seals, the _____ Day of _____

And all and every Person and Persons to whom such Assignment shall be made, shall be entitled to such Share of the said Tolls or Duties as the respective Sums in such Assignment mentioned to be advanced and paid, shall bear in Proportion to the whole Sum borrowed upon the Credit of such Tolls or Duties, in equal Degree one with another, and shall have no Preference in respect of the Priority of advancing and paying the same.

XXIII. And

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That proper Entries or Memorials shall be made by the Clerk or Treasurer to the said Trustees, of all and every Assignment or Assignments, containing the Dates, Names of the Parties, and Sums of Money therein mentioned; in a Book or Books to be from Time to Time provided and kept for that Purpose, and shall mark the same in this Manner [*Entered N^o C. D. Clerk to the Trustees*]; and after such respective Entries made, the Trustees who shall have signed and executed such Assignments respectively, shall also sign their Names to the respective Entries of such Assignments; and all and every Person and Persons to whom such Assignment shall be made, or who shall be entitled to the Money thereby secured, may transfer and assign the same again, and all his, her, or their Right, Title, and Interest therein, to any other Person or Persons whomsoever, by indorsing thereon, before Two credible Witnesses, the following Words, or Words to the like Effect:

‘ I Do transfer this Assignment, with all my Right, Title, and Interest,
 ‘ to and in the same, unto _____ of _____ his
 ‘ [*or, her*] Executors, Administrators, and Assigns. Dated this
 ‘ _____ Day of _____
 ‘ Witness G. H. _____ E. F.
 ‘ I. K.’

Which said Assignment and Transfer shall be produced and notified to the Clerk to the Trustees, at some Meeting of the said Trustees, who shall cause an Entry or Memorial to be made thereof, containing the Date, Names of the Parties, and Sums of Money, in the said Book directed to be provided and kept for entering the original Assignments, for which Entry or Memorial the Clerk shall be paid the Sum of One Shilling, and no more, by the Person or Persons producing the same; and after such Entries made (but not till then) such Assignment shall entitle such Assignee, his, her, or their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, to the Benefit thereof and Payment thereon; and every such Assignee may in like Manner assign again, and so *toties quoties*; and it shall not be in the Power of any Person or Persons who shall have made any such Transfer or Assignment to make void, release, or discharge the same, or any Monies thereby due, or any Part thereof.

XXIV. Provided always, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to charge, subject, or make liable the Real or Personal Estate of any Trustee, or the Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, of any Trustee who shall have signed and executed any Assignment or Assignments as aforesaid, or shall have signed any Entries thereof, to the Payment of any Sum or Sums of Money thereby secured, or any Part or Parts thereof.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and may elect and appoint a Clerk or Clerks, Treasurer or Treasurers, Surveyor or Surveyors, and Collector or Collectors of the said Tolls or Duties, and such other Officer or Officers as they shall think necessary, and from Time to Time remove such respective Officers and appoint others in their Stead, and in the Stead of such of them as shall die, or be incapable of performing his or their Duty; and out of the Money arising by virtue of this Act, shall and may make such Allowances to the respective Officers,

Transfers to
be made of
the Assign-
ments.

Trustees not
liable to Debts
for signing
Mortgages.

Appointing
Officers.

Officers, or any of them (the Treasurer or Treasurers excepted) for their Care and Pains, and to such other Persons as shall be assisting in and about the Execution of the several Purposes of this Act, as the said Trustees shall think reasonable; and such Clerk or Clerks, Treasurer or Treasurers, Surveyor or Surveyors, Collector or Collectors, or other Officers, and every of them, shall from Time to Time, at any Meeting of the said Trustees, when thereunto required by the said Trustees, deliver in upon Oath (which Oath any One of the Trustees is hereby empowered to administer) a true, exact, and perfect Account in Writing under their respective Hands, of all Monies which he or they, every or any of them, shall to such Time have received, paid, and disbursed by virtue of this Act, on Account of their respective Offices, with proper Vouchers for the Money so paid and disbursed; and in case of any Refusal or Neglect to make and deliver such Account in Manner as aforesaid, or to pay the Money remaining in his or their Hands unto the said Trustees, or to such Person or Persons as they shall authorize and appoint to receive the same, then and in either of the said Cases, any Two or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Salop*, shall make Inquiry of and concerning such Neglect or Refusal, in a summary Way, either by the Confession of the Parties themselves, or by the Testimony of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses upon Oath, (which Oath the said Justices are hereby empowered and required to administer without Fee or Reward), and upon Conviction, shall commit the Person or Persons neglecting or refusing to account or to make Payment as aforesaid, to the Common Gaol of the County of *Salop*, there to remain until he or they shall have made a true and perfect Account and Payment as aforesaid, or shall have compounded for the same, and paid such Composition; which Composition the said Trustees are hereby empowered to make and receive, or authorize to be received.

