



ANNO QUADRAGESIMO OCTAVO

GEORGI II. REGIS.

Cap. 97.

An Act for making more effectual Provision for maintaining, regulating, and employing the Poor of the Parish of *Saint Luke*, in the County of *Middlesex*.
[3d June 1808.]

WHEREAS the Parish of *Saint Luke*, in the County of *Middlesex*, was formerly Part (and was called the Lordship Part) of the Parish of *Saint Giles, Cripplegate*, and was separated therefrom, and became a distinct Parish, under and by virtue of an Act passed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of King George the Second, intituled *An Act for providing a Maintenance for the Rector of the New Church, near Old-Street, in the Parish of Saint Giles, Cripplegate, and for making that Part of the said Parish, which is called the Lordship Part, a distinct Parish, and for empowering the Commissioners for building of the Fifty New Churches, to apply a Sum of Money to wall in the said Church and Church-yard, and to erect a House for the Habitation of the Rector of the said Church, out of the Money appropriated for the Endowment of the said Fifty New Churches*: And whereas an Act was passed in the Thirtieth Year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Second, [Loc. & Per.] 20 O intituled 6 G. 2. c. 21.

30 G. 2. c. 42. intituled *An Act for the ascertaining and collecting the Poors' Rates, and for the better ordering and regulating the Poor in the Parish of Saint Luke, in the County of Middlesex*: And whereas another Act was passed in the Twenty-second Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act more effectually to enable the Inhabitants of the Parish of Saint Luke, in the County of Middlesex, to purchase, hire, or erect a Workhouse within or near the said Parish, for the better Reception and Employment of the Poor of the said Parish*: And whereas the Provisions of the said recited Act of the Sixth Year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Second, as to making the said Parish of *Saint Luke* a distinct Parish, and making Provision for the Rector of the said Parish, in Manner therein mentioned, have long since been carried into Execution: And whereas the Provisions of the said recited Act of the Twenty-second Year of the Reign of His present Majesty have also been carried into Execution, so far as the same relate to the erecting of a Workhouse for the better Reception and Employment of the Poor of the said Parish, and large Sums of Money have been expended therein: And whereas since the passing of the said Acts of Parliament the Number of the Inhabitants of the said Parish, and the Amount of the Sums collected for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor thereof, have greatly increased, and Debts to a considerable Amount are now owing by the said Parish, for Sums of Money borrowed and expended under the Provisions of the said last recited Act, and for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parish: And whereas many of the Provisions of the said recited Acts are inadequate to the carrying into Execution the Purposes thereof in relation to the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish, and the raising the Rates for that Purpose; and it is necessary that the same should be altered, amended, and enlarged: And whereas it would greatly tend to facilitate the Execution of the Powers now become necessary, if the same were reduced into One Act: Be it therefore enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That so much of the said recited Act of the Sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the Second, as enacts, "That the Rector of the said Church, and the Churchwardens and Overseers for the Poor of the said new intended Parish for the Time being, and all other Persons who have served, or paid Fines for being excused from serving all Offices in and for the said District, or new intended Parish, or who from Time to Time hereafter shall serve, or by the Vestry be admitted to pay Fines for being excused from serving all Offices in or for the said new intended Parish, so long as they respectively shall continue Householders within the said new intended Parish, and paying to the Poors' Rates, shall be the Vestrymen, for the Time being, of the said new intended Parish, and shall meet from Time to Time, upon public Notice to be openly read and published in the said Church, by Order of the Rector, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the Poor, or either of them, on the Lord's Day next preceding, immediately after Divine Service," shall be, and the same is hereby repealed; and that the said several Acts, passed in the Thirtieth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the Second, and the Twenty-

6 & 30 G. 2.
and 22 G. 3.
repealed.

second Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, shall be, and the same are hereby repealed.

II. And be it further enacted, That all Persons qualified at the Time of the passing of this Act to be Vestrymen, by reason of having served all Offices, or of having paid Fines for being excused from serving all Offices, in and for the said Parish, according to the Provisions of the said recited Act of the Sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the Second, shall remain and continue Vestrymen of the said Parish, and be entitled to act and vote as Vestrymen of the said Parish; any Thing in this Act contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding: And such Persons, together with the Rector of the said Parish, for the Time being, and the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, for the Time being, and all Persons who may hereafter serve either of the said Offices of Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, or who shall hereafter pay the Fines imposed by this Act for refusing or neglecting to serve the Offices of Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, so long as such Persons shall continue to be Householdors within the said Parish, and rated to the Relief of the Poor thereof; and all Persons being Householdors inhabiting within the said Parish, rated to the Relief of the Poor in the said Parish, for the Houses and Premises which they respectively inhabit and occupy, at not less than Thirty Pounds *per Annum*, shall be the Vestrymen of the said Parish for the Time being; and such Vestrymen shall have and exercise all such and the like Powers as have heretofore been exercised and possessed by the Vestrymen of the said Parish, under and by virtue of the said recited Act, passed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the Second, and as may by Law be used and exercised by the Vestrymen of any Parish, except when and as by this Act any particular Provisions are made in relation to the Powers of the Vestrymen of the said Parish.

Vestrymen
of the Parish
and their
Qualifica-
tions.

III. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend to, or be deemed or construed to alter, any of the Provisions of an Act passed in the Thirty-third Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for the better lighting, cleansing, watching, and regulating the Squares, Streets, Lanes, Alleys, Passages, and Places within the Parish of Saint Luke, in the County of Middlesex, and for removing and preventing Nuisances, Annoyances, and Encroachments within the same*; but that the Rector, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the Poor for the Time being, and all other Persons who shall have served or paid, or shall hereafter serve or pay Fines for being excused from serving all Offices in and for the said Parish, shall remain and be, and be deemed Vestrymen for the Purposes of the said Act, and Trustees for putting the same into Execution as therein directed, and shall have the Power from Time to Time of electing and choosing their own Clerk or Clerks, as if this Act had not passed; any Thing to the contrary in this Act, or in the said Act contained, notwithstanding.

Not to affect
33 G.3. c. 83.
as to certain
Persons being
Vestrymen
and Trustees
under that
Act.

IV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Person qualified at the Time of passing this Act to act as a Vestryman for the said Parish,

Present
Vestrymen,
and those

who have
fined for not
serving
Offices before
this Act, not
compellable
to serve Pa-
rish Offices.
Names of the
Persons lend-
ing Money
and also of
the Annu-
tants under
22 G. 3. to
be entered in
a Book.

Parish, by reason of having served, or of having paid Fines to be excused from serving all Offices in or for the said Parish, shall be compellable to serve any Office in or for the said Parish, under this Act.

V. And whereas sundry Annuities, and also divers Sums of Money, are now payable and owing to divers Persons for Monies lent and advanced under the Authorities of the said recited Act, passed in the Twenty-second Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, for the Purpose of erecting the Workhouse of the said Parish, and which are secured upon the Rates by the said last mentioned Act authorized to be raised and levied within the said Parish, and it being expedient that such Annuities and Sums should be payable out of, and chargeable upon the general Poor Rates of the said Parish, instead of being paid out of, and chargeable upon distinct Rates to be levied for that Purpose: Be it therefore enacted, That the Guardians of the Poor, to be appointed by virtue of this Act, shall and they are hereby required to provide one or more Book or Books, in which shall be fairly written in Words at length, the Names, proper Additions, and Places of Abode, as well of all such Persons as are Creditors upon the Security of the Rates or Assessments of the said last mentioned Act, as also of all such Persons as are entitled to any Annuities as aforesaid, and also an Account of the Interest that shall be paid to each Creditor or Annuitant from Time to Time, and by whom received, which Book or Books shall be kept by the Clerk or Clerks to the said Guardians; and it shall and may be lawful for the said respective Creditors, their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, Agent or Agents, from Time to Time, and at all seasonable Times, to have recourse to and inspect and to take Extract or Extracts from the said Book or Books, without Fee or Reward.

All Convey-
ances exe-
cuted under
the said Act
of 22 G. 3.
confirmed,
and Annuities
charged on
the Poor's
Rates.

VI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That all Bonds, Mortgages, Assignments, Annuities, Grants, Conveyances, Leases, and other Securities, made or granted to or by any Person or Persons, Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, or any other Persons whomsoever, acting by virtue of, or on the Credit, or under the Authority of the said recited Act, made in the Twenty-second Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, shall be as good, valid, and effectual, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, as if the said recited Act, made in the Twenty-second Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, had not been repealed; and all Bonds, Mortgages, Assignments, and Annuities, given or granted as a Security for any Monies lent or advanced on the Credit of such Act, shall be charged, and they are hereby respectively charged upon the Rates or Assessments herein directed to be made for the Purposes of this Act; and the Person or Persons, from Time to Time entitled to the same respectively, shall have, receive, and enjoy, and by virtue of this Act be entitled to have, receive, and enjoy, all Interest due and to grow due on such Bonds, Mortgages, and Assignments respectively (until the same shall be paid off and discharged as herein-after provided) and all Interest due and to grow due on the said respective Annuities, out of the Rates and Assessments herein directed to be made, during the Term of the Natural Lives of the Persons for whose Lives such Annuities respectively were granted.

VII. And

VII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful, as well for every Person or Persons now entitled to such Annuities, or to whom any Sums of Money are due on account of any Securities given to them by virtue of the said last mentioned Act, at any Time or Times, by Writing under his, her, or their Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals, to assign such Security, or such Annuity or Annuities, or any Part thereof, or his, her, or their Interest therein, to any Person or Persons whomsoever, and so *toties quoties*, and a Memorandum or Entry of all such Assignments and the Days the same were brought to be so entered, shall be made in a Book hereby required to be kept for that Purpose by the Clerk or Clerks to the said Guardians; and the said Entry shall be made *gratis*, and shall and may, at all seasonable Times, be inspected by any Persons interested therein; but no such Assignment shall be deemed good and effectual, until such Memorandum or Entry shall be made as afore directed.

Securities assignable and Annuities may be transferred.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Guardians of the Poor, whenever they shall think meet, to pay off and discharge all Principal Sums of Money due and owing to any Persons as aforesaid by virtue of the said last mentioned Act, out of the Rates to be raised and levied by virtue of this Act; and in the mean Time to pay the Interest due and to become due on such Principal Sums, and the Monies to become payable on the said Annuities, out of the Rates to be raised and levied under this Act, in the same Manner as they are hereby authorized to pay any Charges, Debts, and Expences now incurred, or which they may incur under this Act, for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parish.

Principal Money borrowed may be paid off.

IX. And be it further enacted, That the said Parish of *Saint Luke*, shall, for the Purposes of this Act, be divided into Six Districts or Liberties, namely, *Golden Lane Liberty*, *White Cross Street Liberty*, *East Finsbury Liberty*, *West Finsbury Liberty*, *Old Street Liberty*, and the *City Road Liberty*, and that *Golden Lane* and *White Cross Street* Liberties shall remain as at the Time of passing this Act, and the Liberty of *Finsbury* shall be divided into *East Finsbury Liberty* and *West Finsbury Liberty*, as the same is divided at the passing of this Act, into *Upper Finsbury Liberty*, and *Lower Finsbury Liberty*, for the Purpose of collecting the Rates for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish and all that Part of the Liberty of *Old Street*, which is on the West Side of *Ironmonger Row* and *Orchard Street*, and from the East End of *Orchard Street*, on the South Side of *John's Row* and *Ratcliffe Layer*, shall be and remain, and be called *Old Street Liberty*, and the Remainder of the said Liberty of *Old Street* shall be and be called the *City Road Liberty*.

Parish to be divided into Six Liberties, for the Purposes of this Act.

X. And be it further enacted, That the First Meeting of the Vestrymen of the said Parish, for the Purpose of carrying into Execution the Provisions of this Act, shall be held on the Second *Tuesday* next after the passing of this Act, at the Hour of Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon; and at such Meeting (or at any Adjournment of such Meeting, in case the same shall be necessary) the Majority of the Vestrymen so assembled, shall choose a Vestry Clerk or Clerks, who shall also be Clerk or Clerks to the Guardians of the Poor under this Act, and shall appoint and give to such Clerk or Clerks, and to all future Clerk or Clerks, and to all other Servants and Officers already appointed or whom they shall from Time

Time of the First Meeting for the Election of Officers and Guardians of the Poor.

to Time appoint under and by virtue of this Act, such Salary or Salaries, Fees, Rewards, Gratuities, and Allowances, as they from Time to Time shall think proper; and which Salaries, Fees, Rewards, Gratuities, and Allowances, the Guardians of the Poor to be appointed under and by virtue of this Act, shall from Time to Time pay and discharge without Deduction or Delay; and at such First or adjourned Meeting, the Vestrymen of the said Parish shall also nominate and appoint Forty-eight substantial and discreet Vestrymen, who shall be, and shall be called "The Guardians of the Poor" of the said Parish, for carrying into Execution the several Powers given and intrusted to them by this Act, until other Guardians shall be appointed in their Room, as herein provided; and that all Acts, Matters, and Things to be done and executed by the said Vestrymen in pursuance of this Act, may be done and executed by the major Part of them who may be present at their several Meetings to be holden under and by virtue of this Act.

