



ANNO TRICESIMO NONO

GEORGI III. REGIS.

Cap. 42.

An Act for the better and more effectual Relief and Employment of the Poor in the Hundred of *Samford*, in the County of *Suffolk*.

[13th June, 1799.]

WHEREAS an Act was made, in the Fourth Year of the Preamble] Reign of His present Majesty, for the better Relief and Employment of the Poor in the Hundred of *Samford*, in the County of *Suffolk*: And whereas, in pursuance of the Powers given by the said Act, a House of Industry and other Buildings have been erected and fitted up in the Parish of *Tattingstone*, within the said Hundred, for the Reception and Employment of the Poor, and a great Number of poor Persons have been received, and are now maintained and employed therein; and a considerable Sum of Money hath been borrowed, and is now due and owing on the Credit of the Assessments authorized to be made by virtue of the said Act, in the several Parishes and other Places within the said Hundred, in order to defray the Expence of erecting the said House and other Buildings, and of fitting up and furnishing the same: And whereas the Number of the Poor within the said Hundred has of late Years greatly increased, and the said House is found too small for their Reception; and the Produce of the Assessments authorized to be made as aforesaid, is not sufficient to defray the Expence of supporting the said Poor, and to pay off the Money borrowed and due as aforesaid; and the said Act is found, in many other Respects, ineffectual for

[*Loc. & Per.*] 6 D the

the Purposes thereby intended: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That the said recited Act of the Fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty shall be, and is hereby repealed.

4 Geo. III,
repealed.

Guardians of
the Poor.

II. And, in order to carry this Act into Execution, be it further enacted, That, from and after the passing of this Act, every Person who now is, and from Time to Time hereafter shall become seised in his or her own Right, (or in the Right of his Wife), of Messuages, Lands, Tenements, Tythes, or other Hereditaments, within the said Hundred of *Samford*, rated to the Poors Rates at the Yearly Value of Thirty Pounds, or of any Leasehold Estate at the yearly Value of Fifty Pounds, and all Persons who are and shall be acting Justices of the Peace for the County of *Suffolk*, residing within the said Hundred, or within Five Miles thereof, and also all Rectors and Vicars for the Time being of the several Rectories and Vicarages within the said Hundred, and also all Persons who now do, and from Time to Time hereafter shall occupy within the said Hundred, any Lands, Tenements, Tythes, or other Hereditaments, rated at the Poors Rates at the Value of Sixty Pounds *per Annum*, shall be, and are hereby incorporated by the Name of and shall be called *The Guardians of the Poor within the Hundred of Samford, in the County of Suffolk*; and shall for ever hereafter be deemed and taken to be One Body Politick and Corporate in Law, to all Intents and Purposes, and shall have perpetual Succession, and a Common Seal, and shall be enabled to sue and plead, and to be sued by that Name in all Courts and Places whatsoever, and by that Name shall and may purchase, take, and receive any Goods and Chattels whatsoever, to or for the Use of the said Corporation.

To be a Cor-
poration.

Women to
act only by
Proxy.

III. Provided always, That all Women qualified to act as Guardians, shall only be allowed to act as such by Proxies to be appointed under their Hands, and the Persons appointing such Proxies may from Time to Time revoke such Appointment, and may appoint new ones in their Stead, but no Person shall be capable of acting as such Proxy, who is not One of the Guardians, and authorized to act as such by virtue of this Act; and no more than One such Proxy shall be granted to or received by any One Guardian: Provided also, That the said Corporation shall not be capable of taking or holding any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, (except as herein-after mentioned), for a longer Term than Five Years, but shall within that Time sell, and, by Writing under their Common Seal, convey to Persons willing to purchase the same, all such Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, as may be granted or given to them for the Use or Benefit of the Poor of the said Hundred; and that the Money arising by such Sale, and the Rents and Profits of the Premises until Sale thereof, shall be paid to the Treasurer for the Time being, for the Use of the said Corporation.

Corporations
not to take
or hold
Lands, &c.
for a longer
Term than
Five Years.

House of In-
dustry, &c.
vested in the
Guardians.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the said House of Industry, and all other Buildings erected as aforesaid, and all Lands purchased or taken, and also all Furniture, Goods, Implements, Materials, and other Things, purchased or provided by the Guardians of the Poor, by virtue of the said

said recited Act, and which immediately before the Commencement of this Act were vested in them, shall be, and are hereby vested in the Guardians of the Poor incorporated by virtue of this Act, who are hereby empowered to take, hold, and keep the same for the Uses and Purposes herein-after mentioned; and that all poor Persons in the said House at the Commencement of this Act, and also all poor Persons who now do, or at any Time hereafter shall belong to any Parish or Place within the said Hundred, who are or shall be incapable of providing for themselves, and who shall apply for Relief, shall from henceforth be deemed and taken to be under the Government and Management of the Guardians incorporated by this Act, and such poor Persons as are not already in the said House, shall be from Time to Time received into the same, and, together with the poor Persons already in the said House, shall be provided for by the said Guardians, and be under their Government, according to the Directions, and true Intent and Meaning of this Act.

V. And be it further enacted, That Sir *Robert Harland* Baronet, *Richard Savage Lloyd*, *Charles Berners* the younger, *Robert Bradstreet*, *Charles Streynsham Collinson*, Esquires; *Joseph Tweed*, *Henry Denny Berners*, Clerks; *Thomas Skave*, *Nathaniel Whimper*, *John Gosnall*, *Thomas Gosnall*, *Golding Constable*, *Thomas Woodward*, *John Stubbin*, *William Deane*, *Robert Baker*, *Hayward Rush*, *Thomas Jarman*, *John Cooke*, *Isaac Everett*, *James Smith*, *John Josselyn* the younger, *James Fisher*, and *Cooper William Brooke*, Gentlemen; shall be, and are hereby nominated and appointed Directors of the Poor within the said Hundred, who, together with Twenty-four other Persons, to be chosen in Manner as herein-after mentioned, out of the Body of Guardians, to be Acting Guardians, shall have full Power and Authority to carry the Purposes of this Act into Execution.

Appointment
of Directors.

VI. Provided always, That when and as often as any of the Directors hereby nominated and appointed shall die, disqualify themselves, or by Writing under their Hands refuse to act in the Execution of this Act, then, and in that Case, the surviving or remaining Directors shall, at the next Quarterly Meeting by this Act directed to be held, proceed to the Election of One other fit Person, qualified as herein-after mentioned, to be a Director in the Room of every such Director so dying, disqualifying himself, or refusing to act as aforesaid: Provided also, That no Person shall be chosen a Director, or capable of acting as such, unless at the Time of his being chosen, he shall be seised as aforesaid of Lands or Tenements rated at the Value of Thirty Pounds *per Annum*; or of any Leasehold Estate at the Value of Fifty Pounds *per Annum*; or shall be a Rector or Vicar for the Time being of some Rectory or Vicarage within the said Hundred; or is or shall be an acting Justice of the Peace for the County of *Suffolk*, and residing within the said Hundred, or within Five Miles thereof; or shall occupy Lands, Tenements, Tythes, or other Hereditaments, in One or more of the Parishes within the said Hundred, rated to the Pools Rates at Sixty Pounds *per Annum*; and that every Guardian and Director shall, at the First Meeting at which he or she shall act, deliver, or cause to be delivered to the Chairman of the Meeting, an Account in Writing, under his or her Hand, of his or her Qualification, and (if by Estate) in what Parish or Place the same shall be situate; and if any Person shall act as a Director, not being duly qualified as aforesaid, or having disqualified himself shall neglect to give Notice thereof to

Election of
Directors in
Cases of Va-
cancy.

Qualification
of Directors.

Penalty on
Persons acting
as Directors
if not qua-
lified.

the Clerk of the Corporation within One Month after such Disqualification, every such Person shall be summoned, by Writing under the Hands of Three or more Directors, to appear at the next General Quarterly Meeting of the said Directors and Acting Guardians, to be holden as herein-after directed; and if any such Person shall neglect or refuse to appear at such Meeting by himself or Agent, or shall not then and there upon Oath (which Oath any Two Directors are empowered to administer), prove his Qualification, to the Satisfaction of the Majority of the Directors then present, every such Person so offending shall forfeit and pay, to the Treasurer of the Corporation, the Sum of Five Pounds, and be struck off the List of the said Directors.

First Meeting
of Directors
and Guar-
dians.