Officers to
give Security.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees shall and may, and they are hereby empowered and required from Time to Time, to take such Security from the Clerks, Treasurers, and other Officers and Persons by them appointed and employed in the Execution of this Act, for the due and faithful Execution of their several and respective Offices or Employments as they shall think proper.

Treasurer to
give Receipts
for the Money
by him re-
ceived;

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That the several and respective Clerks, Treasurers, and other Officers from Time to Time appointed and employed by the said Trustees in the Receipt or Expenditure of any of the Monies arising by virtue of this Act, shall, and he and they is and are hereby required to give proper Receipts and Vouchers for all and every Sum or Sums of Money which shall from Time to Time be paid to them, or either of them respectively, without Fee or Reward; and shall also make Entries of such Receipts and Vouchers in a Book or Books to be provided and kept for that Purpose; and he and they and every of them respectively shall and is and are hereby required, out of the Money which shall be paid into his or their Hands in pursuance and for the Purposes of this Act, to answer, satisfy, and pay, all and every Sum and Sums of Money which shall be drawn for upon him or them, or either of them, or upon any Bank or Bankers, and ordered to be paid by any Three or more of the said Trustees, (of whom the Chairman of the Meeting at which such Payment shall be ordered shall be One), for, on
account

account or in respect of any Contract, Work, Matter, or Thing which shall be entered into, made, done, or performed by virtue or in pursuance of this Act; and that all and every the Clerks, Treasurers, and other Officers appointed or employed under the Authority and for the Purposes of this Act, shall be and is and are hereby severally declared to be answerable for any Breach of Trust, Neglect of Duty, or other Misdemeanor of any Clerk or Substitute, Clerks or Substitutes, by him or them, or either of them, employed in the Execution of this Act, and shall make full Satisfaction to the said Trustees, and in case any such Clerk, Treasurer, or other Officer, shall refuse or neglect to make such Satisfaction for the Space of Four Days, he shall be forthwith discharged from his Office, and shall and may be sued for such Satisfaction in such Manner as is herein-before directed for the Trespas or other wilful Damage which may be done to the said Bridge by the Crews of Vessels navigated on the said River *Severn*.

and to be answerable for the Acts of his Clerk, or Substitute.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That the Surveyor or Surveyors, or such Person or Persons as he or they shall employ for that Purpose, shall and may, and is and are hereby authorized and empowered from Time to Time, by Order of the said Trustees, to cut, dig, gather, take, lead, and carry away, any Gravel, Heath, Sand, Stones, Ballast, or any other Materials proper and necessary for making and completing the said Bridge, or for repairing and keeping the same in Repair when made; or for making, repairing, and keeping in Repair any Road or Avenue leading thereto, in, upon, out of, or from any Waste Ground, or out of any River or Brook in the aforesaid Parishes and Townships, or any of the adjoining Townships or Places; and also in, upon, or out of and from the Lands and Grounds of any Person or Persons whatsoever; not being a Yard, Garden, Orchard, Park, Paddock, Lawn, Wood, Coppice, Nursery, or inclosed Ground planted with any Avenue of Trees for the Ornament of any House; such Surveyor or Surveyors, or other Person or Persons filling up the Pits and levelling the Ground from which such Materials shall be taken, and paying or offering to pay to the respective Lord or Lords of the Soil of such Waste Ground, River, or Brook, and to the Owner or Occupiers of such Lands or Grounds, for the Damages they shall and may sustain thereby, such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be agreed upon between the said Owners or Occupiers and the said Trustees; and in case any Difference or Dispute shall arise concerning the same, such Difference or Dispute shall and may be settled and determined by any Two or more Justices of the Peace for the County of *Salop*; and the Sum or Sums so agreed upon or settled shall be paid to the Person or Persons entitled thereto, out of the Monies to be raised by virtue of this Act.

