

ANNO TRICESIMO NONO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

Cap. 82.

An Act to amend an Act, made in the Eighteenth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, for erecting a Building for holding the Courts and exercising the Jurisdiction of the Dean and Chapter of the Collegiate Church of Saint Peter in Westminster, and for holding the Quarter Sessions of the Peace and transacting the other Public Business of the said City and Liberty. [12th July 1799.]

HEREAS by an Act of Parliament, made in the Eighteenth Preamble.
Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled An Act Act 18 Geo. 3: for erecting a Building for holding the Courts and exercising the Jurisdiction of the Dean and Chapter of the Collegiate Church of Saint Peter in Westminster, within the City and Liberty of Westminster, and for holding the Quarter Sessions of the Peace and transacting the other Public Business of the said City and Liberty, and for appropriating Part of the Surplusses of the Orphans' Fund towards defraying the Expence thereof, certain Persons therein described and named were constituted Commissioners for building a Court-House for holding the Courts and exercising the Jurisdiction of the said Dean and Chapter, and for holding the Quarter Sessions of the Peace and transacting the other Public Business of the said City and Liberty, and were empowered (among other Things) to purchase any Piece or Pieces of Ground, situate within the said City and Liberty of Westminster, which they should judge proper for building a [Loc. & Per.] Court-

Court-House on, and to pay for the same out of the Money to be raised and received as therein is mentioned, and to erect and build on such Piece or Pieces of Ground a Court-House with proper Offices and Apartments for the Purposes therein mentioned, provided that the said Commissioners should not expend in the Purchase of such Piece or Pieces of Ground, and in the building of such Court-House, and fitting up the same with necessary Accommodations, any greater Sum or Sums of Money than Seven Thousand Five Hundred Pounds in the Whole: And whereas the said Commissioners have lately purchased a Piece of Ground for the Purpose of erecting a Court-House thereon, in pursuance of the Directions in the said Act contained, on which are now standing Two Houses on Lease to Thomas Tuck and William Callcott at improved Rents, and in the Occupation of the said Thomas Tuck and George Shearwin; and also a House lately damaged by Fire, situate in a Court behind the Two first-mentioned Houses; and also Two other Houses in the same Court, now or late in the Occupation of Foseph Morris and Edward Medley, under Leases at improved Rents: And whereas, in order to complete the proposed Plan of the said Building, the said Commissioners have agreed to purchase a Piece of Ground adjoining the before-mentioned Premises, on the North Side thereof, to the West, belonging to the said Dean and Chapter of Westminster, and leased to George Doughty: And whereas there is a small Passage leading from Palace-Yard, within the said City and Liberty of Westminster, into the said Court, and also another small Passage leading out of the said Court into King-Street, between the said Two last-mentioned Houses: And whereas, in order to complete the said Building, it is necessary that the said Commissioners should be empowered to stop up the said Court and Passages, and to build thereon or on any Part thereof: And whereas the said Sum of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Pounds has been found insufficient for carrying into Execution the Purposes of the said Act, and it is expedient that the said Commissioners should be empowered to raise a further Sum of Money, and that the said Act should be explained and amended: 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 in addition to the Commissioners appointed by the said recited Act, The Most Noble Francis Duke of Bedford. Commission- The Right Honourable Frederick Augustus Earl of Berkeley, The Right Honourable Robert Lord Romney, The Right Honourable Asheton Lord Curzon, The Right Honourable William Lord Auckland, The Right Honourable Thomas James Lord Bulkeley, The Right Honourable Henry Addington Speaker of the House of Commons, The Most Honourable William Henry Cavendish Scott Bentinck Marquis of Titchfield, The Right Honourable Robert Grosvenor Viscount Belgrave, the Right Honourable Richard Grenville Nugent Chandos Temple Earl Temple, Sir Henry Paulet Saint John Mildmay, Sir George Augustus William Shuckburgh Evelyn, Sir John William Anderson, Baronets, William Mainwaring, Charles Shaw Lefevre, James Meyrick, James Wyatt, John Groves, John Drummond, Edward Boodle, John Warner, Robert Abington, Nathaniel Conant, Samuel Hadley, Henry Holland, Stephen Cosser, John Hunter, John Soane, George Rose, William Wilberforce, Henry Banks, William Baldwin, John Willock, Frederick Matthew, William Hyde, William

ers.