VII. And be it further enacted, That the Directors hereby appointed, and the said Guardians, or such of them as shall think fit, shall meet at the Sign of *The White Horse* in *Capel Saint Mary*, in the said Hundred, on the Second *Tuesday* next after the Day of the passing of this Act, between the Hours of Ten and Two of the Clock of the same Day, and by a Majority of Voices chuse One of the said Directors to be Chairman of such Meeting; and such Chairman shall cause the Directors and Guardians then present, to proceed by Ballot to chuse Twenty-four Persons, qualified as herein-before is mentioned, to be acting Guardians of the Poor within the said Hundred, until other Acting Guardians shall be chosen in their Stead.

Quarterly
Meetings of
Directors
and Acting
Guardians.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That the Directors and Acting Guardians to be from Time to Time appointed by virtue of this Act, shall hold Four Quarterly Meetings in every Year; that is to say, upon the *Tuesday* next after the Twenty-fifth Day of *March*, the *Tuesday* next after the Twenty-fourth Day of *June*, the *Tuesday* next after the Twenty-ninth Day of *September*, and the *Tuesday* next after the Twenty-fifth Day of *December*; and at any of the said Quarterly Meetings, the Directors present shall, by Ballot to be taken between Ten and Two of the Clock, fill up any Vacancies that may have happened in the Twenty-four Directors, by Death, Disqualification, or otherwise; and at any such Quarterly Meeting, the Directors and Acting Guardians present shall, by Ballot to be taken as aforesaid, fill up any Vacancies that may have happened in the Twenty-four Acting Guardians by Death, Disqualification, or otherwise; and at the Quarterly Meeting to be holden upon the *Tuesday* next after the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* in every Year, the Directors and Acting Guardians present shall, by Ballot to be also taken as aforesaid, chuse Twenty-four of the Guardians to be the Acting Guardians for the following Year, Twelve at least of which said new elected Guardians shall not have been Acting Guardians the preceding Year, and shall examine and audit the Treasurer's Accounts, and then shall by Ballot elect the same, or any other Person or Persons, to be Treasurer or Treasurers for the following Year; and so from Year to Year, on every succeeding *Tuesday* next after the Twenty-fifth Day of *March*, for ever.

Appointment
of Directors
and Acting
Guardians
for each
Quarter.

IX. And be it further enacted, That the Directors and Acting Guardians, after they shall be appointed as aforesaid, shall at the Quarterly Meeting to be held on the *Tuesday* next after the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* in every Year, appoint Twelve from amongst the said Directors and Acting Guardians (Six whereof at least shall be Directors) for each
Quarter

Quarter of the succeeding Year, to inspect, direct, manage, and provide for the Poor of the said Hundred; and the Twelve Directors and Acting Guardians so appointed, or any Three or more of them, (whereof One shall be a Director), shall and may, in the respective Quarters of the Year for which they shall be so appointed, meet at the said House of Industry, between the Hours of Ten and Twelve on the *Wednesday* Morning in every Week, or oftener if they shall think it necessary, and shall give such Orders and Directions as they shall think proper, relative to the Management and Employment of the Poor.

X. Provided always, That the said Directors and Acting Guardians may, at any of their Quarterly Meetings, alter the Days and Places of the future Quarterly or Weekly Meetings, and appoint other Days and Places for those Purposes, provided that Two Thirds of the Directors and Acting Guardians then present shall consent thereto; and that Notice of every such Alteration be given in the then next *Ipswich Journal*, or in such Newspaper, circulated in the said County, as shall be printed nearest to the said Hundred of *Samford*: Provided also, That the Twelve Directors and Acting Guardians to be chosen for any Quarter of the Year as aforesaid, may divide themselves into Committees of Four to act in every Month in such Quarter, but so as not to preclude any of such Twelve or any other of the Directors from being present, and voting at any such Weekly or other Meeting as aforesaid; and if there shall not at any such Weekly or other Meeting be Three Directors and Acting Guardians present, (whereof One shall be a Director), every Director who ought to have attended; and shall be absent, shall forfeit any Sum not exceeding the Sum of Twenty Shillings, and every Acting Guardian any Sum not exceeding the Sum of Ten Shillings, unless reasonable Cause be shewn for such Absence, or unless he shall have procured some other Director or Acting Guardian to attend in his Stead.

who may alter the Days and Places of Meetings;

and divide themselves into Committees.

XI. And be it further enacted, That the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall, at their First Quarterly Meeting, and from Time to Time, whenever they shall judge it expedient, at any of their subsequent Quarterly Meetings, and also at any Special Meetings to be holden pursuant to Notice to be given in the *Ipswich Journal* for Two successive Weeks, (and which Special Meetings they are hereby authorized to hold accordingly), chuse by Ballot One sufficient Person to be Clerk to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, (which Clerk shall from Time to Time enter all their Proceedings in a Book or Books to be kept for that Purpose), and likewise such other Officers as the said Directors shall find necessary for the Execution of this Act.

Appointment of a Clerk, and other Officers.

XII. And be it further enacted, That the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall, and they are hereby authorized and required to allow such Rewards and Salaries to the Treasurer, Clerk, and other Officers, out of the Monies to be raised by virtue of this Act, and also to take such Security or Securities from such Treasurer or other Persons, for the due Execution of his or their Office or Offices, as to the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall seem reasonable; and that the said Treasurer, Clerk, and all other Officers, shall continue in their respective Offices only during the Pleasure of the said Directors and Acting Guardians; and that it shall and may be lawful for the said Directors and Acting Guardians, at any

Allowances to the Officers.

[*Loc. & Per.*]

6 E

General

General Quarterly Meeting herein-before appointed, by Ballot, to displace such Officers, or any of them, and upon their Removal, Death, or Resignation, to chuse others in their Stead, with such Salaries and Allowances, and under such Security, as they shall think proper.

Directors and Guardians empowered to contract for an additional Quantity of Land for the Use of the Poor.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Directors and Acting Guardians, at any of their Quarterly Meetings, to contract and agree with any Lord or Lords, Lady or Ladies, of any Manor or Manors within the said Hundred for the Purchase of any Quantity of Land within such Manor or Manors, (not exceeding Forty Acres, in Addition to the Quantity of Land already purchased under or by virtue of the said recited Act), and also with the Owners and Proprietors of and Persons interested in any private Lands within the said Hundred, for the Purchase of any Quantity of such private Lands (not exceeding the Quantity aforesaid); and it shall be lawful for the Lord or Lords, Lady or Ladies, of any such Manor or Manors, to contract with the said Directors and Acting Guardians for the Sale, and to convey to the said Corporation such Land, and it shall also be lawful for all Corporations, Husbands, Guardians, Trustees, Committees, Executors, and Administrators, not only for and on Behalf of themselves, their Heirs and Successors, but also of their Cestuique Trusts, whether Femes Covert, Infants, Lunaticks, or Persons under any other Disability, and for all other Persons possessed of or interested in such Lands, to contract with the said Directors and Acting Guardians for the Sale thereof, and to convey the same to the said Corporation; and every such Contract, Sale, and Conveyance shall be valid in Law; any Law, Usage, or other Matter, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Lands purchased for the Poor vested in the Corporation.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That upon Payment by the said Directors and Acting Guardians, of the respective Sums of Money which shall be agreed upon as the Value of the Lands to be purchased as aforesaid, to the respective Parties entitled thereto, or their Agents, the said Lands which shall be purchased as aforesaid, shall become and be vested in the said Corporation for ever, for the Purposes of this Act; and the said Lands shall be made use of for the Benefit of the Poor of the said Hundred, in such Manner as the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall from Time to Time think proper.

For vesting Money belonging to Corporations or incapacitated Persons in Publick Securities.

XV. And be it further enacted, That if any Money or Recompence shall be to be paid for any Messuages, Buildings, Lands, or Hereditaments, which shall be purchased, taken, or used for the Purposes of this Act, to any Corporation, Feme Covert, Infant, Lunatick, or Person, under any other Disability or Incapacity, such Money shall, in case the same be not less than the Sum of One hundred Pounds, with all convenient Speed be invested in the Purchase of other Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, which shall be conveyed and settled upon, and subject to the like Uses, Trusts, and Limitations, as the said Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, belonging to such Corporation or other Person as aforesaid, so to be purchased, taken, or used, for the Purposes of this Act, 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 Directors and Acting Guardians 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 Twenty-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 Directors and Acting Guardians, or their Successors, 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 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 Directors and Acting Guardians 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 Name of Two or more Persons to be nominated by the Party or Parties interested therein, and to be approved of by the said Directors and Acting Guardians; 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.

Directors and Acting Guardians empowered to alter and enlarge the House of Industry, &c.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Directors and Acting Guardians, at any of their Quarterly Meetings to be holden as aforesaid, to alter and enlarge the said House of Industry, and other Buildings erected as aforesaid, and to cause to be erected and fitted up One other separate Building, or Part of a Building, to serve as a House or Houses of Correction, for the punishing and keeping to hard Labour such idle and disorderly Persons who, being able, shall refuse to work, or otherwise misbehave themselves, and also such other Buildings as the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall think necessary or proper for the Purposes of this Act, and from Time to Time to repair, alter, and support the same.