The Church-
wardens and
Overseers to
be Guardians.

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

Annual
Vestry on
Easter Tues-
day, for the
Election of
Officers and
Guardians of
the Poor.

XII. And be it further enacted, That a Vestry shall be held on the *Tuesday* after *Easter* Day in each Year, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, for the Election of Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poor, and such other Officers of the said Parish as annually go out of Office; and also for the Election of new Guardians of the Poor, in the Room of those who shall annually go out of Office under the Provisions of this Act, and also for the Purpose of filling up all Vacancies which have arisen in the Number of such Guardians of the Poor, by reason of Death, Insolvency, removing, and going to reside out of the Parish, Non-attendance, or want of Qualification by ceasing to be Vestrymen under this Act.

Guardians of
the Poor first
elected to go
out of Office
in Succession,

XIII. And be it further enacted, That out of the said Persons so first elected Guardians of the Poor as aforesaid, Sixteen shall go out of Office on the *Tuesday* after *Easter*, in the Year One thousand eight hundred and nine, and Sixteen others of the Persons so first elected as aforesaid, shall go out of Office on the *Tuesday* after *Easter*, in the Year One thousand eight hundred and ten, and the Remainder of the Persons so first elected shall remain and continue in Office until the *Tuesday* after *Easter*, in the Year One thousand eight hundred and eleven; and the Sixteen Guardians of the Poor who shall have been absent from the general Meetings of the Guardians of the Poor the greatest Number of Times, shall first go out of Office in each of such Years, and if any Persons shall have been absent an equal Number of Times, the going out of Office of such Persons shall be decided by Lot; and all Persons chosen at such annual Meetings as aforesaid, new Guardians of the Poor, in lieu of those going out of Office, or to supply Vacancies which shall have arisen in the Course of the Year, shall remain and continue in Office for Three Years:

Years: Provided always, that no Person going out of Office, as Guardian of the Poor, shall be eligible to be elected for the Year next after his going out of Office.

XIV. Provided always, That no Election of Officers shall take place at any such annual Meeting, unless Twenty Vestrymen at least shall attend; and if a sufficient Number of Persons shall not attend, or if the Election shall not be made or finished, or completed, on the Day on which such annual Meeting as aforesaid shall be held, an adjourned Meeting shall be held on each succeeding Day, from Day to Day, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, and every Election, Act, Matter, and Thing done at any such adjourned Meeting, shall be as good, valid, and effectual, as if done on the Day so appointed for such annual Meeting as aforesaid.

Number necessary to make annual Meeting, and on Failure of annual Meeting, Elections, etc. at adjourned Meetings.

XV. And be it further enacted, That no Person, except the Rector, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, for the Time being, shall be qualified to act as a Guardian of the Poor in the Execution of this Act, unless he shall, at the Time of such Election and acting, be a Vestryman of the said Parish; and the Election of every Person who shall not be a Vestryman, as aforesaid, shall be null and void, and every Guardian of the Poor who shall not have attended Three Meetings of the Guardians of the Poor at the least within the Year, ending on the *Tuesday* after *Easter* in each Year, shall forfeit his Office, and become disqualified to act in the succeeding Year, and another Person shall be elected at the Annual Vestry, in his Place and Stead, besides the Persons who shall be elected to supply the Places of those Persons who shall, every Year, in Rotation, cease to be the Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish, as herein before provided.

Qualification of Guardians of the Poor.

XVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Person appointed a Guardian of the Poor under this Act, shall have any Share or Interest in any Contract, or be appointed to, or enjoy any beneficial Employment under or by virtue of this Act, or shall become a Bankrupt, every such Person shall, during his or their Continuance in such Employment, or the Term of such Contract, or until he shall obtain his Certificate under the said Commission of Bankrupt, be disabled and disqualified from acting as a Guardian of the Poor under this Act.

Persons incapacitated from being Guardians of the Poor.

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

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

been nominated and appointed under this Act; any Thing herein contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

Officers appointed by virtue of former Act to hold their Employments until removed by the Guardians under this Act:

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That every Collector, Treasurer, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, and each and every Clerk, Agent, Beadle, and other Officer and Servant nominated and appointed before the passing of this Act, for the conducting or managing the Workhouse of the said Parish, or any of the Affairs thereof, or relating thereto, shall hold and enjoy their several and respective Offices and Employments, together with the several and respective Salaries, Gratuities, and Allowances thereto annexed, until he or she shall be removed therefrom respectively, by the Vestrymen of the said Parish, or by the Guardians of the Poor under this Act; and every such Collector, Treasurer, Master and Mistress of the Workhouse, and every such Clerk, Agent, Beadle, and other Officer and Servant shall be subject to the like Pains and Penalties, and Power of Removal, and to the like Rules and Regulations, as if he, she, or they had been nominated and appointed by virtue of this Act.

Meetings of Vestry, and Notices.

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

Vestrymen to appoint Churchwardens.

XX. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Vestrymen, and they are hereby required, at the Vestry herein-before directed to be held on the Second *Tuesday* next after the passing of this Act, or at any adjourned Meeting of such Vestry as aforesaid, to nominate and appoint Two substantial Parishioners, (not being of the People commonly called Quakers,) to be Churchwardens of the said Parish; and also Two substantial Parishioners to be Sidesmen, to assist the said Churchwardens in the Execution of their Office for the Year ending at

Easter One thousand eight hundred and nine, and so in like Manner annually on *Tuesday* next after *Easter-day* in every succeeding Year, for every ensuing Year, and until others shall be appointed in their Room; and in case of the Death of them, or either of them, before the Expiration of their respective Offices, another or others shall be in like Manner nominated and appointed, within Fourteen Days next after the Death of such of them as may die, in the Room or Stead of him or them so dying; and in case the Persons so nominated and appointed, shall neglect or refuse to serve in either of the said Offices for Seven Days after Notice of such Nomination and Appointment shall be given to, or left for him at his Dwelling House, or last usual Place of Abode, under the Hand or Hands of the Vestry Clerk or Clerks for the Time being, then and in every such Case he shall, upon Proof thereof by the Oath or Oaths of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, before any Two Justices of the Peace acting for the said County of *Middlesex* (which Oath or Oaths they the said Justices are hereby authorized to administer,) forfeit and pay for such Refusal or Neglect, the Sum of Twenty Pounds, to be paid to the Treasurer of the Guardians of the Poor, to be levied by Distress and Sale of his Goods and Chattels by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of the Two Justices before whom the Proof of such Refusal or Neglect shall have been made as aforesaid, which Warrant the said Justices are hereby empowered and required to make and issue, and all Constables and other Peace Officers are hereby required to execute every such Warrant accordingly, and with all convenient Speed to pay over all the Monies which shall from Time be so levied, into the Hands of the Treasurer or Treasurers for the Time being, to be appointed in pursuance of this Act, who shall respectively account for and pay the same in like Manner as he or they ought to apply, account for, and pay any Monies to be assessed and raised for the Maintenance of the Poor, which may come into his or their Hands by virtue of this Act.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Vestrymen assembled on the said Second *Tuesday* next after the passing of this Act, to make a List in Writing of Two Persons, being substantial Householders, from each of the Six Liberties of the said Parish, whom such Vestrymen shall think fit and qualified to be nominated and appointed Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the Year ending at *Easter* One thousand eight hundred and nine; and so in like Manner annually, on *Tuesday* after *Easter Day*, in every succeeding Year, for every ensuing Year; which List shall be fairly entered in the Minute Books of the Proceedings of the said Vestrymen, and a true Copy or Copies thereof, attested under the Hand or Hands of the Vestry Clerk or Clerks of the said Parish, or One of them, shall be delivered within Two Days to any Two Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Middlesex*, then acting in or near to the said Parish, who shall, and they are hereby authorized and required, thereupon forthwith, by Writing under their Hands and Seals, to nominate and appoint any One of the Two Persons selected from each Liberty, whom they shall think proper, of the Persons named in such Copy or Copies of the said List, to be Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the Year then next ensuing, and until new Overseers shall in like Manner be nominated and appointed to succeed them; which Persons, when so nominated and appointed,

Appointment
of Overseers.

[Loc. & Per.]

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and

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

And in case
of such Neg-
lect or Re-
fusal to serve
to forfeit
Twenty
Pounds.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person so nominated and appointed an Overseer of the Poor of the said Parish in Manner aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to take upon himself that Office and Duty within the Space of Seven Days next after he shall have had such Notice of being so nominated and appointed as before directed; then and in every such Case he shall, upon Proof thereof by the Oath or Oaths of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses before any Two of such Justices of the Peace as aforesaid, (which Oath or Oaths they the said Justices are hereby

hereby authorized to administer) forfeit and pay for such Refusal or Neglect the Sum of Twenty Pounds, to be paid to the Treasurer of the Guardians of the Poor, to be levied by Distress and Sale of his Goods and Chattels, by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of the Two Justices before whom the Proof of such Refusal or Neglect shall have been made as aforesaid; which Warrant or Warrants the said Justices are hereby empowered and required to make and issue; and all Constables and other Peace Officers are hereby required to execute every such Warrant accordingly, and with all convenient Speed to pay over all the Monies which shall from Time to Time be so levied, into the Hands of the Treasurer or Treasurers for the Time being, to be appointed in pursuance of this Act, who shall respectively account for and pay the same in like Manner as he or they ought to apply, account for, and pay any Monies to be assessed and raised for the Maintenance of the Poor which may come into his or their Hands by virtue of this Act.

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

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

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That within Thirty Days after the passing of this Act, a General Meeting of the Vestrymen of the said Parish shall be held, to consider the State of the said Parish, which shall be then examined, and an Account taken of all Securities, Bonds, and Annuities chargeable upon the Rates of the said Parish, under and by virtue of the said recited Act, passed in the Twenty-second Year of the Reign of His present Majesty or otherwise, and of all Sums of Money due by the said Parish, and of all Claims and Demands upon the said Parish, and of the Balance or Balances then in the Hands of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, Treasurer, Collectors, and other Persons, on Account of the said Parish, and of all Sums of Money due to the said Parish, and also of the Amount of Arrears of Rates imposed upon the said Parish within Two Years last past, not collected; and the Vestrymen at such Meeting, or some adjourned Meeting to be held for that Purpose, shall ascertain and fix the Sums necessary to be raised for the Liquidation of the Debts of the said Parish, and for the Payment of all Annuities, and Interest of Bonds, and other Securities, and also for the Payment of any Principal Monies due on such Securities or Bonds, by Instalments, or otherwise, as may appear most for the Interest and Advantage of the said Parish, in order that the Sum to be raised by the Rates, under this Act, may be proportioned to such Demands, and be adequate to the Payment of the current Expence of the said Parish, in the Maintenance and Relief of the Poor for the ensuing Quarter; and the Vestrymen of the said Parish, within Twenty-one Days after so

Account to be taken of the State of the Parish.

ascertaining

ascertaining the State of the Parish, shall make a just and equal Pound Rate upon all Houses, Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, and Property within the said Parish, liable to be rated to the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parish, according to the Laws now in force, or according to this Act, in order to raise a Sum of Money in such Quarter sufficient for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor, and for the Payment and Discharge of all other Expences of the said Parish for the current Quarter, and for the Payment of any such Debt or Debts due and owing by the said Parish, or such Proportions of any such Debts, or for any such other Payment as aforesaid, as shall be settled and determined by the Vestrymen assembled at such general or adjourned Meeting.

Vestry to meet Four Times in each Year to settle what will be required for Relief of Poor, &c.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That the Vestrymen of the said Parish shall, Four Times in every Year, on the *Tuesday* next after the Twenty-fourth Day of *June*, the Twenty-ninth Day of *September*, the Twenty-fifth Day of *December*, and the Twenty-fifth Day of *March*, in every Year, meet together at the Vestry Room of the said Parish, of which Meetings Notice shall be given on the preceding Lord's Day, and put up on the Doors of the Church, and on some Public Place in each Liberty, as herein-before directed, and they, or the major Part of them so assembled, shall upon such Examination of the Books and Accounts, and Receipts, Expenditure, and Claims and Demands upon the said Parish, and Money due to the said Parish on any Rates not collected, as to them shall appear necessary, then settle and ascertain the respective Sums of Money necessary to be raised, by a just and equal Pound Rate, for the Relief, Maintenance, Lodging, and Employment of the Poor of the said Parish, and for the Payment of any Interest, or of any Annuities chargeable on the Rates of the said Parish, or for the Re-payment of any Principal Monies which shall be due from the said Parish, and for the Discharge of all other Expences of the said Parish, as to the Vestrymen, or the major Part of them so assembled, shall seem reasonable, and sufficient to answer the Purposes aforesaid and of this Act.