William Bleamire, Thomas Robinson, John Silvester, Esquires, the High Bailiff of Westminster for the Time being, the Curate of Saint Margaret Westminster for the Time being on the Nomination of the Dean and Chapter, the Rector of Saint John the Evangelist for the Time being, and their Successors, shall be, and they are hereby constituted Commissioners for carrying the said recited Act and this present Act into Execution; and that it shall and may be lawful to and for the Commissioners appointed by the faid recited Act, and the Commissioners hereby constituted, to act in all Things as fully and effectually, and in such and the same Manner, and with all the same Powers and Authorities, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, as if the Commissioners hereinbefore constituted had been originally appointed Commissioners by the said recited Act, in conjunction with the Commissioners thereby appointed.

II. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and Commissionfor the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, to expend in the ers to expend Purchase of the said Piece of Land belonging to the said Dean and Chap- acertain Sum in the Purter, and in purchasing the Interests of the Tenants or Lessees of the said chase of the Houses and Premises, and in the building the said Court-House, and in Premises. the other Purposes of the said in Part recited Act, any Sum or Sums of Money not exceeding in the Whole the Sum of Six Thousand Pounds in addition to the Sum of Two Thousand Pounds, for which the said Commissioners are empowered under the said recited Act to call upon the Treasurer of the said County of Middlesex, and the other Funds now in the Hands of the said Commissioners, and applicable for the Purposes of the said Act.

III. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and Justices may for the Justices of the Peace for the said County of Middlesex, and order the they are hereby required from Time to Time, upon receiving a Certificate or Certificates under the Hands of the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, (specifying the Sum or Sums of Money which to the Commay from Time to Time be wanted for the Purposes aforesaid, over and missioners, above the Monies arising under or by virtue of the said recited Act,) at any Quarter or other General Sessions of the Peace to be holden in and for the said County within Three Months next after such Certificate or Certificates shall be delivered to them, to order and direct the Treasurer of the said County to pay out of the Money by him received or to be received by virtue of an Act, made in the Twelfth Year of His late Majesty, intituled An AEt for the more easy assessing, collecting, and levying of County Rates, or to be raised in Manner hereinafter mentioned, to the said Commissioners or any Five or more of them, or to fuch Person or Persons as they or any Five or more of them shall order and appoint to receive the same, such Sum and Sums of Money as the said Commissioners or any Five or more of them shall have so certified to the said Justices of the Peace for the said County of Middlesex to be wanting and necessary for the Purposes aforesaid; and the Receipt of the said Commissioners or any Five or more of them, or of any such, Person or Persons as shall be ordered and appointed by them or any Five or more of them to receive the said Sum or Sums of Money, shall be a full and sufficient Discharge to the said Treasurer for the Payment thereof.

Treasurer of the County topay Money but not to exceed a certain Sum.

IV. Provided nevertheless, and it is hereby declared, That nothing hereinbefore contained shall extend to authorize or empower the Justices of the Peace for the said County of Middlesen to pay to the Order of the said Commissioners out of the said County-Rates or Assessments any larger Sum than the Sum of Six Thousand Pounds in addition to the Sum of Two Thousand Pounds which the said Justices are authorized and required to pay to the Order of the said Commissioners by the said recited Act.

Money may be raised by Annuities.

V. And be it further enacted, That in order to raise any Sum or Sums of Money which the said Justices may be called upon and required to pay to the Order of the said Commissioners under the said recited Act and this present Act, or either of them, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Justices, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, at any Time or Times after the passing of this Act, to borrow and raise by Annuities or otherwise, upon the Credit of the Monies to be received by the said Treasurer of the said County by virtue of the said Act of the Twelfth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty, any Sum or Sums of Money not exceeding in the Whole the Sum or the Amount of the Sums of Money which they shall or may have been so called upon and required to pay to the Order of the said Commissioners as aforesaid; the said Sum or Sums of Money so to be borrowed and raised, to be paid to the said Treasurer by such Instalments, in such Proportions, and at such Times as the said Justices shall direct; and the Persons who shall contract to advance or contribute any Part of the said Monies shall, in respect of the Sum or Sums which they shall so respectively advance, be entitled to Annuities for Life or otherwise, at such Rates of Interest as the said Justices shall think reasonable, to commence from such Time or Times as shall be agreed upon, to be payable Half Yearly.

Treasurer to give Security for Money borrowed.

VI. And be it further enacted, That the said Treasurer shall execute and give a Bond or Note, or other Security in Writing, to every Person advancing any Part of the said Monies for the Payment of such Annuities in respect thereof, which Bonds, Notes, or other Securities shall be assignable by Indorsement.