House and Buildings, &c. not to be rated.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That the said House and other Buildings aforesaid, and also the Land herein-before vested in the said Corporation, or to be hereafter purchased or taken in Exchange, shall never be rated to any Parochial Taxes, Levies, or County Rates whatsoever, or to any Parliamentary Aids or Taxes, at any higher Rent or Value than the same were rated at immediately before the passing of this Act; and that no Buildings which shall hereafter be erected for the Use or Employment of the Poor of the said Hundred, shall be rated or liable to any such Rates, Levies, Aids, or Taxes as aforesaid.

For getting Materials for enlarging or altering the House and Buildings.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Agent or Workmen employed under the said Directors and Acting Guardians, and having their Direction for that Purpose, to dig, take, and carry away any Soil, Clay, Gravel, Sand, or Stone, and to manufacture the same for the Purpose of altering, enlarging, or repairing the said House, and any other Buildings already erected, and for erecting and repairing any such new Buildings as aforesaid, and for making and repairing any Fences and other Works which they shall judge proper, for or relating to the Purposes of this Act, out of, upon, or from any Common or Waste Land, River or Brook, within the said Hundred, without paying any Thing for the same, they causing all Pits or Quarries, made by such digging and taking, to be filled up, or railed or fenced, so as not to be dangerous to Passengers or Cattle; and if any Person not hereby authorized shall take away any of the Materials so dug or procured in any Pit or Quarry, before the said Agents or Workmen shall have discontinued working therein for the Space of Twenty-one Days, every Person so offending shall, for every such Offence, forfeit any Sum not exceeding the Sum of Forty Shillings.

Punishing Persons obstructing the repairing or erecting the House or Buildings.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall, by open Violence or maliciously obstruct the repairing or erecting of such House or other Buildings, or wilfully and maliciously damage the said Buildings, every Person so offending shall be subject and liable to the like Pains and Penalties as in Cases of Felony, and the Court by and before whom such Person shall be tried, shall and have hereby Power and Authority to cause such Person to be punished in like Manner as Felons are directed to be punished by the Laws and Statutes of this Realm; or in Mitigation of such Punishment such Court may, if they think fit, award such Sentence as the Law directs.

XX. And

XX. And be it further enacted, That the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall, from Time to Time, provide a proper Stock of Hemp, Wool, and other Materials, and also proper Tools and other Things, for the Employment of the Poor; and it shall be lawful for the Guardians of the Poor of the said Hundred and their Officers, and the said poor Persons, to carry on, use, or occupy, any Trade, Mystery, or Occupation whatsoever, within the said House and the Buildings thereto belonging; any Law or Statute to the contrary notwithstanding.

For providing
Materials and
Tools for the
Employment
of the Poor.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Directors and Acting Guardians, present at any Quarterly or Weekly Meeting, to let or place out for One Year, any of the poor Children maintained in the said House; and for them the said Directors and Acting Guardians, present at any such Quarterly or Weekly Meeting, or for the Clerk for the Time being of the said Directors and Acting Guardians, at any Time or Times, being thereunto duly authorized by an Order of the said Directors and Acting Guardians present at any such Quarterly or Weekly Meeting, (such Order to be in Writing, and entered in the Book or Books herein-before directed to be kept for the Purpose of entering the Proceedings of the said Directors and Acting Guardians, and signed by such Directors and Acting Guardians), with the Consent of any Two Justices of the Peace for the said County, to bind, by Indenture under the Common Seal of the said Corporation, any such poor Children, as also any poor Children belonging to any Parish within the said Hundred, whose Parents the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall judge not able to maintain them, to be Apprentices for any Term not less than Three Years, nor more than Seven Years, (except where the Child, being a Male, shall be above the Age of Eighteen Years, or being a Female above the Age of Fifteen Years, at the Time of such Binding; and no such Child shall in any Case be bound or continued an Apprentice after the Age of Twenty-one, being a Male, or after the Age of Eighteen, being a Female), to any Person or Persons occupying Lands or Tenements, or using any Trade in any Parish, Hamlet, or Place within the said Hundred, whom the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall think proper Persons to take Apprentices, (whether such Person or Persons be resident within the said Hundred, or elsewhere), due Regard being had to apportion the Number of Children which shall be bound Apprentices, according to the Annual Sum at which the Person to whom they are hereby directed to be bound, shall respectively be assessed by a Pound Rate to the Relief of the Poor in any Parish within the said Hundred, or (with the like Consent) to bind any such Children Apprentices to the Governor of the said House, and his Successors in such Office, or to any other proper Person willing to take such Apprentices, or to bind any such Male Children Apprentices to any Captain, Master, or Owner of any Ship or Vessel in the Sea Service, willing to take such Apprentices, in like Manner as Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, with the Assent of Two Justices of the Peace, are by the Laws now in being empowered to bind poor Children whose Parents are not able to maintain them, to be Apprentices; and the Persons to whom such Children shall, by the said Directors and Acting Guardians, (with such Consent of Two Justices of the Peace as aforesaid), be appointed to be bound Apprentices, shall be obliged to receive and provide for such Apprentices, and to execute a Counterpart of the Indentures of Apprenticeship, in like

Respecting the
placing out
and appren-
ticing poor
Children.

[Loc. & Per.]

6 F

Manner,

Manner, and under the like Penalties, as Persons are now obliged by the Laws in being to provide for Apprentices appointed to be bound by Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, with the Assent of Two Justices of the Peace; and no Apprentice so bound as aforesaid, shall (except with the Consent of the Directors and Acting Guardians under their Common Seal), be assigned or turned over to any other Person whomsoever; and all Persons to whom such Apprentices shall be assigned or turned over, shall be obliged to receive and provide for them, and to execute a Counterpart of the Assignment, in like Manner as the Persons to whom they were first bound as aforesaid, were obliged to receive and provide for them, and to execute a Counterpart of the original Indentures of Apprenticeship; and in like Manner the Persons to whom such Children shall be let or placed out for One Year as aforesaid, shall be obliged to receive and provide for such Children in like Manner, and under the like Penalties, as they are now obliged by Law to provide for Apprentices appointed to be bound by Churchwardens and Overseers, with the Assent of Two Justices of the Peace; and no such Child or Children so let or placed out for One Year shall (except with the Consent of the Directors and Acting Guardians at some Quarterly or Weekly Meeting) be assigned or turned over to any other Person whomsoever; and all Persons to whom any such Child or Children shall be so assigned or turned over, shall be obliged to receive and provide for them in the same Manner, and under the same Penalties, as the Persons to whom such Children were first let or placed out were obliged to receive and provide for them.

Masters in certain Cases may assign over Apprentices.

XXII. Provided always, That in all Cases where any Master or Mistress to whom any Apprentice or Apprentices shall be bound, shall, during the Time of such Apprenticeship, quit the Occupation of the Farm he or she then holds, and remove into any other Hundred, that then it shall and may be lawful for such Master or Mistress to assign over, in the Manner before directed, any such Apprentice or Apprentices to the Person who shall succeed him or her in the Occupation of the said Farm, which Person shall and is hereby required to receive and provide for such Apprentice or Apprentices in like Manner as the Master or Mistress to whom he, she, or they were before bound was obliged to receive and provide for him, her, or them; and the Person to whom any such Apprentice or Apprentices shall be so assigned is hereby required to execute a Counterpart of the Assignment, in the Manner before directed for making Assignments of an Apprentice or Apprentices.

Children apprenticed by the former Act, deemed Apprentices bound in pursuance of this Act.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That all Children who have been bound Apprentices by virtue of the said recited Act of the Fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, and the Terms of whose Apprenticeships are unexpired, shall, for the Remainder of such Terms, be deemed and taken to be Apprentices bound in pursuance of this Act.

That Production of Indentures, under the Seal of the Corporation, shall be sufficient Proof of the due Execution thereof.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That the Production of any such Indenture or Assignment, under the Common Seal of the said Corporation, shall be sufficient Proof of the due Execution thereof; and that the Production of the Book or Books aforesaid, to be kept for the Purpose of entering the Proceedings of the said Directors and Acting Guardians, in which shall be contained any Order or Orders, authorizing the Clerk for the Time being of the said Directors and Acting Guardians to bind out any

any such poor Child or Children, shall be sufficient Proof of such Order or Orders, in any Court of Justice whatsoever, without calling any Witnesses to prove the Sealing or Execution of any such Indenture or Assignment, or without calling any Witnesses to prove any such Order or Orders as aforesaid.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That in case any of the poor Children who shall be placed out for a Year, or bound Apprentices as aforesaid, shall be ill treated by their Masters or Mistresses, any Two Justices of the Peace, upon Complaint thereof made to them, may discharge any such Child from his or her Service or Apprenticeship, and may (if they see Cause) order and direct the Master or Mistress of such Child to pay such Sum of Money to the Treasurer of the said Guardians as they shall think proper, not exceeding Ten Pounds.