Guardians and their Clerk or Clerks to furnish Accounts to assist Vestry to ascertain Rate.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That the Guardians of the Poor, or their Treasurer, or the Vestry Clerk or Clerks of the said Parish, being as before directed Clerk or Clerks to the said Guardians of the Poor for the Time being, shall, and they are hereby required to deliver, under his and their Hand or Hands, at every such Meeting, to the Churchwarden or Churchwardens of the said Parish for the Time being, for the Inspection of the Vestrymen of the said Parish then assembled, a true and correct Account, in Writing, of all Monies which shall have been received and paid by them respectively, or by any Overseer or Overseers, Officer or Officers, under their Order or Direction, for the last preceding Quarter, and for what Purposes, and of the actual Balance then remaining, if any, or Deficiency, if any, as the Case may be, and also of the Sum remaining to be collected upon any Rates thencefore made, in order that the true State of the said Parish may thereby appear, and that the said Vestrymen, or the major Part of them so assembled as aforesaid, may be enabled to ascertain what Sum or Sums of Money shall be necessary to be raised for the Purposes aforesaid; and that they, or the Person or Persons having the Care or Custody of the last Rate Books, and such other Book or Books of General Orders and Proceedings, and of Accounts, as shall hereafter be kept by the said Guardians for the Time being,

being, for the Purposes of this Act, shall produce the same from Time to Time, at every such Meeting, and that in case any such Treasurer, Clerk or Clerks, shall refuse or wilfully neglect to deliver such Account in Writing, under his or their Hand or Hands, and in case they or any of them, or any other Person or Persons having the Care or Custody of any such Rate Books, or other Books, and Accounts, shall refuse or wilfully omit to produce the same respectively, at such Meetings as aforesaid, or any of them, then and in such Case, every such Treasurer, Clerk, and other Person or Persons shall, for every such Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same; to be recovered in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, by Action of Debt, or on the Case, or by Bill, Suit, or Information, wherein no Effoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance shall be allowed.

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

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That if it shall appear to the Vestrymen assembled at any Vestry, or to the Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish at any Time, after making of any Rate or Assessment to be made under the Authority of this Act, that the Names of any Persons liable to be included in such Rate or Assessment, have been omitted therein, it shall be lawful for the said Vestrymen, or any Seven of them, or for the said Guardians of the Poor, or any Five or more of them, to add, or cause to be added to such Rate or Assessment, the Names of the Persons so omitted, together with the Sums for which they ought to be so rated, and the Amount of such Rate or Assessment in respect thereof, and every such Addition made to any of the said Rates shall be as valid and effectual in Law, to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same had been inserted in the Rate at the Time the same was first made and signed. May rectify Omissions in Rates.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That no Rate or Assessment so to be made and signed in Manner aforesaid, for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish, shall be valid, unless allowed by Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace acting in and for the County of *Middlesex*; and Notice of the Time when, and the Persons to whom, or the Public Police Office at which Application shall be made for the Allowance of such Rates, and also Notice of such Allowance, shall be given in the said Parish Church on the Lord's Day next before such Allowance shall be applied for, and on the Lord's Day next after such Allowance shall be obtained, Rates to be allowed by Justices.

[*Loc. & Per.*]

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tained,

tained, in the same Manner as is herein-before directed for Notices of Meetings of the Vestrymen of the said Parish.

And being so allowed to be deemed valid.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That the said Rate or Assessment so made and signed, and allowed by Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace as aforesaid, after such Notice as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken to be good, valid, and effectual, and shall and may be received, collected, and levied in Manner herein-after provided.

Vestrymen neglecting to make Assessments Guardians may meet and make the same.

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

Old Rates to be deemed good, &c.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That each and every Rate and Assessment ordered and directed to be levied, assessed, and collected by and under the Authority of the said recited Acts, shall and may be levied, assessed, and collected by such Ways and Means, and under such Restrictions and Regulations as any of the Rates and Assessments directed to be made in pursuance of this Act are directed in and by this Act to be levied, assessed, and collected, until new Rates are made, levied and assessed by virtue of this Act; any Thing herein contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

Clerk and Collectors to inspect Land Tax Assessments.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Clerk or Clerks to the Vestrymen of the said Parish, or any other Person or Persons to be appointed by the said Vestrymen or Guardians for that Purpose, from Time to Time, at all convenient Times to inspect the Book or Books of Assessments or Rates of the Land Tax, or Assessed Taxes for the said Parish, for better ascertaining the Rates and Assessments to be raised and levied by virtue of this Act; and to take Copies thereof, if necessary, at the Expence of the said Vestrymen or Guardians of

of the Poor of the said Parish; and the Clerk or Clerks, Collector or Collectors, for the Time being, to the Commissioners of the Land Tax, or of the Assessed Taxes, acting from Time to Time for the Division wherein the said Parish is situate, shall, and are hereby directed and required to permit such Clerk or Clerks, Person or Persons so appointed, at all reasonable Times to inspect the said Books, and to take Extracts from them, or to make Copies of the same.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That until and unless Collectors shall be appointed by virtue of this Act, all Rates, Assessments, and Sums of Money to be made or raised under or by virtue of this Act, shall be collected and received by the Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, for the Time being, for the Liberty in which they respectively reside, in the same Manner as the Rates made for the Relief of the Poor are now by Law directed to be collected and received; and in case any Overseer or Overseers shall omit or neglect to collect and get in the said Monies, or shall not use his best and utmost Diligence in collecting and getting in the same, or as much thereof as can be collected and gotten in within Thirty Days after the Delivery of the Book or Books containing such Rate or Assessment to him or them, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Guardians of the Poor to summon such Overseer or Overseers before them, to shew Cause why he or they have not collected the said Rate and Rates; and in case such Overseer or Overseers shall not appear, or appearing shall not shew sufficient Cause to the Satisfaction of the said Guardians then assembled at such Meeting, it shall be lawful for the said Guardians to set and impose a Fine on every such Overseer, not exceeding Forty Shillings for the first Offence, and not exceeding Five Pounds for the Second and every subsequent Offence; to be recovered, levied, and applied in the same Manner as other Penalties and Forfeitures are by this Act directed to be recovered, levied, and applied.

Overseers to collect the Rates, &c.

XXXV. And for the better and more effectually raising and levying the several Rates and Assessments by this Act directed to be made, from Time to Time: Be it further enacted, That in case any Landlord or Occupier, or any Owner or Owners, Proprietor or Proprietors, Lessee or Lessees, of any Land, Ground, Dwelling House, Shop, Warehouse, Coach House, Stable, Cellar, Vault, Building, Tenement, or Hereditaments within the said Parish, shall refuse or neglect to pay the Money rated and assessed upon him, her, or them respectively, by virtue of this Act, and all Arrears due thereon, or upon any former Rate or Rates, it shall be lawful for any One or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, and he or they is and are hereby authorised and directed, by Writing under his or their Hand or Hands, on Complaint made by the Churchwardens, Overseers, or Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish, or any Three or more of them, to summon all and every Person and Persons who shall have refused or neglected as aforesaid, (upon Oath being made before such Justice or Justices, by the Overseer or Overseers of the Poor for the Time being, or by one of the Beadles of the said Parish, or by any Person appointed by the Guardians of the Poor to collect and receive such Rates and Assessments, of his or their having attended upon, or at the Dwelling House or last or usual Place of Abode, of all and every Person and Persons thereby intended to

How Rates to be levied.

to be summoned), or who are or shall be liable to the Payment of the said Rate or Rates, and having demanded the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and of the Neglect or Refusal of such Person or Persons to pay the said Rate or Rates, to appear before such Justice or Justices at a Time and Place to be mentioned in such Summons; and it shall be lawful for such Overseer or Overseers, or Beadles, or Persons appointed as aforesaid, or for any of the Constables, Headboroughs, or Beadles of the said Parish, to serve all and every such Summons and Summonses upon all and every Person and Persons so neglecting or refusing to pay as aforesaid, either by delivering the same to the Person or Persons thereby intended to be summoned, or leaving the same at his, her, or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, or at or on the Premises for which the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, mentioned in such Summons, shall remain due and owing; and if any Person or Persons so summoned, shall refuse or neglect to attend at the Time and Place mentioned in such Summons; or if he, she, or they shall attend, and shall not shew good and sufficient Cause to such Justice or Justices, that he, she, or they is or are not chargeable with such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, then and in every such Case, every such Person or Persons shall pay the Rate or Rates in respect of which such Summons was issued, and the reasonable Costs and Charges of such Summons; and in all Cases where such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or any of them shall not be paid, upon the Return of such Summons it shall be lawful for the Justice or Justices who shall have directed such Summons and Summonses to be issued as aforesaid, and he and they is or are hereby authorised and required, upon Oath made before him or them, of the due Service of such Summons or Summonses by the Person who shall have served the same, to grant a Warrant or Warrants under his or their Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals, authorising or directing the said Overseer or Overseers, Beadle or Beadles, or Persons appointed as aforesaid, or any Constable, Headborough, or Beadle of the said Parish, to collect or levy such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and all Arrears thereof, and all the Costs and Charges of the Summons, (if the same shall not have been paid before), and the Costs, Charges, and Expences of the said Warrant, and of executing the same, by Distress of the Goods and Chattels of the Party or Parties so neglecting or refusing, which shall be found either within the said Parish or elsewhere; and if within Five Days next after any Distress shall be made, the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, with all Arrears due thereon, shall not be paid, together with all the reasonable Charges of the said Summons or Summonses, Warrant or Warrants, and of making such Distress, and keeping such Goods and Chattels, the said Overseer or Overseers, or Person or Persons appointed as aforesaid, Constable or Constables, Headborough or Headboroughs, Beadle or Beadles, shall cause the said Goods to be appraised by one or more Appraiser or Appraisers, and to be sold, or such Part or Parts thereof as shall be sufficient to pay the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, together with all Arrears due thereon, and the Costs, Charges, and Expences of the said Summons, Warrant, Distress, Removal, or keeping Possession of such Goods and Chattels so distrained; and the reasonable Costs, Charges, and Expences of appraising and selling the same, returning the Overplus (if any) to the Owner or Owners of such Goods and Chattels respectively, upon Demand thereof made by him, her, or them.

XXXVI. And

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

Form of
Warrant of
Distress.

Middlesex, } ' To the Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poor, and Col-
to wit. } ' lectors of the Poor Rate of the Parish of *Saint Luke*,
' in the County of *Middlesex*, and to all Constables,
' Headboroughs, Beadles, and Peace Officers for the
' same Parish :

' Whereas the undermentioned Persons, now or late Inhabitants,
' Householders, Landlords Tenants, Occupiers, or Enjoyers of Lands,
' Houses, Shops, Warehouses, Coach-houses, Stables, Cellars, Vaults, or
' other Buildings, Tenements or Hereditaments, or Part of some Build-
' ing or Tenement within the said Parish of *Saint Luke*, were and are
' rated and assessed, or liable to the Rate or Rates duly made for the
' Relief of the Poor in the said Parish, under and by virtue of a certain
' Act passed in the Forty-eighth Year of the Reign of King *George* the
' Third, intituled [*Set forth the Title of the Act* :] And whereas the
' said Persons have refused or neglected to pay the several Sums of
' Money at and against their Names herein-after respectively set down
' for Money due from them, for or towards the Purposes in the said
' Act mentioned, and the said several Sum and Sums are still remaining
' due, in arrear, and unpaid, as appeareth upon Oath to

' of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said
' County; and the said several Persons having been summoned to ap-
' pear before to answer the Premises,
' as also appeareth to [*me or us*] the said Justice [*or Justices*] upon
' Oath, and they nor either of them having shewn any sufficient Cause
' why such Sum or Sums of Money should not be paid, these are, there-
' fore, in His Majesty's Name to will and require you, or either of you,
' forthwith to levy the said several Sums due from the said Persons, and
' hereunder joined to or set against their Names respectively, by Distress
' and Sale of their respective Goods and Chattels, (such Goods and
' Chattels being kept for the Space of Five Days before the same are
' sold,) rendering to them respectively the Overplus (if any), the rea-
' sonable Charges of such Distress, Sale, and Keeping, being first de-
' ducted; and if no sufficient Distress can be had or taken, that then
' you certify the same to us, to the End such further Proceedings may
' be had therein, as to the Law doth appertain; and I [*or we*] do here-
' by strictly charge and command all and singular the Constables,
' Headboroughs, and other His Majesty's Peace Officers for the said
' County, to be aiding and assisting in all Things relating to the Pre-
' mises : Given under my Hand and Seal [*or our Hands and Seals*] this
' Day of in the Year of our Lord

	£.	s.	d.
' A. B. - - - - -	-	-	-
' C. D. - - - - -	-	-	-
' E. F. the Landlord for divided Premises	-	-	-
' G. H. - - - - -	-	-	-

Guardians
may remit
Rates on
account of
Poverty.

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

Better Reco-
very of Rates
on small
Houses let at
small Rents,
or to Weekly
or Monthly
Lodgers.