Rates made answerable.

VII. And be it further enacted, That the Rates of the said County of Middlesex shall be, and the same are hereby charged and made chargeable with the Annuities which shall be payable in respect of the Sum or Sums of Money so to be borrowed and raised under or by virtue of this Act.

Money to be paid to the Order of the Justices.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That the Sum or Sums of Money which shall be so borrowed and raised as aforesaid shall be paid by the said Treasurer of the said County, under the Order of the said Justices, upon receiving such Certificate or Certificates as aforesaid, to the said Commissioners or any Five or more of them, or to such Person or Persons as they shall order and appoint to receive the same, in or towards Satisfaction of the Sum or Sums of Money which the said Justices shall have been so called upon or required to pay to the Order of the said Commissioners under or by virtue of the said recited Act and this present Act, or either of them.

IX. And

1X. And be it further enacted, That the said Treasurer of the said County of Middlesex for the Time being shall enter or cause to be entered, in a Book or Books to be kept for that Purpose, all Securities for Monies borrowed or Annuities granted in pursuance of this Act, and all Assignments and Transfers thereof, expressing in Words at Length the Names, Surnames, Additions, Places of Abode, and other Descriptions, of all such Persons as shall from Time to Time be entitled to such Securities, and the Sums received upon such Securities, and the Days whereon the said Annuities respectively shall be payable; to which Book or Books all and every Person and Persons entitled to or interested in such Annuities shall at all seasonable Times in the Daytime have Access and free Liberty to inspect the same, for which Search shall be paid Six Pence, and no more.

Securities to be entered in

X. And be it further enacted, That the Treasurer or other Person Treasurer to appointed to or to be concerned in the Receipt of the Money so to be give Security. borrowed and raised as aforesaid, before he or they shall be permitted to take upon him or them the Execution of any of the said Offices, shall be bound with sufficient Sureties to the said Justices for the just and faithful Execution of such Office or Employment, in such reasonable Sum or Sums as by the said Justices shall be thought fitting, having regard to the Trust to be reposed in such Treasurer or other Person.

XI. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and Court-House for the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, to cause the not to adsaid intended Building to be erected so as that the East Front thereof be vance beyond placed in a Range with or do not advance beyond a Line to be drawn Line. from the Front of the Houses on the West Side of Parliament-Street to the North End of the Front of the Ordnance-Office in Saint Margaret's Street, and so as that the South Side of the said Building be placed in a Range with or do not advance beyond the direct Line continued Eastward of the South Party-Wall of the said House in the Possession of the said Edward Medley or his Undertenants; and also to cause the said Court and the said Two Passages hereinbefore mentioned to be stopped up, and to erect any Building or Buildings thereon, or on any Part thereof.

XII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That all Expences which Paying E_{X-} shall be incurred in stopping up the said Court and the said Two Passages pences of shall be defrayed by the said Commissioners out of the Monies applicable for the Purposes of the said recited Act.

stopping up the Court and Passages.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That if it shall happen that the Tenants Impanelling or Lessees of the said Houses standing on the Premiles purchased or in- a Jury. tended to be purchased as aforesaid, or any of them, or any other Person or Persons interested in such Houses, or any of them, shall refuse to treat with the said Commissioners for the Purchase of their respective Interests in such Houses, or shall disagree with the said Commissioners as to the Price to be paid for the same; then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the Justices of the Peace for the said City and Liberty of Westminster, and the said Justices are hereby required, upon receiving a Notice in Writing for that Purpose under the Hands of the said Commissioners, or any Five or more or them, to issue a Warrant or [Loc. & Per.]