For procuring Materials;

making Satisfaction for Damages.

XXIX. And whereas it may happen that the said Bridge may receive such Damage by unforeseen Accidents; that the Passage thereof may for some Time become dangerous and impracticable; be it therefore enacted, That when and as often as it shall so happen, it shall be lawful for the said Trustees, or such Person or Persons as they shall from Time to Time appoint for that Purpose, to provide a proper and convenient Ferry or Ferries across the said River *Severn*, and as near to the Site of the said Bridge as conveniently may be, and to take for Passage over the said River by such Ferry or Ferries such Tolls as are hereby authorized to be taken for passing over the said Bridge.

Ferry may be used while the Bridge is dangerous, and rebuilding.

[Loc. & Per.]

4 R

XXX. Pro-

XXX. Provided always, That such Ferry or Ferries shall continue for such Time only as shall be necessary for repairing and rebuilding the said Bridge, and until the Passage over the same shall be made safe and commodious.

Punishing
Persons da-
maging the
Bridge.

XXXI. And, for preventing any wilful and malicious Damage being done to the said Bridge, or any Part thereof; be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall wilfully or maliciously blow up, pull down, burn, or otherwise damage or destroy the said Bridge, or any Part thereof, or shall wilfully or maliciously, and without Authority from the said Trustees, remove or take away any of the Materials or Works thereto belonging, or in anywise cause or procure the same to be done, and be thereof convicted before any Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the said County, every such Person shall be transported in like Manner as Felons are directed to be transported by the Laws and Statutes of this Realm, or otherwise the Court, before whom such Person shall be convicted, may, in Mitigation of such Punishment, (if they think fit), award such other Punishment as the Law directs in Cases of Petit Larceny.

Owners of
Boats made
answerable for
the Damage
done by the
Crew.

XXXII. Provided always, That the Master or Owner of any Boat, Barge, Lighter, or other Vessel navigated upon the said River *Severn*, shall be and is hereby declared subject and liable to make Satisfaction for any wilful Damage or Mischief which shall be done to the said Bridge, or any Part thereof, or to any of the Works, which shall be erected for building the same, by the Crew who shall navigate or belong to such Boat, Barge, Lighter, or other Vessel; and in case the same shall not be forthwith paid, the Clerk or Treasurer for the Time being to the said Trustees shall and may, in his own Name, sue for such Damage or Trespas in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*.

How the
Bridge shall
be rated.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That the said Bridge shall not be rated or assessed to the Payment of any publick or parochial Rate or Tax whatsoever, at any other or higher Rate or Value than the said Ferry called *Cressage Ferry* stood rated for the Year One thousand seven hundred and ninety-six, nor shall the said Bridge be deemed a County Bridge, so as to subject the County of *Salop* to the Repair or Support of the same.

Recovery and
Application
of Penalties
and For-
feitures.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That all Penalties and Forfeitures hereby inflicted, the Manner of levying and recovering whereof is not otherwise by this Act particularly directed, shall, upon Proof of the Offences respectively before any One Justice of the Peace for the said County of *Salop*, (not being a Trustee under this Act), either by the Confession of the Offender or Offenders, or by the Knowledge of such Justice, or by the Oath of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, (which Oath such Justice is hereby empowered and required to administer without Fee or Reward), be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Offender or Offenders, by Warrant or Warrants under the Hand and Seal of such Justice, (which Warrant he is hereby empowered and required to grant), and the Overplus (if any be) after such Penalties and Forfeitures, and the Charges of such Distress and Sale are deducted, shall be returned upon Demand to the Owner or Owners of such Goods and Chattels;

Chattels; and the Penalties and Forfeitures, when paid or levied, shall, from Time to Time (if not otherwise directed to be applied by this Act) be paid to the said Trustees, or to their Clerk or Treasurer, and applied to the Purposes of this Act; and in case sufficient Distress shall not be found, or such Penalties and Forfeitures shall not be forthwith paid, it shall be lawful for any such Justice of the Peace, by Warrant or Warrants under his Hand and Seal, to cause such Offender or Offenders to be committed to the Common Gaol of the said County of *Salop*, for any Time not exceeding Two Months, nor less than One Month, unless such Penalties and Forfeitures, and all reasonable Charges, shall be sooner paid and satisfied.