XXXVIII. And whereas divers Houses, Tenements, and Hereditaments, within the said Parish, are let at small Rents, or to Weekly or Monthly Tenants, or entirely let out in Lodgings or separate Apartments, or let ready furnished; and the Collection of the Poor Rate from such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments, is attended with much Difficulty, and has frequently been evaded, so that much Loss has on that Account been sustained by the said Parish; for Remedy whereof be it enacted, That where the yearly Rent or Value of any such House, Tenement, or Hereditament, shall not exceed Fifteen Pounds, or where the Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments shall be let Weekly or to Monthly Tenants, or at Rents which shall become payable and to be collected at any shorter Periods than quarterly; it shall be lawful for the said Guardians of the Poor, or any Five or more of them (if they shall think proper) to compound with the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of all and every or any such House or Houses, Tenement or Tenements, and Hereditaments in the said Parish, for Payment of the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments to be made by virtue of this Act, at such reduced yearly Rental as the said Guardians shall think reasonable; so that such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments be not rated at less than One Half, nor more than Four-Fifths, Parts of the Rack Rent at which the same shall then be let, or of the annual Value of the said Premises respectively, and the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments, as shall not exceed the yearly Rent of Fifteen Pounds, and of such as shall be let to Weekly or Monthly Tenants, or from whence the Rents shall become due and be collected at any shorter Periods than quarterly, is and are hereby enabled to enter into such Composition with the said Guardians; and in case such Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, shall refuse or object to enter into such Composition, such Landlord or Landlords, Owner and Owners, shall from thenceforth be deemed and taken to be the Occupier or Occupiers of such Premises, and shall thereupon be rated and assessed, and to and from Time to Time shall pay, or cause to be paid, the several Rates or Assessments charged upon the respective Premises by virtue of this Act, unto the Overseer or Overseers of the Poor for the Time being, or to the Persons appointed by the said Guardians to collect the said Rates, and who is and are hereby authorized and empowered to receive and collect the same; and upon Non-payment thereof to levy the same by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of the respective Premises aforesaid, wheresoever they shall be found, or of the Person or Persons inhabiting the same respectively, in like Manner as
any

any Rate or Assessment may be raised, levied, and collected by virtue of this Act: Provided always, that no such Landlord or Owner shall be charged with or liable to pay for any increased Rent, reserved or made payable to him, for or on account of such Landlord or Owner having agreed to pay the several Rates or Assessments heretofore chargeable upon the Occupier; and where any House, Tenement, or Hereditament shall be let out in Lodgings or separate Apartments, or ready furnished, the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of all such Premises shall be deemed and taken to be the Occupiers thereof, and shall be rated to and pay the Rates or Assessments in respect of all such Houses, Tenements, and Hereditaments, for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parish.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That the Goods and Chattels of each and every Person renting and occupying any separate Part or Apartment of or in any House or Building, and the Goods and Chattels in every House and Building let ready furnished, (though not assessed under or by virtue of this Act, or under any Act made for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish) shall, after such Summons as is herein-before directed to be given, be liable to be distrained and sold, by virtue of a Warrant under the Hand and Seal of One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*; (which Warrant every Justice of the Peace is hereby directed to issue) for Payment of the said Rates or Assessments which accrued or became due during the Term of his, her, or their Occupancy only, and all reasonable Costs and Charges and Expences attending thereupon; but no such Occupier or Occupiers shall at any Time be required to pay, or be subject or liable to pay any greater Sum for or towards the Discharge of the said Rates or Assessments, or any of them, than the Amount of the Rent actually due and payable by such Occupier or Occupiers, to the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of the Premises so occupied by him, her, or them; and that each and every Person who shall pay any such Rates or Assessments as ought to have been paid by his, her, or their Landlord or Landlords, or upon whose Goods or Chattels the same shall be levied in pursuance of this Act, shall and may deduct the same from and out of the Rent due and payable, or to become due and payable to his, her, or their Landlord or Landlords so letting out the same, unless there shall be some Agreement to the contrary between the Landlord and Tenant; and the Receipt and Receipts for such Payments shall be a sufficient Discharge to every such Person for so much Money as he, she, or they shall have so paid, or which shall have been so levied on his, her, or their Goods and Chattels, in pursuance of this Act, and shall be allowed by such Landlord or Landlords of such Houses or Buildings, in Part or full Payment, as the Case may be, for the Rent due or to become due to him, her, or them, from such Person or Persons as aforesaid: Provided always, that no such Tenant or Occupier of any Part or separate Apartments, of or in any House or Buildings, shall by the Payment of such Rate or Assessment in Manner aforesaid, be deemed to acquire any Settlement in the said Parish by such Payment, but that the Landlord or Owner shall be deemed and construed to all Intents and Purposes to have paid the same; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Rates, if collected from Tenants, to be repaid by Landlords to Tenants.

XL. Pro-

Agreements
between
Landlords
and Tenants
not to be
impeached.

XL. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall be construed, deemed, or taken to impeach, alter, or make void any Agreement made between Landlord and Tenant in any Lease now granted, or hereafter to be granted, pursuant to any Contract or Agreement now existing; any Thing in this Act contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Premises to
remain
charged.

XLI. And be it further enacted, That in Default or Failure of Payment of any Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, which shall be at any Time made under and by virtue of and for the Purposes of this Act, or of the Arrears now due and owing to the said Parish, of any Rates or Assessments heretofore made, or which shall hereafter remain due or unpaid, or any Part thereof as aforesaid, the same shall be and remain a Charge upon the Premises, in respect whereof the same shall be so rated or assessed, and shall and may, after Seven Days Notice under the Hands of Three or more Guardians of the Poor for the Time being left upon the Premises, be sued for and recovered of and from such Owner or Owners, Leaseholder or Leaseholders, or Landlord or Landlords, respectively, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, or in any Court of Requests within the Jurisdiction of which any such Landlord or Leaseholder, or Owner, shall reside respectively, to be commenced and prosecuted in the Name of the Vestry Clerk or Clerks for the Time being, in which Action no Protection, Essoign, or Wager of Law, nor more than one Imparance shall be allowed; and if the Plaintiff shall recover in any such Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, he shall have full Costs, to be levied and recovered as other Monies upon Judgments are now by Law levied and recovered.

Rates to be
demanded
before Quar-
ter-Day.

XLII. And be it further enacted, That in order to avoid the Loss which frequently happens by Tenants or Occupiers of Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments, quitting and removing from the same before the Quarter-Day on which the Rates or Assessments charged by virtue of this Act on the said Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments, shall become due and payable, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Overseer or Overseers of the Poor, or the Collector or Collectors to be appointed as herein-after mentioned, to demand and receive, Twenty-one Days before every such Quarter-Day, or at any other subsequent Time, the respective Rates and Assessments which would be due and payable on such Quarter-Day, and in case of Non-payment thereof, to enforce the Payment of such Rates and Assessments in the same Manner, and with the same Powers, as in the Case of the Non-payment of such Rates and Assessments upon or after the Quarter-Day on which the same would have become due and payable.

Recovery of
Rates from
Persons re-
moving.

XLIII. And whereas it may happen that many Persons liable to, and who may be rated and assessed for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish, may, before the Payment of the Sum which may be rated on them respectively, quit and leave their Grounds, Dwelling-Houses, Shops, Warehouses, Coachhouses, Stables, Cellars, Vaults, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, and remove out of the said Parish: Be it therefore further enacted, That in case any Person or Persons who hath or have been so rated and assessed shall quit his, her, or their Lands,
Grounds,

Grounds, Houses, Shops, Warehouses, Coachhouses, Stables, Cellars, Vaults, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, before he, she, or they shall have paid such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and shall afterwards refuse to pay the same when demanded by the Overseer or Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, or other Persons authorized and appointed to receive the same, as herein mentioned; then, and in every such Case, it shall be lawful for the Overseer or Overseers of the Poor, or such Person or Persons, or any One of them, (Oath being made by him or them, that he or they hath or have Cause to suspect that such Person or Persons hath or have removed his, her, or their Goods and Chattels), by Warrant under the Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals of any One or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Middlesex* (which Warrant such Justice or Justices is or are hereby authorized and required to grant), and in case such Person or Persons shall have removed into any other County, City, or Place, such Warrant being first backed and countersigned by some Magistrate of the County, City, or Liberty, to which such Persons shall have removed (which Warrant every such Magistrate is hereby required to back or countersign) to distrain the Goods and Chattels of such Person or Persons so refusing or neglecting to pay the said Rates or Assessments, or any of them, in any County, City, or Place to which such Persons shall have removed, in the same Manner as if the same had continued in the said Parish of *Saint Luke*, and to sell the same, rendering the Overplus (if any), after having deducted the reasonable Costs, Charges, and Expences attending such Warrant, Proceedings, Distress, and Sale, upon Demand, to the Owner or Owners of such Goods and Chattels respectively.

XLIV. And be it further enacted, That in case any Person or Persons, now or hereafter renting or occupying any House, Building, or Tenement, Ground, or other Hereditament within the said Parish, shall remove out of or from, or quit the Possession of any House, Building, Tenement, Ground or Hereditament within the said Parish, before any Rate or Assessment charged thereon by virtue of this Act, or made, or to be made for the Relief of the Poor, shall be paid and discharged; or if any Person shall enter into the Occupation of any House, Building, Tenement, Ground, or Hereditament, out of or from which any other Person shall have so removed, before such Rate or Assessment shall have been paid and discharged, or which at the Time of rating or assessing the same shall be empty or unoccupied, then and in every such Case the Person so removing out of or from, or quitting the Possession of, and the Person entering into the Occupation of any such House, Building, Tenement, Ground, or Hereditament, shall be respectively liable to the Payment of every such Rate or Assessment, in Proportion to the Time that such Person or Persons possessed or occupied the same respectively, in like Manner as if the Person so removing or quitting as aforesaid, had remained in the Possession and Occupation of such House, Building, Tenement, Ground, or Hereditament, or the Person so entering into the Occupation thereof, had been originally rated or assessed in such Rate or Assessment, which Proportion (in case of Dispute) shall be ascertained by any One or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Middlesex*.

For appor-
tioning
Rates.

House partly within and partly without the Limits of this Act, how to be rated.

XLV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any House or Premises, within the said Parish, or any Part of such House or Premises, shall abut upon any Street or Place not within the Limits of the said Parish, such Houses or Premises shall be assessed to the Rates to be raised by virtue of this Act, for a proportionable Part only of the Rent or Value thereof; and it shall be lawful for the said Vestrymen or Guardians of the Poor, or any Person or Persons appointed by them, at some Meeting to be holden for that Purpose, and they or he are or is hereby respectively authorized and required to apportion and settle at how much, and what Part of the Rent or Value of such House and Premises, the same shall be assessed; and if any Person or Persons occupying such House or Premises, shall be dissatisfied therewith, he, she, or they may appeal to the General Quarter Sessions within the Time and in the Manner herein-after mentioned, and the Determination of the Quarter Sessions therein shall be final and conclusive.

Rates to be applied for Purposes of this Act.

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

Guardians to divide themselves into Committees,

and establish Rule for Attendance.

XLVII. And be it further enacted, That the said Guardians of the Poor, or any Nine or more of them, at their First Meeting after their Appointment in every Year, which Meeting the said Vestrymen are hereby directed and required to direct and appoint, shall divide themselves into Six distinct Committees, each of the said Committees to consist of Eight Guardians, exclusive of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor for the Time being of the said Parish, who shall be Members of each of such Committees; and shall then fix and establish an annual Rule or Rotation for the Attendance of each of the said Committees, and one of the said Committees shall meet on a certain Day, to be appointed by the said Guardians, in every Week, and shall attend weekly on that Day, for so

long

long Time as shall by the said Rule or Rotation be fixed and established; and afterwards the next Committee on such Rule or Rotation shall attend weekly on that Day, in like Manner, until such Annual Rule or Rotation shall be perfect and complete; and such Committee so appointed, shall at such their Meetings carry this Act into Execution; and general Meetings of the said Guardians shall also be held once in every Calendar Month.

XLVIII. And be it further enacted, That the Clerk or Clerks to the said Guardians shall, Two Days previous to every such weekly Meeting, give or leave written or printed Notice to or for every Guardian, being a Member of such Committee, whose Turn it shall or may be to attend according to the Rotation so fixed and established, such Notice expressing that such Guardian is appointed to attend at such weekly Meeting, and in case any such Guardian shall neglect to attend Two successive Meetings, without giving sufficient Reason for such Non-attendance to the Guardians assembled at the next monthly Meeting, he shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Ten Shillings, to be levied and recovered as other Penalties and Forfeitures directed and imposed by this Act.

Clerk to
summon
weekly Com-
mittee.

XLIX. And be it further enacted, That all or any of the said Guardians may, if they think fit, attend any such weekly Meetings so to be appointed as aforesaid, and may act, proceed, and vote at any such Meeting, in such Manner as if he or they were on a Committee then attending in Rotation.

All the
Guardians
may attend
weekly Com-
mittees.