Warrants, Precept or Precepts, directed to the High Bailiff of Westminster, who is hereby authorized, directed, and required accordingly to impanel, summon, and return a competent Number of substantial and disinterested Persons qualified to serve on Juries, not less than Fortyeight, nor more than Seventy-two; and out of such Persons so to be impanelled, summoned, and returned, a Jury of Twelve Men shall be drawn by some Person to be by the said Justices appointed, in such Manner as Juries for the Trial of Issues joined in His Majesty's Courts of Westminster are, by an Act, made in the Third Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the Second, intituled An Act for the better Regulation of Juries, directed to be drawn; which Persons so to be impanelled, summoned, and returned as aforesaid are hereby required to come and appear before the said Justices at some Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held in and for the said City and Liberty, or some Adjournment thereof, as in fuch Warrant or Warrants, Precept or Precepts, shall be directed and appointed, and to attend the said Court from Day to Day until discharged by the said Court; and all Parties concerned shall and may have their lawful Challenges against any of the said Jurymen, but shall not be at Liberty to challenge the Array; and the said Justices are hereby authorized and empowered by Precept or Precepts, from Time to Time as Occasion shall require, to call before them all and every Person and Persons whomsoever, who shall be thought proper and necessary to be examined as a Witness or Witnesses on his, her, or their Oath or Oaths touching or concerning the Premises; and the said Justices, if they think fit, shall and may, on the Application of either Party, likewise authorize the said Jury to view the Houses and Premises in question in such Manner as they shall direct; and the said Justices shall have Power to adjourn such Meeting from Day to Day as Occasion shall require, and to command such Jury, Witnesses, and Parties to attend until all such Affairs for which they were summoned shall be concluded; and the said Jury upon their Oaths (which Oaths, as also the Oaths of such Person or Persons as shall be called upon to give Evidence. the said Justices are hereby empowered and required to administer) shall inquire of the Value of the Interest or respective Interests in such Houses of the Party or Parties who shall refuse to treat or shall disagree with the faid Commissioners as aforesaid, and shall assess and award the Sum or Sums of Money to be paid to such Party or Parties respectively for the Purchase of their respective Interests in the said Houses, and also for Goodwill, Improvements, or any Injury or Damage whatsoever that may affect any such Party or Parties, as Lessee or Lessees, Tenant or Tenants. of any of the said Houses; and the said Justices shall and may give Judgment for such Sum or Sums of Money so to be assessed; which said Verdict or Verdicts, and the said Judgment and Judgments, Determination and Determinations thereupon, (Notice in Writing being given to the Person or Persons interested, or claiming so to be, at least Fourteen Days before the Time of the Meeting of the said Justices and the Jury as aforesaid, by leaving such Notice at the Dwelling-House of such Person or Persons, or at his or their usual Place or Places of Abode,) shall be binding and conclusive to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever against alk Persons whomsoever; and the said Verdicts, Judgments, and Determinations, and all other Proceedings of the said Justices so to be made, given, and pronounced as aforesaid, shall be fairly written on Parchment,

ment, and signed by the Clerk of the Peace by the Order of the said Justices; and in case it shall happen that the Sum or Sums of Money so to be assessed and awarded in consequence of such Refusal to treat or Disagreement as and for such Value, Recompence, and Satisfaction as aforesaid shall not exceed the Sum or Sums of Money which the said Commissioners or any of them, or any Person or Persons authorized by them, shall have previously offered to pay as and for such Value, Recompence, and Satisfaction, then and in every such Case all the reasonable Costs, Charges, and Expences of 'causing and procuring such Value and Recompence to be affessed and awarded by a Jury as aforesaid, and of so assessing and awarding the same, shall be borne and paid by the Person or Persons so refusing to treat or disagreeing with the said Commissioners as aforesaid; and the said Commissioners are hereby authorized and empowered to deduct and retain the said Costs, Charges, and Expences out of the Sum or Sums of Money so to be affessed or awarded as aforesaid, or out of any Part thereof; but if the Sum or Sums of Money so to be assessed and awarded shall exceed the Sum or Sums of Money which the said Commissioners or any of them, or any Person or Persons authorized by them, shall have previously offered to pay as and for such Value, Recompence, and Satisfaction as aforesaid, then and in every such Case the Costs, Charges, and Expences aforesaid shall be paid by the said Commissioners out of the Monies applicable for the Purposes of the said recited Act.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That upon Payment or Tender of the Power to Sum or Sums of Money which shall be awarded to be paid to any Person or Persons for the Purchase of any Lands or Hereditaments to be used for the Purposes of the said recited Act and this Act, and in case of Purchase Refusal to accept the same, then upon leaving the same in the Hands of Money. the Treasurer to the said Commissioners for the Time being, for the Use of such Person or Persons, and after Fourteen Days Notice thereof given to such Person or Persons, or his or their Agent or Agents, to receive such Money, it shall and may be lawful for the said Commisfioners or any Five or more of them, their Surveyors, Workmen, or *Agents, to enter into or upon, and to do all and every such Act, Matter, and Thing, in relation to such Lands and Hereditaments, as the said Commissioners or any Five or more of them shall think proper.