For preventing poor Children being ill treated.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That the said Directors and Acting Guardians may let out to Hire any poor Persons maintained in the said House, to be employed in Harvest Work, or any other Work suitable to their Strength and Ability, for such Time and at such Wages as shall be agreed upon, the said Directors and Acting Guardians taking Care that such poor Persons are properly maintained, lodged, and provided for, during the Time of their being so hired; and if any Difference shall arise between the said Directors and Acting Guardians, or any poor Persons so let out to Hire, and the Person hiring such poor Person, touching the Payment of his or her Wages, any Justice of the Peace for the said County, upon Application to him for that Purpose, shall settle such Dispute, and give such Redress as Justices of the Peace are now empowered to do by Law, between Masters and Servants in Husbandry.

Directors and Acting Guardians may let out to Hire poor Persons to be employed in Harvest Work, &c.;

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That the said Directors and Acting Guardians, at any of their Quarterly Meetings assembled, may from Time to Time (if they think proper) contract with any Person, whether resident within the said Hundred or not, for employing all or any of the poor Persons within the said House of Industry, upon such Terms and Conditions as the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall think proper, every such Contractor being subject to the Rules and Regulations made or to be made relative to such poor Persons, and to receive the Profits of their Labour, (deducting thereout the Gratuities payable to such poor Persons as herein-after mentioned), in Part or in Full of Payment and Satisfaction for the Performance of such Contract, so as no such Contract shall be in Force for a longer Time than One Year.

and contract with Persons for employing the Poor in the House of Industry.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That all the Profits arising from the Work or Labour of the said poor Persons shall be, from Time to Time, paid to the Treasurer to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, and applied for the Purposes of this Act: Provided nevertheless, That such Rewards shall, out of the said Profits, be distributed to such of the said poor Persons as shall be industrious and skilful, in proportion to the Quantity and Quality of their Work, as to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, assembled at any of their Quarterly or Weekly Meetings, shall appear reasonable; but no Part of such Rewards shall be expended by such poor Persons in the Purchase of Spirituous Liquors, the drinking of which

Profits arising from the Labour of the Poor to be paid to the Treasurer.

which by any of the said poor Persons, the Governor and Matron of the said House are hereby strictly enjoined to prohibit and prevent.

If Relations of poor Persons desire to provide for them, Directors and Guardians to deliver them up;

or if poor Persons can maintain themselves, they shall be dismissed.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That if the Parents, Relations, or Friends of any such poor Persons or Children maintained by the said Corporation, or any other Person, shall desire to provide for any such poor Persons, and satisfy the said Directors and Acting Guardians of their Ability so to do, the said Directors and Acting Guardians are hereby required, at any Weekly or other Meetings, to deliver up such poor Children, or other poor Persons, to their Parents, Relations, or Friends, or other Persons desiring to provide for them; or if it shall appear to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, at any such Meeting, that any of the said poor Persons can maintain themselves, the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall dismiss such poor Persons from the said House; any Thing in this Act contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

Act not affect the Settlement of any illegitimate Child born in the House.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall alter or affect the Settlement of any illegitimate Child born in the said House, but every such Child shall be considered as settled in the Parish, Hamlet, or Place, to which the Mother belongs; and that no Child who shall be apprenticed to the Governor of the said House shall acquire a Settlement by virtue of such Apprenticeship, but shall be considered as settled in the Parish, Hamlet, or Place, to which the Father of such Child, or (if illegitimate) to which the Mother belongs.

Respecting Persons refusing to employ the Poor who are willing to work.

XXXI. And whereas it frequently happens that Persons following Trades, or occupying Lands within the said Hundred, neglect or refuse to employ poor Persons who are willing and able to work, belonging to the Parish in which such Persons carry on their Trades or occupy Lands, and employ others whose Settlements are not within such Parish, to the great Injury and Discouragement of their own industrious Poor; be it therefore enacted, That whenever any poor Person, whose Settlement is in any Parish within the said Hundred, who is able and willing to be employed in any Service or Work at the usual Rates and Prices payable in the said Hundred, shall apply for Relief to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, at a Weekly or other Meeting, and shall make Complaint that he or she has applied to a Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor of the Parish to which he or she belongs, in order to be employed in some Service or Work, and that such Churchwarden or Overseer hath not procured him or her such Service or Work, within Seven Days after such Application so made, any Justice of the Peace for the said County shall, upon Complaint thereof made to him by Order of the said Directors and Acting Guardians, summon the said Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor to appear before him, and examine into the Matter of the said Complaint, and if the said Justice shall think proper, shall order and direct that the said poor Person shall be employed by some Inhabitant of the said Parish, in such Service or Work as such poor Person is able and willing to be engaged in, at a fair, reasonable, and customary Recompence; and if no Inhabitant of such Parish shall forthwith employ such poor Person, the said Justice shall, by Writing under his Hand and Seal, direct the Churchwardens or Overseers of the Poor of such Parish to make
a Weekly

a Weekly Allowance to such poor Person, until employed in some Work or Service; and the Money so directed to be paid shall be reimbursed and paid such Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of such Parish, and shall and may be levied and raised in such Parish in the same Manner, and in the same Proportion, as the other Rates are authorized or directed to be levied and raised, over and above all other Sum and Sums of Money directed by this Act to be raised.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That all Persons within the said Hundred who are idle and disorderly, and who are able, but neglect or refuse to work or maintain themselves and their Families; may be prosecuted for such Offences, as well by the said Directors and Acting Guardians, as by any Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor within the said Hundred, and upon Conviction of such Offences, shall be punished in such Manner as idle and disorderly Persons are, by an Act made for that Purpose in the Seventeenth Year of the Reign of King George the Second, directed to be punished.

For prosecuting idle and disorderly Persons who refuse to maintain themselves and Families.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any of the said Directors and Acting Guardians to cause to be apprehended all Persons, being in any Parish or Place within the said Hundred, who not having wherewith to maintain themselves, live in Idleness, and refuse to work for usual and common Wages given to other Labourers in the like Work within the said Hundred, and to cause every such Person to be conveyed before some Justice of the Peace for the said County; and every Person so apprehended, if he or she shall by such Justice be convicted of such Offence, shall be deemed a Rogue and Vagabond, and shall be punished as such.

For punishing idle Persons refusing to work for usual Wages.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That all Bye Laws, Rules, Laws, and Regulations, which have been made by virtue of the said recited Act of the Fourth Year of His present Majesty's Reign, and which immediately before the Commencement of this Act were in Force, shall be and continue in Force in like Manner as if the same had been made by virtue of this Act; and the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall, and they are hereby authorized and empowered from Time to Time, at any of their Quarterly Meetings, to make any new Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations, for the governing and employing the Poor maintained in the said House, and from Time to Time to repeal, alter, or amend, any such Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations made, or to be made as aforesaid, as to the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall seem meet, provided the same are not repugnant to the Laws of this Realm; and every such Bye Law, Rule, Order, and Regulation, shall be printed, and placed or affixed in some conspicuous Place in the said House, and shall be read by the Governor once at least in every Month to the poor Persons maintained in such House: Provided nevertheless, That no such Bye Law, Rule, Order, or Regulation as aforesaid, shall be made, altered, or repealed, unless the major Part of the Directors present shall concur therein.

Respecting Bye Laws, &c.

XXXV. And whereas divers Estates have been given to the respective Parishes or Places within the said Hundred, or some of them, for the

[Loc. & Per.]

6 G

Requiring Churchwardens, &c. to deliver to the Relief

Directors and Acting Guardians an Account of Estates given for the Relief of the Poor, who may let the same.

Relief of the Poor thereof, and it is proper that the said Directors and Acting Guardians should be empowered to let the same for the Purposes of this Act; be it therefore enacted, That all Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poor, and Trustees, to or in whom any such Estates have been given or vested for the Use or Benefit of the Poor of any Parish or Place within the said Hundred, shall, and are hereby respectively required to deliver to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, at such Time and Place as they shall for that Purpose, by Notice in Writing under their Hands to be delivered to such Persons respectively, appoint, (such Time not being less than Three Months after the Delivery of such Notice), a particular Account of the said Estates, and also such other Information respecting the same as they shall be enabled to do by Leases, Surveys, or any other Means; and it shall be lawful for the said Directors and Acting Guardians, with the Consent of such Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, and the major Part of such Trustees, signified by Writing under their respective Hands, to let such Estates for the most Rent that can be reasonably had for the same.