L. And be it further enacted, That no Business transacted, or any Orders made, by the Guardians of the Poor, at any weekly Meeting shall be good, valid, or effectual, unless Three or more Guardians be present at the Meeting at which such Business shall be transacted or Order made; and it shall be lawful for any Three or more of the Guardians of the Poor under this Act, assembled at any weekly Meeting of the Guardians of the Poor, to do any Act, Matter, or Thing, or make any Order, which by this Act may be done or made by the Guardians of the Poor, save and except in such Cases in which any greater Number is required and specified by this Act to be necessary to do such Act, Matter, or Thing, or make any such Order.

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

LI. Provided always, That no Business transacted at the said monthly Meetings, nor any Order made by them at such monthly or at any general Meeting of the said Guardians of the Poor, shall be good, valid, or effectual, unless Nine at least of the Guardians of the Poor shall be present at such monthly or general Meeting, and unless the same shall be confirmed at the next monthly or general Meeting, except in such Cases as from the Exigency of the Occasion it may be necessary to act upon such Order previous to such Confirmation.

No Business
valid, unless
Nine Guar-
dians be pre-
sent at a ge-
neral Meet-
ing.

LII. And be it further enacted, That in case Nine Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish shall not attend at any such monthly or general Meeting, or in case Three Guardians of the Poor shall not attend at any such weekly Committee, within Thirty Minutes after the Time appointed for such Meetings respectively, it shall and may be lawful to and

In case of
Non-attend-
ance Clerk
may adjourn
the Meeting.

and for the Clerk or Clerks to such Guardians of the Poor, to adjourn such monthly or weekly Meeting or Committee, to any Day within Two Days after such Meeting was appointed to be, or ought to have been held, and forthwith to give Notice of such Adjournment to every Member of such Committee, or to every Guardian, as the Case may happen to be.

For appoint-
ing a Treas-
urer.

LIII. And be it further enacted, That the said Guardians, or any Nine or more of them, present at a monthly or general Meeting, shall and may, from Time to Time, appoint One or more Treasurer or Treasurers for receiving all the Monies to be raised and collected in pursuance and for the several Purposes of this Act; and from Time to Time, as they shall think necessary, shall and may remove such Treasurer or Treasurers, and appoint such other Person or Persons in his or their Stead, as they the said Guardians, or any Nine or more of them, present at a monthly or general Meeting, shall think proper; and such Treasurer and Treasurers is and are hereby directed to keep distinct Accounts of the Monies by him or them received and paid for the different Purposes of this Act; and from Time to Time to pay and discharge all such Sums of Money as the said Guardians, or any Three or more of them, at any Meeting held by virtue of this Act, shall draw upon him for, or order him to pay, and to account once in each Quarter of the Year, and at any other Time, if thereunto required by the said Guardians, or any Three or more of them, for all the Monies by him or them received and paid, pursuant to the Directions of this Act; and to pay all such Monies as upon the Balance of the said Accounts respectively shall appear to be remaining in his or their Hands, to such Person or Persons as the said Guardians, or any Nine or more of them shall, by Writing under their Hands, authorize to receive the same, to be applied to and for the several Uses and Purposes for which the same was collected, raised, received, or levied; and in Default of rendering and making such Account and Payment as aforesaid, such Treasurer or Treasurers shall, upon Conviction, be liable to such Penalties and Punishments, as are by this Act imposed, or directed to be imposed on Overseers of the Poor and other Officers neglecting or refusing to account at the Times and in the Manner directed by this Act.

Treasurer to
give Security.

LIV. And be it further enacted, That the said Guardians shall and are hereby required to take such good and sufficient Security from such Treasurer or Treasurers, as they the said Guardians, or any Nine or more of them, present at a general or monthly Meeting, shall approve.

For appoint-
ing Officers.

LV. And be it further enacted, That the said Guardians of the Poor, or any Nine or more of them, may, at their first, or any subsequent Meeting, appoint Six or more Collectors, Receiver or Receivers of the Rates or Assessments, Beadle or Beadles, and such other Officer or Officers for the Execution of this Act (the Clerk or Clerks to the Vestrymen of the said Parish being always for the Time being Clerk or Clerks to the said Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish) as the said Guardians of the Poor shall think proper; and from Time to Time remove them, or any of them, and appoint others, as they shall find it necessary or convenient; and by and out of the Monies to be raised by virtue of this Act, may and are hereby empowered to appoint and pay such Salaries, Gratuities,

tuities, and Allowances to such Collectors, Officers, and all other Persons by them, the said Guardians of the Poor employed in the Execution of this Act, as they shall think reasonable; and the said Guardians may take such Security for the due Execution of the respective Offices, by such Person and Persons as aforesaid, as the said Guardians shall think proper; and such Person or Persons as is or are hereby made liable to pay the several Rates or Sums of Money hereby authorized to be raised, shall pay the same to such Person or Persons as shall, from Time to Time, be so appointed to collect and receive the same, according to the true Meaning of this Act, if such Persons shall be so appointed; and that all and every the Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, and all and every Collectors and Receivers of the Rates or Assessments of the said Parish, by virtue of this Act, if such Persons shall be so appointed, and each and every of them shall weekly and every Week, and as often as ordered so to do by the said Guardians, or any Three or more of them, make up and render unto the said Guardians, at their weekly, monthly, and general Meetings, full, true, perfect, and distinct Accounts, in Writing, of all Monies from Week to Week, and from Time to Time so collected and received by them, and each and every of them respectively, by virtue of this Act; and that all other Officers and Persons, so to be appointed as aforesaid, shall, under their Hands, and at such Time and Times, and in such Manner as the said Guardians shall direct, deliver to such Guardians, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint, true and perfect Accounts, in Writing, of all Matters and Things committed to their Charge by virtue of this Act; and also of all the Monies which shall have been by such Officer or Officers, and Person or Persons respectively received by virtue and for the Purposes of this Act, and how much thereof hath been paid and disbursed, and for what Purposes, together with the proper and legal Receipts or Vouchers for such Payments; and that the said Overseers of the Poor for the Time being, and every of them, and the said Collectors and Receivers of the said Rates and Assessments, if such Persons be so appointed, shall weekly and every Week pay to the Treasurer of the said Guardians for the Time being, or to such Person or Persons as the said Guardian shall appoint, all Sum and Sums of Money by each of them respectively collected and received during the preceding Week, or oftener, if the said Guardians, or any Three or more of them, shall so direct and require; and that all other Officers and Persons so to be appointed as aforesaid shall from Time to Time pay to the Treasurer of the said Guardians, or to such Person or Persons as the said Guardians shall appoint, all Monies which may be and remain in their, or any of their respective Hands; and that they and every of them, and the said Overseers of the Poor for the Time being, and the Collectors and Receivers, if appointed as aforesaid for the Time being, and each and every of them, if thereunto required by the said Guardians, or any Three or more of them, shall verify the Truth of all Accounts and Statements so delivered, rendered, and made by them from Time to Time respectively, upon Oath, and which Oath any Justice of the Peace acting for the said County, on the Request of Three or more Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, or any Person empowered by them for that Purpose, is hereby empowered to administer; and that if any Overseer of the Poor, Collector, or Receiver, or other Officer or Person appointed as aforesaid, shall not make and render, or shall refuse to verify upon Oath, if thereto required as aforesaid, all and every such Statements

and compelling them to account.

and Accounts, or to produce and deliver up the Receipts or Vouchers relating to the same, or to make Payment as aforesaid, or shall not deliver to the said Guardians, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint, within three Days after being thereunto required by such Guardians, all Books, Papers, and Writings in his or their Custody or Power, relating to the Execution of this Act; or shall refuse or neglect to pay such Monies as, upon the Balance of any Account or Accounts, shall appear to be in their respective Hands, to the said Guardians, or as they shall direct or appoint, then, and in either of the Cases aforesaid, such Guardians may and are hereby authorized and empowered to bring, or cause to be brought, any Action or Actions against the Overseer or Overseers of the Poor, Collectors or Receivers, Officer or Officers, Person or Persons so neglecting or refusing as aforesaid, for the Recovery of the Monies that shall be in the Hands of such Officer or Officers, Person or Persons respectively; or if Complaint shall be made by the said Guardians, or any Three or more of them, or by such Person or Persons as they shall appoint for that Purpose, of any such Refusal or Neglect as aforesaid, to any Two or more of the Justices of the Peace for the County or Place wherein such Overseer or Overseers of the Poor, Collectors and Receivers, or other Officer or Officers, Person or Persons, so neglecting or refusing, shall be and reside, such Justices may and are hereby authorized and required, by a Warrant or Warrants, under their Hands and Seals, to cause the Overseer or Overseers of the Poor, Collector or Receiver, or other Officer or Officers, Person or Persons, so refusing or neglecting, to be brought before them; and upon his or their appearing, or not being to be found, to hear and determine the Matter in a summary Way; and if, upon the Confession of the Party or Parties, or by the Testimony of any credible Witness or Witnesses upon Oath, it shall appear to such Justices, that any of the Monies that shall have been collected or raised by virtue of this Act, shall be in the Hands of such Overseer or Overseers of the Poor, Collector or Receiver, or other Officer or Officers, Person or Persons, such Justices may and are hereby authorized and required, upon Non-payment thereof, by a Warrant or Warrants under their Hands and Seals, to cause such Money to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Overseer or Overseers of the Poor, Collector or Receiver, or other Officer or Officers, Person or Persons, respectively; and if no Goods or Chattels of such Overseer or Overseers of the Poor, Collector or Receiver, or other Officer or Officers, Person or Persons, can be found, sufficient to answer and satisfy the said Money, and the Charges of distraining and selling the same Goods and Chattels, then, and in either of the Cases aforesaid, such Justices shall commit every such Offender to the Common Gaol, or House of Correction, for the said County of *Middlesex*, there to remain, without Bail or Mainprize, until he shall give and make a true and perfect Account and Payment as aforesaid, or until he shall compound with the said Guardians, and shall have paid such Composition in such Manner as they shall appoint, which Composition the said Guardians are hereby empowered to make, or until he shall deliver up such Books, Papers, and Writings, as aforesaid, or give Satisfaction in Respect thereof to the said Guardians: Provided always, that no such Overseer or Overseers of the Poor, Collector or Receiver, or other Officer or Person so committed for want of sufficient Distress, shall be detained and kept in Prison by virtue of such Warrant for any longer Space of Time than Three Calendar Months.

LVI. And be it further enacted, That if any Person who shall be employed as a Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, or any other Officer or Servant who shall be in any ways employed by the said Vestrymen, or Guardians of the Poor, in putting this Act, or any of the Powers thereof in Execution, shall exact, take, or accept any Fee or Reward whatsoever, other than such Salaries, Allowances, and Rewards as shall be appointed, allowed and approved of by the said Vestrymen or Guardians, for or on Account of any Thing done or to be done by virtue of this Act, or on any Account whatsoever relative to putting this Act in Execution, or shall any ways be concerned or interested in any Bargain or Contract made or to be made by the said Guardians, for the Purposes of putting this Act in Execution, every such Person so offending shall be incapable of ever serving or being employed under this Act, and shall over and above forfeit the Sum of Fifty Pounds to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, within Six Calendar Months after the Offence committed, in which said Suit no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, nor more than one Imparance, shall be allowed.

Officers taking any Fee or Reward besides the Salary.