enter upon Payment or Tender of

XV. And be it further enacted, That all and every the Lessees, Tenants Notice shall from Year to Year, at Will, or otherwise, and all other Person or Persons be given to in Possession of any of the said Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or any Part thereof, which are already purchased or shall be purchased by virtue of and for the Purposes of the said recited Act or this Act, shall how Possesdeliver up the Possession of such Premises to the said Commissioners or any Five or more of them, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint to take Possession of the same, upon having Six Calendar Months Notice to quit such Possession from the said Commissioners or any Five or more of them, or the Person or Persons authorized by them; and such Person or Persons in Possession shall, at the End of the said Six Calendar Months, or so soon after as he or they shall be required, (being paid or tendered to be paid Satisfaction, to be ascertained as aforesaid,) peaceably and quietly deliver up the Possession of the said Premises to the

Proprietors and Occupiers, and fion shall be obtained.

faid Commissioners or any Five or more of them, or to the Person or Persons authorized by them: to take the Possession thereof; and that thereupon the respective Leases, Agreements, Instruments, and Tenantries, under which such Person or Persons shall respectively hold the same, shall become absolutely void to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever; and in case any such Person or Persons so in Possession as aforesaid shall after such Notice, refuse to give such Possession, that then it shall and may be lawful to and for Two or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said City and Liberty of Westminster to issue a Precept or Precepts to the High Bailiff of the said City and Liberty of Westminster, to deliver Possession of the Premises to such Person or Persons as shall in such Precept or Precepts be nominated to receive the same; and the said Bailiff is hereby required to deliver fuch Possession accordingly.

Monies.

For reinvest- XVI. And be it further enacted, That in case any Money or Recompence ing Purchase shall be to be paid for any Messuages, Buildings, Lands, or Hereditaments, which shall be purchased; taken, for used for the Purposes of the said recited Act or this Act, to any Corporation, Feme Covert, Infant, Lunatic, or Person under any other Disability or Incapacity as aforesaid, such Money or Recompence 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, were settled, limited, or affured; 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 Commissioners for executing the said recited Act or 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 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 Commissioners, or any Five 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

make such Order or Orders, in a summary Way, touching the Payment or Application of the Monies so to be paid into the Bink, 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 Commissioners, were respectively sertled, 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 Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, or other Person or Persons as aforesaid, in some of the Public 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 Commissioners, or any Five 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 the said recited Act or this Act.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That all the Orders which have been Ratifying made by the said Commissioners, or any of them, and all Proceed-Orders hereings which have been had by the said Commissioners, or any Per- tofore made. son or Persons authorized by them, relating to the Execution of the said in Part recited Act, shall be, and the same are hereby ratified and confirmed.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That if there shall not appear at any Meeting a sufficient Number of the said Commissioners to act, the Clerk to the said Commissioners shall and may adjourn such Meeting for such Time as he shall think proper, not exceeding Fourteen Days from the Day of such Adjournment.

Clerk may adjourn if *fufficient* Number of Commissioners do not attend.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That the said Commissioners, or any Paying Ex-Five or more of them, shall, out of the Funds now in their Hands, in the pences of the first Place pay the Expence of applying for and passing this Act.

Act.

XX. And be it further enacted, That nothing contained in the said re- saving the cited Act or in this present Act shall extend or be construed to extend Rights of the to affect, in any Manner whatsoever, any of the Rights or Privileges of Dean and the said Dean and Chapter, the High Steward for the Time being or his Chapter, &c. Deputy, the High Bailisf or his Deputy, within the said City and Li-[Loc. & Per.] berty

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berty of Westminster, to which they, any or either of them, may be by Law entitled.

Limitation of Actions.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That if any Action or Suit shall be commenced by or against any of the Commissioners aforesaid, or by or against any Person or Persons acting by or under their Order or Authority, for any Thing done in pursuance of this Act, such Action or Suit shall be brought and commenced within Three Calendar Months after the Fact committed, and not afterwards, and shall be laid and brought in the said County of Middlesex, and not elsewhere; and the Desendant or Desendants 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 if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall become nonsuit, or discontinue such Action or Suit, or if upon Demurrer Judgment shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Desendant or Desendants shall recover Treble Costs, and have such Remedy for recovering such Costs as any other Desendant or Desendants hath or have for Costs in any Case of Law.

Public Act.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a Public Act, and all Judges, Justices, and other Persons are hereby required to take notice thereof as such, without specially pleading the same.

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