Money bequeathed for the Use of the Poor, and no particular Direction as to the Distribution thereof, to be distributed to poor indigent Persons.

XXXVI. And be it further enacted, That in case any Legacy, Donation, or Sum of Money hath been or shall hereafter be given or bequeathed to any Parish, Hamlet, or Place within the said Hundred, for the Use of the Poor of such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, and no particular or positive Direction shall be given by the Donor with regard to the Distribution thereof, every such Legacy, Donation, or Sum of Money shall be distributed to such poor indigent Persons within such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, as the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall appoint; and every Person, who shall be empowered or intrusted to distribute such Donation, Legacy, or Sum of Money, and who shall make any Misapplication thereof, or of any Part thereof, shall forfeit and pay Treble the Value of such Legacy, Donation, or Sum of Money so misapplied.

Empowering the Directors and Acting Guardians to make Assessments.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall, and are hereby empowered, at their Quarterly Meetings to assess the several Parishes, Hamlets, and Places which now are or usually have been charged to the Poores Rates within the said Hundred, in such respective Sums of Money as the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall think necessary, for defraying the Expences attending the supporting and maintaining the Poor for the current Quarter of the Year, and for the paying the Interest of the Money borrowed and due by virtue of the said recited Act as aforesaid, and of any Money which shall be borrowed by virtue of this Act, and for paying off the Principal Money borrowed and to be borrowed as aforesaid; and the said respective Assessments being allowed and signed by any Two Justices of the Peace for the said County, or by the Justices at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the said County, (for which no Fee or Reward shall be paid), the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall, and are hereby empowered to issue Warrants, under the Seal of the said Corporation, to the Churchwardens or Overseers of the Poor of the several Parishes, Hamlets, and Places, within the said Hundred, requiring them, at some particular Time and Place to be mentioned in such Warrants, to pay the Sums so assessed upon the said Parishes, Hamlets, and Places respectively, to the Treasurer to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, whose

whose Receipt for the same shall be a legal Discharge to the respective Churchwardens and Overseers; and for raising the respective Sums so assessed by the said Directors and Acting Guardians as aforesaid, the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of every such Parish, Hamlet, and Place, are hereby authorized and required, from Time to Time, with as much Equality as may be, to raise by a Rate to be made upon every Inhabitant, Rector, and Vicar, and of every Occupier of Lands, Houses, Tenements, Tythes Improprate, Propriation of Tythes, Mines, or saleable Underwoods, in the said respective Parishes, Hamlets, and Places, so much Money as shall by the said Directors and Acting Guardians have been assessed upon such respective Parishes, Hamlets, and Places, and expressed in such Warrants respectively; and the said respective Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor are hereby authorized and required, from Time to Time, to collect and pay to the said Treasurer all Arrears of any Assessments or Rates made by virtue of the said recited Act of the Fourth Year of His present Majesty's Reign; and the several Inhabitants and other Persons liable to be rated within the said Parishes, Hamlets, and Places respectively, shall be answerable for all Money collected and received by the said respective Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, and which shall not have been paid to the said Treasurer, and the same shall be raised by an additional Rate to be made upon such Inhabitants and other Persons aforesaid, by the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, in pursuance of a Re-assessment to be made by the said Directors and Acting Guardians at some of their Quarterly Meetings, and approved of by the Justices, and signed as aforesaid, upon every such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, where such Deficiency shall have happened; and all such Rates and Arrears of any former Assessments or Rates as aforesaid, shall be levied and recovered in such and the like Manner as any Money authorized to be raised for the Relief of the Poor in any Parish or Place can or may, by the Laws in being, be levied and recovered, and with the same Power of Appeal to Persons who may think themselves aggrieved by any such Assessments or Rates.

XXXVIII. Provided always, That the Sums to be assessed by the said Directors and Acting Guardians upon any Parish, Hamlet, or Place by virtue of this Act, shall not exceed in any One Year Double the Sum which hath hitherto been assessed for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor in such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, in any One Year by virtue of the said recited Act, and shall be in the same Ratio and Proportion, as the Assessments which have hitherto been made and levied by virtue of the said recited Act within the said respective Parishes, Hamlets, and Places.

Assessment, nor to exceed a certain Sum.

XXXIX. Provided also, That nothing in this Act shall be construed to prevent the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the several Parishes, Hamlets, and Places within the said Hundred, from raising any Sum or Sums of Money to make any Payment or Payments which is or are directed, and required by any Law in being, to be paid out of the Poores Rates; but that such Sums shall and may be rated and raised for such Purposes within every such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, (over and above the Money to be raised for the Relief of the Poor), to reimburse the said Churchwardens and Overseers the Money they may have paid as aforesaid; and that all such Houses, Lands, Tythes, and other Hereditaments as are

Churchwardens and Overseers not to be prevented from raising Money to make Payments directed by any Law to be paid out of the Poores Rates.

are now, and usually have been, charged and rated to the Relief of the Poor of any of the said Parishes, Hamlets, or Places, (although not actually situate therein), shall continue to be charged and rated towards the Relief of the Poor of such respective Parishes, Hamlets, or Places, in like Manner as they were before the passing of this Act.

Rates to be a Security for the Money borrowed.

XL. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Rates to be made by virtue of this Act shall be a Security for the Money borrowed and now due as aforesaid, and for all Interest due and to grow due for the same, and shall be subject and liable to the Payment thereof; and that the several Assignments or Mortgages, made for the Security thereof by virtue of the said recited Act of the Fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, shall be deemed and taken to be Assignments or Mortgages of the Rates to be made by virtue of this Act, and the same shall be and continue in full Force and Effect until the Principal Money thereby secured, and the Interest thereof, shall be fully paid off and discharged.

Authorizing the Directors and Acting Guardians to borrow Money, and to mortgage the Rates as a Security.

XLI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Directors and Acting Guardians, at any of their Quarterly Meetings to be holden by virtue of this Act, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to borrow and take up (in Addition to the Sum now due and owing as aforesaid) at Interest, not exceeding Five Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, such Sum or Sums of Money as they shall think necessary for the Purposes of this Act, so that the whole Principal Sum which shall be at any Time due on the Credit of this Act do not exceed Fourteen thousand Pounds; and to assign over and mortgage the Rates directed to be made as aforesaid, or any Part thereof, to the Person or Persons who shall advance and lend such Money, or his or their Trustee or Trustees, as a Security for the Money so to be borrowed, together with the Interest for the same; which Assignments or Mortgages shall be under the Common Seal of the said Corporation, in the Words or to the Effect following:

Form of Assignment.

BY virtue of an Act, made in the Thirty-ninth Year of the Reign of King George the Third, intituled, [*insert the Title of the Act*], We, the Guardians of the Poor within the said Hundred, incorporated by the said Act, in consideration of the Sum of _____ now advanced and paid to the Treasurer appointed by virtue of the said Act, by _____ do hereby assign unto the said _____ Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, _____ being the Proportion of the Rates to be made by virtue of the said Act which the said Sum of _____ bears to the whole Money secured or to be advanced on the Credit of the said Rates, to hold unto the said _____ Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, from this _____ Day of _____ until the said Sum of _____ with Interest for the same, at the Rate of _____ *per Centum per Annum*, shall be repaid and satisfied. In Witness whereof we have hereunto affixed our Common Seal, this _____ Day of _____ in the _____ Year of our Lord _____

And

And every such Assignment or Mortgage shall be good, valid, and effectual in the Law; and it shall be lawful for the Persons entitled to any of the Securities for the Money borrowed by virtue of the before recited Act; and now due as aforesaid, and also for the Money to be borrowed by virtue of this Act, either by Indorsement on such Security, or by a separate Instrument under their Hands and Seals, to transfer such Securities to any Person or Persons; which Transfer may be in the Words or to the Effect following:

‘ I do hereby transfer the within Mortgage [if by Form of Transfer.
 ‘ Indorsement, or, a certain Mortgage, if by a separate Instrument],
 ‘ made to Executors, Administrators, and
 ‘ Assigns, bearing Date the Day of
 ‘ of the Rates arising by virtue of an Act, made in the Thirty-ninth
 ‘ Year of the Reign of King George the Third, intituled, [insert the Title
 ‘ of the Act], and all my Right and Title to the Money thereby secured,
 ‘ unto Executors, Administrators, and
 ‘ Assigns, dated this Day of

And Copies of all such Mortgages, and Extracts or Memorials of such Transfers, shall be entered in a Book by the Clerk to the said Directors and Acting Guardians; which Extracts or Memorials shall specify and contain the Dates, Names of the Parties, and the Sums of Money secured by the Mortgages so transferred, and the said Clerk shall subscribe his Name to every such Copy, and other Entry; and for the Entry of every Extract or Memorial shall be paid, by the Person to whom any such Transfer shall be made, the Sum of One Shilling and no more; and all Persons interested shall at all seasonable Times have free Access to the said Book, and Liberty to inspect the same without Fee or Reward; and it shall not be in the Power of the Person or Persons who shall have made any such Transfer, to make void, release, or discharge the same, or any Money due or to become due on the Security so transferred; and all Persons to whom any such Mortgages are or shall be made, or who shall be entitled to the Money thereby secured, shall be Creditors upon the said Rates in equal Degree one with another, and no Preference shall be given to such Creditors in respect to the Priority of advancing their Money, or the Dates of their Securities.