LVII. And be it further enacted, That all and every Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, and Agent, Master and Mistress of the Workhouse, and all and every other Person and Persons appointed by virtue of, or acting, or who have acted in Execution of the said recited Acts, made in the Thirtieth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Second, and in the Twenty-second Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, or either of them, who shall have in his, her, or their Custody or Power, any Monies collected by virtue of, or any Books, Papers, or Writings relating to the Execution of the said last recited Acts, or either of them, shall, when thereunto required by Notice in Writing, signed by any Five or more of the said Guardians or Vestrymen of the said Parish, assembled at a general Meeting of Vestry, given to him, her, or them, or left at his, her, or their then or last or usual Place or Places of Abode, within Seven Days after the Service of such Notice, deliver up to the said Guardians or Vestrymen, or to any Person or Persons appointed by them for that Purpose, at the Time and Place to be mentioned in such Notice, all the Monies received by him, her, or them, by virtue of the said last recited Acts, or either of them, and all the Books, Papers, and Writings relating to the Execution thereof, and all the Accounts of the several Monies received or disbursed by him, her, or them, together with the Vouchers relating thereto; and if any such Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, Agent, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, or other Person, shall refuse or wilfully neglect to make and render any such Account, or to produce and deliver up the Vouchers relating thereto, or to make Payment as aforesaid, or shall refuse or wilfully neglect to deliver up in Manner aforesaid all Books, Papers, and Writings, relating to the Execution of the said last recited Acts, or either of them, or to give Satisfaction to the said Guardians or Vestrymen in respect of the same, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for any Justice of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, upon Complaint made to him by the said Guardians or Vestrymen, or by such Person or Persons as they shall appoint for that Purpose, and he is hereby authorized and required to issue a Warrant under his Hand and Seal, for the Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, Agent, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, or other Persons so refusing or neglecting to appear

Officers acting under the recited Acts to account to the Guardians under this Act.

appear before him, and upon his or her appearing, or having been summoned and not appearing, or not being to be found after due Endeavour used for that Purpose, to hear and determine the Matter in a summary Way; and if upon the Confession of the Party, or by the Testimony of any credible Witness or Witnesses upon Oath, (which Oath such Justice is hereby empowered to administer) it shall appear to such Justice that any of the Monies that shall have been collected or received by virtue of the said last recited Acts, or either of them, shall be due from such Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, Agent, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, or other Persons, such Justice may, and he is hereby authorized and required, upon Non-payment thereof, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to cause such Money to be raised by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, Agent, Master, Mistress, or other Persons as aforesaid; and if no Goods and Chattels of such Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, Agent, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, or other Person, can be found sufficient to answer and satisfy the said Money and the Charges of distraining and selling such Goods and Chattels, or if it shall appear to such Justice that such Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, Agent, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, or other Person, shall have refused or neglected to render and give such Account, or to produce the Vouchers relating thereto, or that any Books, Papers, or Writings relating to the Execution of the said last recited Acts, or either of them, had been in the Custody or Power of such Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, Agent, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, or other Person, and he, she, or they shall have refused or neglected to deliver up or give Satisfaction respecting the same as aforesaid, then and in each and every such Case such Justice shall commit such Offender to the Common Gaol or House of Correction of the said County for any Time not exceeding Six Calendar Months, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, until he or she shall give and make a true and perfect Account, and make Payment as aforesaid; or until he or she shall have compounded with the said Guardians or Vestrymen for the said Money, and shall have paid such Composition in such Manner as they shall appoint, (which Composition the said Guardians and Vestrymen are hereby respectively empowered to make and receive) and until he or she shall deliver up all such Books, Papers, and Writings, or give Satisfaction in respect thereof to the said Guardians or Vestrymen, or to the Persons appointed by them respectively to receive the same: Provided always, that no Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, Agent, Master or Mistress of the Workhouse, committed for want of sufficient Distress, shall be detained or kept in Prison, by virtue of such Warrant, for any longer Space of Time than Six Calendar Months.

Guardians
may make
Bye Laws.

LVIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Guardians, or the major Part of them present at any general Meeting to be holden in pursuance of this Act (the Number present not being less than Nine) from Time to Time to make such Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations for the better regulating their own Proceedings at any of their monthly or general Meetings, and the Manner of convening and holding such Meetings, and of enforcing the good Conduct and Behaviour of the several Officers and Servants employed by the said Guardians in the Execution of this Act; and for the better maintaining, governing, employing, managing, and regulating the Poor of the said

said Parish, and for the Application of the several Monies that may be levied, collected, or received by virtue of this Act, to the Purposes thereof; and likewise from Time to Time to vary, alter, amend, or repeal all or any of such Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations, and to fix and appoint such reasonable Fines and Penalties for the Breach or Non-performance of any such Bye Law, Rule, Order or Regulation, or of any Part thereof, as to them shall seem right and proper, so that no such Fine or Penalty shall exceed the Sum of Ten Pounds; and all such Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations when made, and all Alterations, Variations and Amendments thereof, shall be printed, and shall be affixed on the Doors of the Church of the said Parish; and all such Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations, when so made, printed and affixed, shall be good and binding upon all Persons concerned: Provided that the same be not inconsistent with, or repugnant to the Laws of that Part of the United Kingdom called *England*, nor inconsistent with or repugnant to the Provisions and Directions in this Act contained.

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

Bye Law not to be repealed without Notice.

LX. And be it further enacted, That if any Three or more Guardians of the Poor shall on any Occasion think it necessary or expedient to call or convene a General Meeting of the said Guardians of the Poor, or if the Churchwarden or Churchwardens of the said Parish, or any Five or more Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish, or any Nine or more of the said Vestrymen, shall think it necessary or expedient to call or convene a General Meeting of the Vestry, it shall and may be lawful for such Guardians of the Poor, or Churchwardens or Vestrymen respectively, to order the Vestry Clerk or Clerks to summon such General Meeting of the Guardians or Vestrymen respectively, to meet at the Time the said Guardians, Churchwarden or Churchwardens, or Vestrymen shall then require, by a Notice specifying the particular Occasion of such Requisition; and of which Meeting of the Guardians a written or printed Notice shall be given to each of the said Guardians, or left for them at their last or usual Place of Abode Two Days at the least before the Time appointed for such Meeting, and of which General Meeting of the Vestry public Notice shall be given as herein-before directed.

Guardians or Vestrymen may call a general Meeting.

LXI. And be it further enacted, That at each and every of the Meetings of the Vestrymen of the said Parish, and of the said Guardians, and at each and every of the said weekly Meetings of the Committee of the said Guardians, any one Vestryman or Guardian present, who shall be then named by the Majority of the Guardians present at any such Meeting, shall preside at every such Meeting, and take the Chair as President or Chairman of such Meeting; and in case of an Equality of Voices on any Transaction, including the Voice of the Chairman or

Chairman to be appointed.

[*Loc. & Per.*]

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President,

President, such Chairman or President shall have another, or the casting Voice.

Directions to
Overseers to
attend the
Workhouse.

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

Guardians to
appoint an
Officer to
relieve casual
Poor.

LXIII. And whereas it may happen that by Casualties or sudden Illness many poor Persons within the said Parish may stand in need of immediate Relief, before Application can be made for the same at the Weekly Meeting of the Committee of the Guardians of the Poor, to be held in pursuance of this Act; for Remedy whereof be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Guardians, or any Nine or more

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

Officer, to account for Money expended at weekly Meetings.

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

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

Money expended after such Orders not to be repaid.

LXV. And be it further enacted, That the said Guardians of the Poor may take the Benefit of the Work, Labour, and Service of any such Poor, and apply the same towards their Maintenance, by virtue of this Act; or the said Guardians of the Poor, if they find it expedient, from Time to Time may and they are hereby empowered to contract and agree with any Person or Persons, for the lodging, keeping, maintaining, and employing all or any such Poor, and providing Materials

Guardians may take the Benefit of the Labour of the Poor.

Materials to set them to work, provided such Contract or Agreement be not made for a longer Time than until the first General Meeting of the said Guardians next after *Easter* in every Year.

Punish
disorderly
Persons.

LXVI. And be it further enacted, That if any Poor Person, maintained in the Workhouse of the said Parish, shall embezzle or purloin any of the Apparel provided for any of the Poor, or of the Goods or Provisions provided for or belonging to the said Workhouse, or any Materials for Work, or shall refuse to work, or shall be guilty of profane cursing or swearing, or otherwise misbehave himself or herself, it shall and may be lawful for the said Guardians of the Poor to cause such Person or Persons so offending to be punished in such Workhouse, either by Confinement or Distinction in Dress or Diet, as they may think will best tend to remedy and prevent such Offences for the future.

Encourage-
ment to the
industrious
Poor.

LXVII. And to the end that all the Poor in the said Workhouse may be encouraged to apply themselves with Diligence to the Labour or Task in which they may be employed, be it further enacted, That out of the Profits arising from the Work which shall be done by the Poor, such Rewards shall be distributed to the industrious and skilful, in Proportion to the Quality, Quantity, and Perfection of their Work, as to the said Guardians shall appear reasonable and expedient.

For receiving
distressed
Children.

LXVIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Guardians of the Poor, from Time to Time, to cause such Child or Children as shall be under the Age of Fifteen Years, who shall be found wandering or begging within the said Parish, to be taken up and sent to the said Workhouse, there to be kept, detained, and employed, until he or she shall have attained the Age of Fifteen Years, unless he or she shall be bound Apprentice, or be removed to the Place of his or her legal Settlement; and also to cause any Person who shall be found wandering, begging, or misbehaving himself or herself within the said Parish, to be sent to the said Workhouse, there to be detained, kept, and employed for so long a Time as the said Guardians of the Poor shall direct, or until he or she shall be discharged by due Course of Law; and in case of any Misbehaviour of any such Person, the same Methods of Punishment may be used with them as the said Guardians are hereby authorized to use with respect to any other Person within the said Workhouse.

Security for
Bastard Chil-
dren.

LXIX. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Guardians of the Poor, present at any Weekly or General Meeting, to take, accept, and receive any Bond or Security from any Person or Persons for indemnifying the Parish against any Claim or Demand to be made by the said Parish for the Maintenance of any Bastard Child or Children respectively.

Guardians
may sue on
Bonds given
to former
Officers, and
may take
Bonds in fu-
ture in their
own Names.

LXX. And be it further enacted, That all Bonds and Securities, which have already been given to any Churchwarden or Churchwardens, Overseer or Overseers, or other Officer or Officers of the said Parish, for indemnifying such Parish from any Charge that may arise from Bastard Children, shall, from and after the passing of this Act, be vested in the said Guardians, who shall and may, and they are hereby authorized

authorized to sue on such Bonds and Securities given heretofore or hereafter to be given, as aforesaid, for the Purpose of recovering the Penalties thereon in the Name of their Clerk or Clerks for the Time being; any Law, Statute, or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

LXXI. And whereas divers Persons belonging to, and who ought by the Laws now in force to be relieved by the said Parish of *Saint Luke*, are found wandering and begging in the said Parish, and committing Acts of Vagrancy, and misbehaving themselves by exposing in an indecent Manner their Persons or Limbs: And whereas divers Persons, by reason of their idle and disorderly Living, do neglect or refuse to maintain, or do desert their Families, not being able to maintain themselves; and if Power were given to apprehend such Persons, and send them to the Workhouse of the said Parish, there to be dealt with in Manner herein mentioned, it might tend to enure them to a Habit of Industry, and make them useful to the Public: Be it therefore enacted, That the said Guardians shall, and they hereby have Power and Authority to receive and to order and compel all and every Person found wandering and begging in the said Parish, or committing Acts of Vagrancy, and also all and every idle and disorderly Person or Persons refusing to maintain, or deserting their Families, not being able to maintain themselves, and who shall belong to, or ought by any Law now in force to be relieved and provided for by the said Parish, to come into, work, dwell, and inhabit the said Workhouse, and to detain, keep, maintain, and employ all such respective poor Persons therein, so long as it shall not appear to the said Guardians on the Part of any such poor Persons, that any of them respectively are of Ability, or can otherwise be sufficiently maintained and provided for without the Aid and Provision of the said Guardians, and shall have Power and Authority to employ, set, and compel all such Poor, who shall be received or come into, dwell, and be in the said Workhouse during such their Abode and Residence there, and whilst maintained by the said Guardians to do, execute, and perform such Work, Labour, Business, and Employ as the said Guardians at any of their weekly Meetings shall think and judge such respective Poor are and shall be able and fit to do and perform for the Use of the said Parish; and to detain and keep all such Persons found wandering and begging in the said Parish, and committing Acts of Vagrancy, and also all such idle and disorderly Persons who shall have so deserted, threatened to leave, or neglected, or refused to maintain his or their Families, and to set each of them to work in such Workhouse during such Time, and until every Person, by his or her Work or Labour there shall have got and raised so much Money, above their Maintenance, as shall be sufficient to repay and reimburse to the said Guardians, the Charges and Expences they shall have sustained in the maintaining and providing for every such Person and his or her Family; and in case such Person shall not, by his or her Work and Labour have gained so much Money as shall be sufficient to reimburse the said Guardians the Charges and Expences of having maintained him or her, or any of his or her Family as aforesaid, and shall neglect or refuse to apply himself or herself to such reasonable

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able Work or Labour as shall be given to him or her by the Master or Mistress of such Workhouse, under the Directions aforesaid, then the said Guardians at any of their weekly Meetings, shall have Power to detain and keep such Person within such Workhouse to hard Labour for the Space of Twenty-eight Days.

Paupers to be removed by Beadles instead of Overseers.

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

Punishment of Persons for buying or taking into Pawn any Cloaths, &c.

LXXIII. And whereas many Persons maintained and cloathed in the Workhouse of the said Parish, pawn and dispose of their Cloaths and Apparel, and the Goods and Chattels deposited in or belonging to the said Workhouse, and by the Laws now in being no Punishment can be inflicted on them, or on the Person or Persons buying or receiving the same into Pawn; be it therefore further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall knowingly buy, pawn, or receive into pawn, or secrete any of the Cloaths or Wearing Apparel of any of the Poor who are, or shall be received into and maintained in the Workhouse of the said Parish, or any of the Goods or Materials carried into the said Workhouse to be wrought up, manufactured, or used by the Poor there, or any of the Goods and Furniture of the said Workhouse, or shall receive or buy any of the Provisions allotted to or provided for the Poor in the said Workhouse, or shall be aiding or assisting therein, every Person so offending shall forfeit, for every such Offence, a Sum not exceeding the Sum of Twenty Pounds, upon Conviction, on Oath, before one or more Justice or Justices of the Peace acting in or for the said County of *Middlesex*; which Penalty shall be levied by Warrant under the Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals of the said Justice or Justices, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Offender or Offenders; and one Moiety of such Penalty shall be paid to the Informer or Informers, and the other Moiety to the Treasurer of the Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish, to be applied by him as the said Guardians shall direct, in Aid of the Rates for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish; and if no Goods or Chattels can be found whereon to make such Distress, or if the said Penalty shall not be forthwith paid, then, and in such Case, such Justice or Justices shall and may, by Warrant under his or their Hand and Seal, or Hands

Hands and Seals, commit such Offender or Offenders to the House of Correction for the said County, there to be kept to hard Labour for any Time not exceeding Three Calendar Months, unless such Penalty, and all Expences, shall be sooner paid and satisfied.