XXXV. Provided always, and be it enacted, That if any Person shall think himself or herself aggrieved by any Thing done in pursuance of this Act, (and for which no particular Method of Relief is hereby otherwise given); such Person may appeal to the Justices of the Peace at any General Quarter Session of the Peace to be held for the County of *Salop* within Four Calendar Months after the Cause of Complaint shall have arisen (such Appellant first giving or causing to be given Ten Days Notice at the least in Writing of his or her Intention to bring such Appeal, and of the Cause or Matter thereof, to the Clerk or Treasurer to the said Trustees, and within Three Days after such Notice, entering into a Recognizance before some Justice of the Peace for the said County, with Two sufficient Sureties conditioned to try such Appeal at, and abide the Order of the said Session); and the Justices at such Session, upon due Proof of such Notice being given, and of the entering into such Recognizance, shall hear and finally determine the Matter of such Appeal in a summary Way; and if they see Cause may, by their Order, mitigate, at their Discretion, all or any of the said Penalties or Forfeitures, or vacate and set aside any Conviction or Convictions (but not for Want of Form only) or otherwise may ratify and confirm the same, and award such Costs as they shall think proper; and the Determination of the Justices at such Session shall be binding and conclusive to all Intents and Purposes, and shall not be liable to be removed by *Certiorari* or other Process whatsoever, into any of His Majesty's Courts of Record.

Allowing an Appeal to the Quarter Session.

XXXVI. And be it further enacted, That all Orders and Proceedings of the said Trustees shall be entered in a Book or Books to be kept for that Purpose, and the same being signed by any Three or more of them, or by their Clerk, shall be deemed and taken to be original Orders; and such Book or Books, and also the Book or Books herein-before directed to be kept for entering the Mortgages or Assignments of the Tolls hereby made payable, and Transfers of such Assignments, shall and may be produced and read in Evidence in all Cases of Appeals, and in all Suits or Actions touching or concerning any Thing done in pursuance of this Act.

Proceedings to be entered in a Book.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons whomsoever shall place or suffer any Carriage whatsoever to stand or remain on the said Bridge, or in any Road or Avenue leading to the same, except for the immediate Taking-up or Delivery of any Goods or Merchandize, or for the Removal of any Filth, Dung, Ashes, or Rubbish, (sufficient Time being allowed to do the same respectively), or shall in any other

Penalty on obstructing the Passage.

other Manner wilfully obstruct the Passage over the said Bridge, or the Passage leading to or from the same, every Person so offending shall forfeit and pay for every such Offence the Sum of Twenty Shillings.

Prescribing
the Form of
Conviction.

XXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That any Justice of the Peace before whom any Person shall be convicted of any Offence against this Act, shall and may cause the Conviction to be drawn up in the following Form, or to the like Effect; (that is to say),

County of }
Salop. } BE it remembered, That on the Day of
in the Year of the Reign of His Majesty
' A. B. is convicted before me, One of His Majesty's Justices of the
' Peace for the said County, by virtue of an Act made in the Thirty-ninth
' Year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Third, intituled, [*here*
' *set forth the Title of the Act, and specify the Offence, and the Time and*
' *Place when and where the same was committed, as the Case shall be*].
' Given under my Hand and Seal the Day and Year aforesaid.'

Limitation of
Actions.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Action or Suit shall be commenced or prosecuted against any Person or Persons, for any Thing done or to be done in pursuance of this Act, the same shall be commenced within Three Calendar Months next after the Fact committed, and not afterwards, and shall be laid in the County of *Salop*, and not elsewhere; and the Defendant or Defendants in such Action or Suit shall and may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the special Matter in Evidence at any Trial to be had thereupon, and that the same was done in pursuance and by the Authority of this Act; and if it shall appear so to be done, or that such Action or Suit shall be brought or commenced after the Time before limited, or shall be laid in any other County or Place than as aforesaid, that then the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall become nonsuited, or discontinue his, her, or their Action or Suit, or if a Verdict shall pass against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, or upon Demurrer Judgement shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants shall recover Treble Costs, and shall have such Remedy for the same as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have for Costs of Suit in other Cases by Law.

General Issue.

Treble Costs.

Publick Act.

XL. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a publick Act; and shall be judicially taken Notice of as such, by all Judges, Justices, and other Persons whomsoever, without specially pleading the same.