XLII. And be it further enacted, That the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall, out of the Money which shall be borrowed by virtue of this Act, in the first Place, pay and defray all the Costs, Charges, and Expences incident to and attending the obtaining and passing this Act, and shall afterwards defray the Expence of repairing, altering, and enlarging the said House of Industry, and other Buildings, in such Manner as they shall think proper, and of erecting such additional Buildings as aforesaid, and of purchasing Lands, and shall, from Time to Time, apply the Remainder (if any) of such Money, and also all other Money which shall come to the Hands of the said Directors and Acting Guardians, or their Treasurer, by virtue of this Act, in defraying all Expences of maintaining and employing the Poor of the said Hundred, and all other Expences relating to the carrying the Purposes of this Act into Execution, and in paying the Interest of the Principal Money already borrowed and due, and which shall be borrowed as aforesaid, and also in paying off such Principal Money.

[Loc. & Per.]

6 H

XLIII. And

Respecting
paying off
Mortgages.

XLIII. And be it further enacted, That whenever the major Part of the Directors and Acting Guardians, present at any of their Quarterly Meetings, (of which Majority Seven at the least shall be Directors), shall determine that any Part of the said Principal Money shall be paid off, then and in that Case they shall cause at least Three Months Notice thereof to be sent to the Persons entitled to the Mortgage or Mortgages intended to be paid off; and if any Person entitled to any such Mortgage shall neglect or refuse to attend in Person, or by some Person properly authorized to receive the Money, secured and due thereon, at the Time and Place to be mentioned in such Notice, or shall not then deliver up the Security for such Money, or give or execute a full Discharge for the same, to the Satisfaction of the said Directors and Acting Guardians, then no further Interest shall become due or be paid, from the Day specified in the said Notice for paying off the Money secured by such Mortgage.

Churchwardens and Overseers, &c. to assist the Directors and Acting Guardians in the Execution of this Act.

XLIV. And be it further enacted, That the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, Constables, and other Officers for the Time being, of the several Parishes, Hamlets, and Places, within the said Hundred, shall, from Time to Time, aid and assist the said Directors and Acting Guardians to the best of their Power in the Execution of this Act, and at all Times obey their Warrants and reasonable Orders for carrying this Act into Execution; and shall, when ordered by the said Directors and Acting Guardians, produce such Books, Rates, and Accounts, as the said Directors and Acting Guardians may judge necessary to see and examine for the Purposes of this Act, and shall upon Oath verify the same (which Oath any One of the said Directors is hereby empowered to administer); and in case any such Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor shall refuse or neglect to raise and levy the respective Sums of Money hereinbefore directed to be raised and levied upon the Parish, Hamlet, or Place, to which he belongs, or to account for and pay, at the Time and Place to be appointed for that Purpose by the said Directors and Acting Guardians, the Money to be collected by virtue of any Rate to be made as aforesaid, or if any Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, Constable, or other Officer, shall refuse or neglect to obey any such Warrants or Orders of the said Directors and Acting Guardians as aforesaid, every such Churchwarden, Overseer, Constable, or other Officer, so neglecting or refusing, shall be summoned, by Writing under the Hands of any Three or more Directors and Acting Guardians; to appear at the next Quarterly Meeting of the said Directors and Acting Guardians to be holden as aforesaid; or if any such Churchwarden, Overseer, Constable, or other Officer, so summoned, shall neglect or refuse to appear at such Meeting, or shall not shew sufficient Cause to justify himself or themselves, to the Satisfaction of the said Directors and Acting Guardians, every such Person so offending shall forfeit and pay, for every such Offence, any Sum not exceeding the Sum of Five Pounds nor less than Forty Shillings.

Touching the Removal of Persons within the Hundred.

XLV. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall come to reside or inhabit within any Parish, Hamlet, or Place, whose last legal Settlement shall be in some other Parish, Hamlet, or Place, within the said Hundred, such Person or Persons shall be liable to be removed
to

to the Place of his, her, or their last legal Settlement, in the same Manner as he, she, or they would be liable by the Laws now in being to be removed from Parish to Parish within the said Hundred, in case such Parishes were not incorporated by this Act.

XLVI. Provided always, That all Expences attending the Removal of any poor Person from any Parish, Hamlet, or Place, to any other Parish, Hamlet, or Place, within the said Hundred, shall be borne and paid by the Inhabitants of the Parish, Hamlet, or Place, from which any such poor Person shall be removed, without any Assistance from the said Directors and Acting Guardians; any Thing in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Expences of Removal to be borne by the Inhabitants.

XLVII. And be it further enacted, That if the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or Constables of any Parish, Hamlet, or Place, within the said Hundred, shall know or suspect any Person residing within any such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, whose legal Settlement is not within the said Hundred, to have been convicted of Larceny, or any other Felony, or by the Laws now being to be deemed a Rogue, Vagabond, idle or disorderly Person, or to be a Person of evil Fame, or a reputed Thief, and shall neglect to give Notice to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, at some of their Quarterly or Weekly Meetings, within Thirty Days after they shall know of such Persons having come to reside or inhabit in such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, or shall know or suspect any single Woman within any such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, to be with Child, or to have been delivered of a Child or Children, and shall neglect to give Notice thereof to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, at some such Meeting, and take their Directions thereon; every such Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, or Constable, shall forfeit and pay, for every such Neglect, any Sum not exceeding the Sum of Forty Shillings, to any Person chargeable to the Rates to be made for the Relief of the Poor within such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, who shall give Information thereof to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, within One Calendar Month next after such Neglect shall have happened; and if, through such Neglect, any such Person shall become chargeable to such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, then the whole Charge and Expence occasioned thereby shall be defrayed by the Inhabitants of such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, without any Assistance from the said Directors and Acting Guardians; any Thing in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Penalty on Churchwardens, &c. neglecting to give Notice of Persons convicted of Larceny, &c. or single Women with Child, having come to reside within the Hundred.

XLVIII. And be it further enacted, That all Bonds already given to the Guardians of the Poor appointed by virtue of the before recited Act, for indemnifying any of the said Parishes, Hamlets, or Places, from the Charges that may arise from Bastard Children, shall be forthwith delivered to and remain with the said Directors and Acting Guardians chosen by virtue of this Act; and it shall be lawful for the Guardians incorporated by this Act to sue on such Bonds, in their own Corporate Name, and they shall recover the Penalty thereof in the same Manner as if such Bonds had been originally made to them; and all Bonds which shall hereafter be given for indemnifying the said Hundred, or any Parish, Hamlet, or Place therein, against Bastard Children, or against any other Charge which may concern the said Hundred relating to the Poor thereof, shall

Bonds already given to the Guardians of the Poor appointed by the former Act, to be delivered to the Directors and Acting Guardians.

shall be made to the Guardians incorporated by this Act; any Law, Statute, or Custom, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Where Justices make any Order for Relief to Paupers, they are to direct the same to the Churchwardens and Overseers.

Penalty on Churchwardens, &c. disobeying such Order, or refusing to assist in executing any Warrant relating to Bastardy, &c.

XLIX. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where any Justice or Justices of the Peace shall make any Order for Relief to any Pauper, it shall be lawful for such Justice or Justices to direct all such Orders to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the Parish, Hamlet, or Place, in which such Pauper shall reside, for the Purpose of facilitating the due Execution of such Order; and the said Directors and Acting Guardians are hereby required to reimburse the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor the Money paid in pursuance of such Orders; and in case any Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor shall disobey any such Order, or shall refuse to assist in executing any Warrant of any such Justice or Justices relating to Bastardy, or shall, upon any Order of Filiation and Maintenance, refuse to demand or receive of any putative Father the Sum charged upon him by such Justice or Justices, to be allowed and paid by him to the Mother of any illegitimate Child or Children, or to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, towards the Maintenance of such Child or Children, or knowing of the putative Father of any such Child or Children absconding, or disobeying any Order of Filiation or Maintenance as aforesaid, shall not forthwith give Notice thereof to the Governor of the said House of Industry, or to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, at One of their Weekly Meetings, every Churchwarden and Overseer offending in any of the Cases aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay, for every such Offence, any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, nor less than Forty Shillings, whereof One Moiety shall go to any Person chargeable to the said Rates, who shall give Information thereof to the Directors and Acting Guardians at any of their Meetings: Provided always, That every Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor, who shall apprehend or bring back any such putative Father so absconding, shall be paid or allowed, by the said Directors and Acting Guardians, the Sum of Sixpence and no more, for every Mile he shall travel in bringing back such putative Father the nearest and most direct Way.