LXXIV. And be it further enacted, That all and every the Messuages, or Tenements, Poorhouses, Workhouses, Edifices, Buildings, Lands, Hereditaments, Monies and Securities for Monies, Rates, Assessments, and Arrears of Rates and Assessments, Goods, Chattels, and Effects, which by virtue of the said recited Acts, or one of them, the Persons acting in the Execution thereof, and their Successors, or any other Person or Persons whomsoever, were entitled unto or possessed of, in Trust for the Parishioners or Vestrymen of the said Parish, or which were vested in such Persons and their Successors, or other Person or Persons whomsoever, for and towards the Relief, Maintenance, Use, and Benefit of the Poor of the said Parish, or for any other Purpose whatsoever in which the said Parish is interested, shall, from and immediately after the passing thereof, be vested in, possessed by, paid, delivered, and belong to the Guardians of the Poor acting in the Execution of this Act, and their Successors, as fully, effectually, and beneficially, and in as large and ample a Manner and Form to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, as they the said Persons, acting in Execution of the said recited Acts, or any of them, and their Successors or other Person or Persons, were entitled to or possessed of such Messuages or Tenements, Poorhouses, Workhouses, Edifices, Buildings, Lands, Hereditaments, Monies and Securities for Monies, Rates, Assessments, and Arrears of Rates and Assessments, Goods, Chattels, and Effects, or as the same respectively were vested in such Persons, acting in Execution of the said recited Acts, or any of them, and their Successors, or other Person or Persons, but subject nevertheless to be used, possessed, applied, and disposed of, only upon the Trusts, and for the Uses and Purposes, and in the Manner by and in this Act directed, declared, and appointed.

Estate and Effects in Possession of the Churchwardens, &c. before this Act, for the Use of the Poor, vested in the Guardians.

LXXV. And be it further enacted, That the Property of all and every the Goods, Chattels, Furniture, Provisions, Cloaths, Linen and Wearing Apparel, Tools, Utensils, Materials, and Things whatsoever, had, and to be had, bought, procured, and provided for the Use of the Poor of the said Parish, and for carrying into Execution the several Purposes of this Act, shall be, and the same are hereby vested in the Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, and their Successors, for the Purposes of this Act, who are hereby empowered to bring or cause to be brought any Action or Actions, or to prefer or order the preferring of any Bills of Indictment against any Person or Persons who shall steal, take, or carry away or detain any or any Part of such Goods, Chattels, Furniture, Provisions, Cloaths, Linen, and Wearing Apparel, Utensils, Materials, and Things whatsoever, the Property of which said Goods, Chattels, Furniture, Provision, Cloaths, Linen and Wearing Apparel, Tools, Utensils, Materials, and Things, shall be laid in every such Action and Indictment to be the Property of "The Guardians of the Poor of the Parish of *Saint Luke*, in the County of *Middlesex*," and without mentioning or specifying the Name or Names of all or any of the said Guardians.

Furniture, Apparel, &c. provided for the Poor vested in Guardians.

LXXVI. And

Donations
and other
Monies to be
paid to the
Treasurer.

LXXVI. And be it further enacted, That all Gifts, Donations, Benefactions, and Sums of Money whatsoever, now payable, or which shall hereafter become payable, for and to the Use of the Poor of the said Parish not being directed, or liable to be applied for the Support of any private or particular Poor or Charity, or by the respective Donors, or otherwise, particularly appropriated, and not being Sacramental Money, shall from Time to Time, from and after the Appointment of the said Guardians of the Poor, be paid into the Hands of their Treasurer or Treasurers for the Time being, for the Use of the Poor of the said Parish to be applied in Aid of the Rate for the Relief of the Poor thereof, unless the said Guardians shall think proper, from Time to Time, to appropriate and apply the same, or some Part thereof, to and in relieving or assisting any indigent, aged, or industrious Parishioners who have not become chargeable to the said Parish.

Power to
compel the
Churchwardens to account.

LXXVII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen or Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish, to meet in the Vestry Room, or Parish Church of the said Parish once in every Year, between the First Day of *May*, and the Thirteenth Day of *June*, or oftener, if thereunto required, by Notice in Writing signed by Nine of the Vestrymen, or Five of the Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish, and delivered to the Vestry Clerk or Clerks of the said Parish, Notice of which Meeting shall be given in the Manner hereinbefore directed for Notices of General Meetings of the Guardians of the Poor and of the Vestrymen respectively to be given and published, and the Publication of which Notice the said Vestry Clerk or Clerks are hereby authorized and empowered to direct; at which Meetings the Person or Persons having been or being Churchwarden or Churchwardens of the said Parish, for the past or the current Year, shall and they and each of them are hereby required to deliver in to such Meeting, a just and true Account or Accounts, in Writing, of all Monies which they, or either of them, shall have received or paid on Account of their said Offices respectively, and every Department thereof, and shall produce and shew all the Vouchers of and for the Payments by them charged to be made, and shall, if thereunto required, verify such Account upon Oath, before One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace, acting in and for the said County, in Manner hereinbefore provided, and which Oath any and every such Justice is hereby empowered to administer: And if the said Person or Persons, having been or being Churchwarden or Churchwardens of the said Parish, for the past or the current Year, or either of them, shall refuse or neglect to render such Account or Accounts, and to verify the same as aforesaid, every such Person for every such Neglect or Refusal shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds, one Moiety thereof to the Treasurer to the Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, to be applied in Aid of the Rate for the Relief of the Poor, and the other Moiety to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, by Action of Debt, or on the Case, wherein no Effoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Impar lance shall be allowed; and if upon the Examination of such Account it shall appear that such Person or Persons, having been the Churchwarden or Churchwardens of the said Parish for the past Year, have expended more than they have received, then it shall and may be lawful for the Guardians

dians of the Poor of the said Parish; and they are hereby required, by and out of the Rates hereby directed to be raised, to repay and reimburse to such Person or Persons, all such Balances as shall appear upon the taking of such Account, to be due and owing to him or them; and if any of the Inhabitants of the said Parish, rated and assessed to the Relief of the Poor, shall, in Writing, demand from any or either of the said Persons having been Churchwardens for the past Year, a Copy or Copies of, or Extracts from such Accounts, the same shall be by such Person or Persons, delivered to him or them so demanding the same, within Fourteen Days after the same shall be demanded, he or they paying One Shilling and Sixpence for every Three Hundred Words contained in such Copies, or Extracts of such Accounts so required and delivered, on the Delivery thereof; and if any such Person or Persons shall refuse to give such Inhabitant a true Copy or Extract of and from such Account, in Manner before directed, every such Person or Persons shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds, to be recovered and applied as is hereinbefore directed for the Recovery and Application of the Penalties hereby imposed on any and every Person having been or being Churchwardens of the said Parish, refusing or neglecting to render any Account as hereinbefore directed.

LXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Guardians of the Poor, at any General Meeting, to give Directions to such Person or Persons as they may think proper, to pull down, alter, and rebuild, and repair, or to cause to be pulled down, altered, and rebuilt, and repaired, the whole or any Part or Parts of the Workhouse of the said Parish, for the better receiving, maintaining, and employing the Poor of the said Parish therein. Workhouse may be repaired.

LXXXIX. And be it further enacted, That the said Guardians of the Poor, at any of their General Meetings to be held in pursuance of this Act, shall and may, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to contract or agree with any Person or Persons whatsoever for pulling down, rebuilding, altering, repairing, finishing, or completing the said Workhouse; and also to purchase or provide, either by Contract or otherwise, from Time to Time, such Furniture, Goods, Chattels, Provisions, Cloathing, Utensils, and Materials whatsoever, as they shall think proper for the effectual setting to work, receiving, employing, maintaining, cloathing, and providing for, in every respect, the Poor of the said Parish, of what Age, Sex, or Condition soever they be, and shall pay, or order the Payment of the Monies due, or to become due upon any such Contracts, Agreements, or Purchases, to the Person or Persons entitled to receive the same, by and out of all or any Monies which shall or may be paid to or be received by them, by virtue of this Act. Contracts may be entered into.

LXXX. Provided always, That previous to the Day appointed for the Meeting of the said Guardians of the Poor for the making of any Contracts, Ten Days Notice of such Meeting to make such Contracts, shall be given in some of the Public Newspapers, expressing the Nature, Objects, and Conditions of each of such Contracts, in order that any Person or Persons willing to undertake the same, may make Notice to be given of Meetings for making Contracts.

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Proposals

Proposals for that Purpose, to be offered and presented to the said Guardians of the Poor, at the Time and Place mentioned in such Notice.

No contract valid till confirmed by a subsequent Meeting.

LXXXI. Provided also, That no Contract or Agreement whatsoever, made by the said Guardians of the Poor, shall be good, valid, binding, and effective, until the same shall be approved by, and confirmed at their next or subsequent Meeting, to be held in pursuance of this Act, and signed by the Chairman presiding at such Meeting.

All Contracts to be entered in Books.

LXXXII. And be it further enacted, That the said Guardians of the Poor shall cause all Contracts, or Agreements, which shall in any wise relate to the carrying into Execution the Purposes of this Act, and all Receipts and Payments, Debts and Credits, and every Matter or Thing relative thereto, and also Minutes of their Proceedings, to be fairly entered by their Clerk or Clerks in a Book or Books to be provided for those Purposes.

Guardians and Vestrymen to bear their own Expences.

LXXXIII. And be it further enacted, That at all Meetings to be held in pursuance of this Act, the Guardians of the Poor and Vestrymen present at such Meetings, shall pay and defray their own Expences, unless the Vestry of the said Parish shall from Time to Time allow any Sum or Sums of Money to be expended out of the Monies to be raised by virtue of this Act at any of such Meetings, and that a List of all Sums of Money, the Expenditure whereof at such Meetings the Vestry shall from Time to Time allow, shall be signed by the Vestry Clerk or Clerks, and printed and kept affixed in some public Part of the Vestry Room of the said Parish.

Clerk to deliver Copies of Accounts after Demand.

LXXXIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for all and every the Annuitants and Creditors of the said Parish, and all other Persons, rated to the Rates or Assessments made in the said Parish for the Relief of the Poor thereof, at all convenient Times to peruse and inspect, and to make and take Extracts from all Rates or Rate Books, and all other Book or Books, Accounts, Vouchers, Papers, and Writings whatsoever, which have been or shall be kept under any of the said recited Acts, or under this present Act, in relation to the Affairs of the said Parish in the Custody or Power of the Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, without Fee or Reward; and that the Clerk or Clerks to the said Guardians, within Fourteen Days after Demand made thereof in Writing, signed by any one of the Persons before mentioned, and delivered to, or left for him, at his usual or last Place of Abode, shall make and deliver, or cause to be made and delivered a Copy or Copies of all and every such Book and Books, Accounts, Vouchers, Papers, and Writings whatsoever, or of any Part or Parts thereof, to the Person or Persons demanding the same, he or they paying for the same, on the Delivery thereof, at and after the Rate of One Shilling and Sixpence for every Three Hundred Words contained in such Copy or Copies so demanded and delivered as aforesaid: And in case any such Clerk shall at any Time refuse or wilfully neglect to make and deliver, or cause to be made and delivered such Copy or Copies of all and every such Book and Books, Accounts, Vouchers, and Papers, and of every Part thereof respectively, to the Person or Persons demanding

demanding the same, within Fourteen Days after Demand thereof as aforesaid, then every such Clerk shall, for every such Refusal or Neglect, forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds, one Moiety thereof to the Treasurer to the Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, to be applied in Aid of the Rate for the Relief of the Poor; and the other Moiety to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, by Action of Debt, or on the Case, wherein no Essoign, Protection, Wager of Law, nor more than One Imparance shall be allowed.