For appointing a Governor, &c.

L. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Directors and Acting Guardians from Time to Time, at any Quarterly Meeting, to appoint some proper Persons to be Governor and Matron of the said House of Industry, and also some experienced Surgeon or Surgeons, Apothecary or Apothecaries, to reside in or attend the said House, and to attend any other poor Persons within the said Hundred, and to make a Report to the Weekly Committee of the State of such Poor as are sick; and also to appoint a Clergyman of the Church of *England* to instruct the poor Persons maintained in the said House, in the Principles of the Christian Religion, and the Children in the Church Catechism; and also to baptize the Children, visit the Sick, bury the Dead, and perform other Offices of his Function in the said House; and also a School Master and School Mistress, as Occasion shall require, for the Purpose of teaching the poor Children, maintained in the said House, to read, and also to teach them the Church Catechism, and to hear them repeat the same Once in every Week at least; and shall pay such Salaries, or make such Allowances, to the respective Persons so appointed, for their Care and

and Trouble in their respective Offices and Employments, as the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall think proper; and the said Governor and Matron shall, over and above their Salaries, be allowed such Proportion of the Profits of the Work to be done by the Poor, as the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall judge proper; and the said Directors and Acting Guardians may from Time to Time, whenever they shall think fit, discharge any of the Persons so appointed.

LI. And be it further enacted, That the Directors and Acting Guardians may, from Time to Time, appoint some proper Person or Persons, willing to accept and execute the Office, to be a Constable or Constables for the Purposes of this Act within the said Hundred; and every such Constable, having taken the usual Oath required to be taken by Constables, (which Oath any Justice of the Peace for the said County is hereby empowered to administer), shall, and is and are hereby empowered to act as a Constable within the said Hundred, in all Cases relating to the Execution of this Act, as fully as any Petty Constable within the said Hundred can or may do in any other Case within their respective Parishes; and all Charges and Expences which any such Constable shall be put to on Account of his acting as Constable in the Execution of this Act, shall be borne and paid by such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, in which the Complaint, Information, or Suit may happen, and according to, and out of the Rate usually made for Petty Constables within the respective Parishes in the said Hundred.

For appointing a Constable for the Purposes of this Act.

LII. And be it further enacted, That if any Governor, Matron, or other Person employed by the said Directors and Acting Guardians, shall wilfully misapply or embezzle any Money, or shall purloin, embezzle, or damage any of the Materials or Implements of Work, Utensils, Goods, and Chattels, belonging to the said Corporation, every such Offender shall not only be discharged from his or her Office, but also forfeit and pay any Sum, not exceeding the Sum of Ten Pounds, and also Treble the Value of such Money, Materials, Implements of Work, Utensils, Goods, or Chattels, which shall be misapplied, purloined, embezzled, or damaged; to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Offender, in such Manner as the Penalties and Forfeitures by this Act imposed upon the Overseers of the Poor of any Parish are directed to be levied; and in case sufficient Distress shall not be found, it shall be lawful for any Two Justices of the Peace for the said County to commit such Offender to the House of Correction, there to remain, without Bail or Mainprize, for any Time not less than One Calendar Month nor exceeding Twelve Calendar Months.

Penalty on Officers misapplying or embezzling Money, Goods, etc. belonging to the Corporation.

LIII. And be it further enacted, That if any poor Person or Persons maintained in the said House of Industry, shall be guilty of profane cursing or swearing, or of any lewd, indecent, or disorderly Behaviour, or shall neglect or refuse to perform the Work or Service which he, she, or they shall be required to do, or be remiss therein, (such Work or Service being suitable to the Age, Strength, and Ability, of such Person or Persons), every such Person (if a Child under the Age of Twelve Years) shall or may be punished by moderate Correction, or Abatement in Diet, or Distinction in Dress and Diet, or if of the Age of Twelve Years and

For punishing poor Persons guilty of swearing, etc.

[Loc. & Per.]

6 I

upwards,

upwards, then either by solitary Confinement, Abatement of Diet, or Distinction in Dress and Diet, or by being set in the Stocks, to be provided for that Purpose, so as the Time of setting in the Stocks shall not exceed Twelve Hours, which Punishment shall be inflicted by Order of the Governor, if such Offence or Offences shall happen between the Days appointed for holding the Weekly Meetings, or of the major Part of the Directors and Acting Guardians present at any of their Weekly Meetings; or any such poor Person or Persons as aforesaid, being idle and disorderly, and able, but neglecting or refusing to perform such Work or Service as aforesaid, and being of the Age last mentioned, or upwards, may be prosecuted for such Offences by the said Directors and Acting Guardians, or by the Governor of the said Poor House for the Time being, and upon Conviction of such Offences, shall be punished in such Manner as idle and disorderly Persons are by the said Act made for that Purpose, in the Seventeenth Year of the Reign of King George the Second, directed to be punished.

For punishing poor Persons purloining Effects belonging to the Corporation, or Apparel.

LIV. And be it further enacted, That in case any poor Person maintained in the said House shall purloin, sell, pawn, or carry away any of the Materials, Furniture, Implements of Work, or other Effects belonging to the said Corporation, or shall pawn, sell, or dispose of any Apparel with which they shall be clothed at the Expence of the said Corporation, or the Apparel of any Person maintained in the said House, or shall go away with any Cloaths or Apparel provided by the said Corporation, without the Leave of the Governor, or of the major Part of the Directors and Acting Guardians present at any Weekly Meeting, any Justice of the Peace for the said County shall, upon Complaint thereof, issue his Warrant for apprehending such poor Person; and upon the Conviction of such poor Person, by the Oath of some credible Witness, (which Oath such Justice is hereby empowered to administer), or by the Confession of the Party, to cause such Person for the First Offence to be committed to the House of Correction for any Term not exceeding Twenty-one Days, and for the Second Offence to be dealt with as Persons convicted of Petty Larceny are subject to by the Laws in being.

Penalty on Persons buying or receiving into Pawn Wearing Apparel, &c. of the Poor.

LV. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall knowingly buy, receive into Pawn, or secrete, any of the Wearing Apparel or other Things of or belonging to any of the poor Persons maintained in the said House of Industry, or any of the Goods, Materials, or Implements of Work carried into the said House to be wrought up, manufactured, or used by the Poor therein, or any of the Goods or Furniture of the said House, or other Buildings aforesaid, or buy or receive any of the Provisions provided for the Poor in the said House, every Person so offending shall forfeit, for every such Offence, any Sum not more than Ten Pounds nor less than Twenty Shillings, whereof One Moiety shall be paid to the Informer.

Penalty on Persons conveying Spirituous Liquors into the House.

LVI. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall convey any Spirituous Liquors into the said House, or endeavour so to do, every such Person shall be, and is hereby declared to be subject to such and the like Penalties as are by an Act of the Twenty-fourth Year of the Reign

Reign of King *George* the Second, directed to be inflicted on Persons conveying, or endeavouring to convey, Spirituous Liquors into Prisons and Gaols.

LVII. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where by Law any Justice or Justices of the Peace is or are empowered to proceed on the Complaint of any Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor of any Parish, Hamlet, or Place, within the said Hundred, it shall be lawful for any such Justice or Justices to proceed on the Complaint of any of the said Directors or Acting Guardians, or of the Governor of the said House for the Time being, or of the Churchwardens and Overseers by Order of the Directors and Acting Guardians, in such and the like Manner as upon the Complaint of any Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor the said Justices now are by Law empowered to act; and that any Warrants of any Justice or Justices of the Peace relating to the Poor within the said Hundred may (if such Justice or Justices shall think proper), be directed to the Governor of the said House, and also to the Person or Persons who shall accept and execute the Office of Constable or Constables for the Purposes of this Act, who are hereby respectively authorized to execute any such Warrant within the said Hundred; and all Persons are hereby required to be aiding and assisting to the said Governor, and Person or Persons to whom such Warrant shall be directed, in the Execution thereof, in the same Manner as they should have been to any Constable or other Peace Officer within the said Hundred, if such Warrant had been directed to, and was executed by any such Constable or other Peace Officer; and that any Director or Guardian who shall be in the Commission of the Peace for the County of *Suffolk*, may act as a Justice of the Peace in the Execution of this Act, notwithstanding his being a Director or Guardian (except where he shall be personally interested).

Justices to proceed upon Complaint of Directors or Acting Guardians, or Governor, &c.

Directors or Guardians may act as Justices.

LVIII. And be it further enacted, That at the First Meeting of the said Directors and Acting Guardians, the Guardians appointed by the said recited Act of the Fourth Year of His present Majesty shall cause the Money relating to the Poor of the said Hundred, and also all Rates, Books, Papers, and Writings, relating to the said Poor, which shall be in their Hands, or in the Hands of any Person or Persons who have acted under them in the Execution of the said Act, at the Time of the Commencement of this Act, to be paid to and delivered into the Hands of the Directors and Acting Guardians to be appointed by virtue of this Act; and that at every subsequent Quarterly Meeting, the said Directors and Acting Guardians for the preceding Quarter, shall settle their Accounts, and cause the same to be laid before the then next Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden by Adjournment at *Ipswich* for the said County; and the Justices of the Peace at such Sessions shall examine, and if they think proper pass and allow, the said Account, for which a Fee of Ten Shillings and Sixpence, and no more, shall be paid to the Clerk of the Peace, or his Deputy.

Guardians appointed by former Act to cause Money, &c. relating to the Poor, to be delivered into the Hands of the Directors and Acting Guardians.

LIX. Provided always, That no Act, Order, or Proceeding of any Quarterly, Special, or Weekly or other Meeting of the said Directors and Acting Guardians, shall be valid, unless Nine Directors and Acting Guardians (whereof Six at least to be Directors) be present at such Quarterly or Special Meeting, and Three Directors and Acting Guardians (whereof

No Act, &c. of Directors and Acting Guardians valid, unless a certain Number shall concur therein.

Chairman to
have a Casting
Vote.

(whereof One shall be a Director) at such Weekly or other Meeting, and unless the Majority of the Directors present at any such Quarterly or Special Meeting, and a Majority of the Directors and Acting Guardians present at any such Weekly or other Meeting, shall concur therein; and that upon all Questions not directed by this Act to be determined by Ballot, where the Votes shall be equal, the Chairman of the Meeting shall have the casting Vote; and the said Guardians, and the Directors and Acting Guardians, shall at all their Meetings bear their own Expences.

Penalty on
Directors and
Acting Guar-
dians not at-
tending at
Quarterly
Meetings.

LX. Provided always, That if a sufficient Number of the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall not attend at the Time appointed for any Quarterly Meeting, to make up the Number required to transact Business at such Meeting, every Director who shall not attend shall, for every Default, forfeit any Sum not exceeding the Sum of Five Pounds, nor less than Fifty Shillings, and every Acting Guardian, who in like Manner shall not attend, shall for every Default forfeit any Sum not exceeding Fifty Shillings, nor less than Twenty-five Shillings, to be levied by Distress and Sale of his Goods and Chattels, by Order of the next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the said County, unless such Director or Acting Guardian shall shew to the said Sessions just Cause to the contrary; and in case of a sufficient Number of the Directors and Acting Guardians not attending at any such Quarterly Meeting, any of the Directors then present shall adjourn the Meeting for any Time not exceeding Ten Days; and if the said Directors and Acting Guardians shall not meet pursuant to such Adjournment, then the necessary Assessments for the Purposes of this Act shall be made by any Two Justices of the Peace for the said County, in the several Parishes, Hamlets, or Places, in the said Hundred; and in case no such Assessment shall be made within Thirty Days next after the Time any such Quarterly Meeting ought to have been held, the same Rates shall be made and raised, in the said respective Parishes, Hamlets, and Places, by the respective Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, for that Quarter, as were made the preceding Quarter, for the Relief and Support of the Poor, and shall be collected and recovered in like Manner as any other Rates to be made by virtue of this Act can or may be collected and recovered, and the Money arising thereby shall be paid to the Treasurer to the said Directors and Acting Guardians.

Directing
certain Penal-
ties to be
paid to the
Treasurer.

LXI. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where the Whole or any Part of any Penalties and Forfeitures, is or shall be directed to be paid for the Use of the Poor of any Parish, Hamlet, or Place, within the said Hundred, by any Act of Parliament, and which shall come into the Hands of any Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, or Constable, within the said Hundred, shall be accounted for and paid by him to the Treasurer to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, and shall be applied for the Purposes of this Act.

For Recovery
and Applica-
tion of Penal-
ties and
Forfeitures.

LXII. And be it further enacted, That all the Penalties and Forfeitures by this Act imposed (the Manner of levying and recovering whereof is not otherwise hereby particularly directed) shall, upon Proof of the Offences respectively before any Justice of the Peace for the County or Place wherein the Offender shall be or reside, either by the Confession
of

of the Party offending, or by the Oath of the Governor, or of any other credible Witness, be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Party offending, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of such Justice, which Warrant such Justice is hereby empowered to grant, and the Overplus (after such Penalties and Forfeitures are received, and the Charges of such Distress and Sale deducted), shall be returned, on Demand, to the Owner of such Goods and Chattels; and the Money arising from such Penalties and Forfeitures (if not otherwise directed to be applied by this Act) shall be paid to the Treasurer to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, and applied for the Purposes of this Act; and in case sufficient Distress shall not be found, or any such Penalties and Forfeitures shall not be forthwith paid, it shall be lawful for such Justice, and he is hereby authorized and required, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to cause such Offender to be committed to the Common Gaol or House of Correction, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, for any Time not exceeding Two Calendar Months, unless such Penalties and Forfeitures, and all reasonable Charges attending the same, shall be sooner paid and satisfied.

LXIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That every Person who shall think himself or herself aggrieved by the Conviction of any Justice or Justices of the Peace in pursuance of this Act, may appeal to the Justices at the next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the Division of *Ipswich*, in the said County, every such Appellant first giving or causing to be given Eight Days Notice at the least, in Writing, of his or her Intention to bring such Appeal, and the Cause or Matter thereof to the Clerk to the said Directors and Acting Guardians, and within Four Days next after such Notice, entering into a Recognizance, before some Justice of the Peace for the said Division, with Two sufficient Sureties, conditioned to try such Appeal, and to pay such Costs as shall be awarded by the Justices at such Sessions; and the said Justices at such Sessions, upon due Proof of such Notice being given as aforesaid, and of the entering into such Recognizance, shall hear and determine the Cause and Matter of every such Appeal in a summary Way, and award such Costs to the Party appealing or appealed against as they shall think proper, and their Determination therein shall be final and conclusive to all Intents and Purposes.

Allowing an Appeal to the Quarter Sessions.

LXIV. And be it further enacted, That no Order made touching or concerning any of the Matters aforesaid, or any other Proceeding to be had touching the Conviction of any Offender against this Act, shall be quashed for Want of Form, or removed or removeable by *Certiorari*, or any other Writ or Process whatsoever, into any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*; and that where any Distress shall be made for any Sum or Sums of Money to be levied by virtue of this Act, the Distress itself shall not be deemed unlawful, nor the Party making the same be deemed a Trespasser *ab initio*, on account of any Irregularity which shall be afterwards done by the Party distraining, but the Person aggrieved by such Irregularity shall and may recover full Satisfaction for the special Damage (if any) in an Action upon the Case; but no Plaintiff shall recover in any Action for such Irregularity as aforesaid, if Tender of sufficient Amends hath been made, by or on Behalf of the Party distraining, before such Action shall be brought.

Proceedings not to be quashed for Want of Form.

[*Loc. & Per.*]

6 K

6

LXV. And

Limitation of
Actions.

LXV. And be it further enacted, That if any Action or Suit shall be commenced against any Person or Persons for any Thing done in pursuance of this Act, the same shall be commenced within Six Calendar Months next after the Fact committed, and not afterwards, and shall be laid and brought in the County of *Suffolk*, and not elsewhere; and the

General Issue.

Defendant or Defendants in such Action or Suit may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the Special Matter in Evidence in 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 to be so done, or that such Action or Suit shall be commenced after the Time before limited for bringing the same, or shall not be brought in the said County of *Suffolk*, then the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants; and after such Verdict, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall be nonsuited, or discontinue his or their Action or Suit after the Defendant or Defendants shall have appeared, or if upon Demurrer Judgement shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants shall recover Treble Costs, and have the like Remedy for the same as any Defendant hath for Costs of Suit in other Cases by Law.

Treble Costs.

Commence-
ment of the
Act.

Publick Act.

LXVI. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall commence and take place upon the Second *Tuesday* next after the passing thereof; and 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.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN,
Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1799.