LXXXV. And be it further enacted, That the said Guardians of the Poor, and their Treasurer for the Time being, shall within Two Months after *Easter* in each and every Year, cause their Clerk or Clerks to transcribe from the Books of Account kept by them of and for the Use of the said Parish, a full and true Abstract of the Accounts of all the Monies received and paid by them during the preceding Year; distinguishing for what such Monies were received and paid; and shewing in what Sum the said Parish, at the Expiration of the Year, was in debt or entitled to credit; and which Abstract of the Accounts shall contain an Account of the Numbers of Paupers at the End of each Calendar Month, during such preceding Year, inhabiting in the Workhouse of the said Parish; and of the Numbers of all other Persons relieved during such preceding Year, distinguishing casual from other Relief; and also an Account of all Rates made, and of the Deficiencies in the Collection thereof during the preceding Year, and distinguishing the Rates made, and the Deficiencies arising in each Liberty of the said Parish; and which Abstract of the Accounts shall be printed, and every Inhabitant of the said Parish rated to the Relief of the Poor thereof, on paying One Shilling, shall receive one such Abstract of the Accounts, from the Clerk or Clerks to the said Guardians; and every such Guardian, Treasurer, and Clerk, who shall neglect or refuse to do as above directed, shall for every Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds, one Moiety thereof to the Treasurer to the Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, and the other Moiety to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, by Action of Debt or on the Case, wherein no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than one Imparance shall be allowed.

Guardians to
print Ab-
stract of
Accounts
annually.

LXXXVI. And be it further enacted, That the Guardians of the Poor to be appointed under this Act, and the Vestry of the said Parish respectively, shall and may sue and be sued, and take all Bonds and Securities in the Name or Names of their Clerk or Clerks for the Time being, to be appointed under this Act, and that no Action or Suit which may be brought by or against the said Guardians of the Poor, or any of them, or against any of the Vestrymen of the said Parish, in relation to the said Act, in the Name of their Clerk or Clerks, shall abate or be discontinued by the Death or Removal of such Clerk or Clerks, or by the Act of him, or them, without the Consent of the said Guardians of the Poor, or of the Vestry, as the Case may be, but the Clerk or Clerks, for the Time being, shall always be deemed Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, Defendant or Defendants, in every Action or Suit, as the Case may be: Provided always, that all and every such Clerk or Clerks, shall be reimbursed out of the Monies to be

Guardians of
the Poor to
sue and be
sued in the
Name of the
Clerk.

raised by virtue of this Act, all such Costs, Damages, and reasonable Expences as he or they shall be put unto or become charged or chargeable with, by Reason of his or their being so made Plaintiff or Defendant, or Plaintiffs or Defendants as aforesaid, provided that the said Action, or Defence, shall be prosecuted, carried on, and continued with the Consent of the said Guardians of the Poor, or of the Vestry, as the Case may be.

Inhabitants
not deemed
incompetent
Witnesses.

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

Orders to be
entered in
Books and
good Evi-
dence.

LXXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That all Acts, Orders, or Proceedings of the said Vestrymen, and of the Guardians of the Poor, at their Meetings, shall be entered in a Book or Books, to be kept by the Clerk or Clerks for that Purpose, and signed by the Chairman for the Time being at their next Meeting, and all Acts, Orders, and Proceedings, shall then be deemed and taken to be original Acts, Orders, and Proceedings, and such Books shall and may be produced and read as Evidence in all Courts whatsoever of all such Acts, Orders, and Proceedings.

Laws relat-
ing to
Churchwar-
dens to be in
force where
not altered
by this Act.

LXXXIX. And be it further enacted, That all and every the Laws relating to the Office of Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, and for the Relief and providing for the Poor, shall still continue in force within the said Parish, except where the same are altered, or other Provisions are made in relation thereto by this Act.

How Justices
are to pro-
ceed on Com-
plaint of
Guardians.

XC. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases, where One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace is or are, or may be empowered by Law to proceed on the Complaint of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of any Parish or Parishes, or of any of them, it shall and may be lawful for such Justice or Justices of the Peace, and he and they are hereby required to proceed on the Complaint of any Three of the said Guardians, or of any Person or Persons whom any Three or more of them shall appoint for that Purpose, in such and the like Manner, to all Intents and Purposes, as if such Complaint had been made by such Churchwardens and Overseers, or any of them.

Justices may
act notwith-
standing
their being
Guardians.

XCI. And be it further enacted, That any Justice of the Peace in and for the said County of *Middlesex*, shall and may do any Act or Deed relative to the Office of a Justice of the Peace, hereby directed or otherwise notwithstanding he shall or may at the same Time be a Guardian of the Poor of the said Parish, for carrying into Execution the several Purposes of this Act, and shall and may act in the Execution of this Act, notwithstanding he shall be an Inhabitant of the said Parish, or pay the Rates for the Relief of the Poor thereof; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Fines and
Penalties
how to be

XCII. And be it further enacted, That all Penalties, Forfeitures, and Fines, by this Act inflicted, or imposed, or authorized to be imposed, (the Manner.

Manner of levying and recovering whereof is not herein otherwise directed), shall, upon Proof of the Offences respectively before any One or more Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Middlesex*, either by the Confession of the Party or Parties offending, or by the Information of One or more Witness or Witnesses, upon Oath, (which Oath such Justice or Justices of the Peace is and are hereby empowered and required to administer without Fee or Reward), be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Party or Parties offending, by Warrant or Warrants under the Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals of such Justice or Justices, which Warrant or Warrants such Justice or Justices is and are hereby empowered and required to grant; and the Penalties and Forfeitures when recovered, after rendering the Overplus, if any there be, upon Demand, to the Party or Parties whose Goods and Chattels shall be so distrained and sold, (the Costs, Charges, and Expences of making such Distress, and the keeping and selling thereof being first deducted) shall be paid to the Treasurer for the Time being, to the said Guardians of the Poor, and applied towards the Purposes of this Act; and in aid of the Rate for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish, but, nevertheless, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Guardians, at any Meeting to be held in pursuance of this Act, to order their Treasurer for the Time being to pay such Part of the said Penalties to the Informer, as they shall judge reasonable, not exceeding one Moiety thereof; and in every such Case, where Distress is directed to be made, levied, or taken by this Act, and sufficient Distress shall not be found, and such Penalties, Forfeitures, and Fines shall not be forthwith paid, it shall and may be lawful for such Justice or Justices of the Peace, and he and they is and are hereby authorized and required, by Warrant or Warrants under his or their Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals, to cause such Offender or Offenders to be committed to the Common Gaol, or House of Correction, of the County of *Middlesex*, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, for any Time not exceeding Three Months for the first Offence, and for the Second, and every other Offence of the same kind, for any Time not exceeding Six Months, unless such Penalties, Forfeitures, or Fines, and all reasonable Charges and Expences attending the same, shall be sooner paid and satisfied.

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

‘ **B**E it remembered, That on this Day
 ‘ of in the Year of our Lord
 ‘ *A. B.* is duly convicted before
 ‘ of His Majesty’s Justices of
 ‘ the Peace, for the County of *Middlesex*, of having [*Here state the*
 ‘ *Offence against the Act, as the Case may be*] contrary to the Form of
 ‘ the Statute in that Case made and provided; and I [*or we, as the*
 ‘ *Case may be*] do declare and adjudge that the said *A. B.* hath forfeited
 ‘ for his [*or her, as the Case may be*] said Offence the Sum of
 ‘ Given under my Hand [*or Hand and Seal, or our Hands, or, our*
 ‘ *Hands and Seals, as the Case may be*] the Day and Year first above
 ‘ written.’

[*Loc. & Per.*]

21 A—C

XCIV. And

Distress not
to be deem-
ed unlawful
for want of
Form,

nor Party
be deemed a
Trespasser,
ab initio, for
subsequent
Irregularity.

XCIV. And be it further enacted, 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 or Parties making the same, be deemed a Trespasser or Trespassers, on Account of any Defect or Want of Form in any Proceedings relating thereto; nor shall the Party or Parties be deemed a Trespasser or Trespassers, *ab initio*, on account of any Irregularity which shall be afterwards done by the Party or Parties distraining, but the Person or Persons aggrieved by such Irregularity, may recover full Satisfaction for the special Damage incurred by an Action on the Case.

Plaintiff not
to recover if
Tender of
Amends hath
been made.

XCV. Provided always, That no Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall recover in any Action to be commenced against any Person or Persons for any Thing done in pursuance of this Act, unless Notice in Writing of such intended Action shall have been given to the Vestry Clerk or Clerks of the said Parish, or left at his or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, Twenty-one Days before such Action shall be commenced, signed by the Attorney for the intended Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, specifying the Cause or Causes of such Action; nor shall any Plaintiff or Plaintiffs recover in such Action for Satisfaction for special Damage or otherwise, or for any such Irregularity, Trespass, or other Proceedings, if Tender of sufficient Amends shall be made by or on the Behalf of the Party or Parties who shall have committed, or caused to be committed every or any such Irregularity, Trespass, or wrongful Proceeding, before such Action shall be brought; and in case no such Tender shall have been made, it shall and may be lawful for the Defendant or Defendants, in any such Action, by leave of the Court where such Action shall depend, at any Time before Issue be joined in such Action, to pay into such Court such Sum of Money as he, she, or they shall think fit, whereupon such Proceedings, or Order and Judgment, shall be had, made, or given in and by such Court, as in other Actions where the Defendant is allowed to pay Money into Court.

Persons ag-
grieved may
appeal to the
Quarter or
General
Sessions.

XCVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by any Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or by any Bye-Law, Rule, or Order made in pursuance of this Act, or any other Matter or Thing done, or directed to be done in pursuance of this Act, such Person or Persons shall apply for Relief to the Guardians of the Poor of the said Parish, at any Meeting to be held within Fourteen Days next after Demand made of such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or next after any such Matter or Thing done and committed by, or by an Order of the said Guardians, by which such Person or Persons shall think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved; and the said Guardians are hereby authorized and empowered to give such Relief in the Premises as to them shall seem necessary; and if such Person or Persons shall not be satisfied with the Determination of such Guardians, he, she, or they may appeal to the Quarter or General Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the County of *Middlesex*, as the Case shall be, within Seven Weeks next after such Determination of the said Guardians shall be made; such Appellant first giving, or causing to be given, Seven Days Notice

Notice at the least, in Writing, of his; her or their Intention to bring such Appeal, and of the Matter thereof, to the Clerk or Clerks of the said Guardians, or leaving such Notice for him or them, at his or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, and within Two Days next after such Notice, entering into a Recognizance before one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County, with Two sufficient Sureties, in the Sum of Forty Pounds, conditioned to try such Appeal, and to abide the Order of and to pay such Costs as shall be awarded by the Justices at such Quarter or General Sessions, and the said Justices at such Quarter or General Sessions of the Peace for the said County, upon due Proof of such Notice being given as aforesaid, and of the entering into such Recognizance, shall hear and determine the Causes and Matters of such Appeal in a summary Way, and award such Costs to the Parties appealing, or appealed against, as they the said Justices shall think proper; and the said Justices may then and there, if they see Cause, mitigate any Forfeiture or Fine, and may order any Money to be returned which shall have been levied in pursuance of any such Bye Law, Rule, or Order, and award such further Satisfaction to be made to the Party injured as they shall judge proper; and the Determination of such Justices, at their Quarter or General Sessions, shall be final, binding, and conclusive.

XCVII. And be it further enacted, That no Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, nor any Proceeding to be had touching the Conviction of any Offender or Offenders against this Act, or any Order made, or any other Matter or Thing to be done or transacted in or relating to the Execution of this Act, or in pursuance or by virtue thereof, shall be vacated or quashed for want of Form, or be removed, or removable, by *Certiorari*, or by any other Writ or Process whatsoever, into any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Proceedings not to be quashed for want of Form.

Nor removable by *Certiorari*.

XCVIII. And be it further enacted, That no Action or Suit shall be commenced against any Person or Persons for any Thing done in pursuance of this Act, or after Six Calendar Months next after the Fact committed, for which such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall be so brought, and all such Actions or Suits shall be laid and tried in the County of *Middlesex*, or City of *London*, and not in any other County, City, or Place; and that the Defendant or Defendants in such Action or Actions, Suit and Suits, and every of them, may plead the General Issue, and give this Act, and the Special Matter in Evidence, at any Trial or Trials which shall be had thereupon, and that the Matter or Thing for or on which such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall be brought, was done in pursuance, and by the Authority of this Act; and if the said Matter or Thing shall appear to have been so done; or if it shall appear that such Action or Suit was brought before Twenty-one Days Notice thereof was given as before directed, or that sufficient Satisfaction was made or tendered or paid into Court as aforesaid, or if any such Action or Suit shall not be commenced within the Time before for that Purpose limited, or shall be laid in any other County, City,

Treble Costs.

City, or Place than as aforesaid, then the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants therein; and if a Verdict shall be found for such Defendant or Defendants, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs in such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall become nonsuited, or suffer a Discontinuance of such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, or if upon a Demurrer or Demurrers in such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, Judgment shall be given for the Defendant or Defendants therein, then and in either of the Cases aforesaid, such Defendant or Defendants shall have Treble Costs, and shall have such Remedy and Remedies for recovering the same, as any Defendant or Defendants may have for the Recovery of his, her, or their Costs in other Cases by Law.

How the Expences of this Act shall be paid.

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

Public Act.

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

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