



ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO SEXTO

GEORGI II. REGIS.

Cap. lvii.

An Act to explain and amend an Act of His present Majesty, for paving, cleansing, lighting, and other-ways improving the Town of *Belfast*, in the County of *Antrim*, and for better effecting those Purposes. [20th June 1816.]

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Fortieth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for paving, cleansing, and lighting and improving the several Streets, Squares, Lanes, and Passages within the Town of Belfast, in the County of Antrim, and for removing and preventing all Encroachments, Obstructions, and Annoyances therein; and also for establishing and maintaining a nightly Watch throughout the said Town and Precincts thereof; and for other Purposes*; and it was by the said Act provided, that the Sovereign and Burgeses of the Town and Borough of *Belfast* for the Time being, together with Twelve Persons therein named, and their Successors, to be from Time to Time elected in the Manner therein mentioned, should be and they were thereby constituted and appointed Commissioners for the Purposes of carrying the said Act into Execution: And whereas by the said Act it was provided, that the Committee elected and chosen under the said Act, or the major Part of them, should and they were thereby authorized and required to meet in the Vestry Room, or such other Place as is usually resorted to for transacting the Parish Business of the said Town of *Belfast*, within One Month after the passing of the said Act, and also on the Second *Thursday* in [Local.] 14 F January

January in every Year afterwards, and also at such other Time or Times, and as often as might be necessary, such the Time of Meeting to be appointed by the Commissioners, and they or the major Part of them should from Time to Time make one or more equal, fair, and impartial Rate or Rates, Applotment of Applotments, upon all and every Person and Persons who do or shall inhabit, hold, use, occupy, possess, or enjoy any Land, Ground, House, Lodging, Shop, Wharf, Warehouse, Coach-house, Stable, Cellar, Vault, Building, Counting-house, or Place of carrying on Business, either in Copartnership or otherwise, or Hereditaments whatsoever within the said Town of *Belfast*, or the Precincts thereof, according to the Substance or Ability of such Persons respectively, for the Purposes of paying, cleansing, lighting, and improving the several Streets, Squares, Lanes, and other Places within the same, and for defraying the principal Money which might be borrowed upon the Credit of the Rates or Applotments, and the Interest thereof; and also the Expence of removing all Annoyances and Obstructions therefrom, and for all other the necessary Purposes of the said Act, previous to the Time of making such Rate or Rates, Applotment or Applotments, the said Committee were required to take a certain Oath in the said Act particularly mentioned: And whereas it is expedient that certain Parts of the said Act should be repealed, and that further and other Powers and Authorities should be given for more effectually carrying the Purposes of the said Act into Execution, and for better improving and regulating the Police of the said Town: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this Act so much of the said former Act as relates to the making of the Rate or Rates, Applotment or Applotments therein mentioned, and the Oath directed to be taken by the said Committee, shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

So much of former Act as relates to making the Rates, repealed.

Clause limiting the Salaries of Firemen repealed.

H. And whereas it is by the said recited Act enacted, that from and after the passing thereof it should and might be lawful to and for the said Commissioners, and they were thereby required to provide a good and sufficient Fire Engine or Fire Engines, with Pipes, Buckets, and all other Implements necessary for working the same, and to appoint such Persons to attend and work the same at such yearly Salaries as the said Commissioners should think proper, provided that such Salaries should not exceed in the Whole the Sum of Ten Pounds for each Fire Engine, such Salaries and other the Expences attending the same to be applotted and levied as other Taxes were therein directed to be levied: And whereas the Sum thereby limited to be paid by the said Commissioners by way of Salary to the Persons employed in the Care of such Engine has been found insufficient; be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Commissioners shall have full Power, and they are hereby authorized to pay, out of the Monies to be levied and raised by virtue of this Act, whatever Sum or Sums of Money they may think fit and proper for the working and preserving such Fire Engines by the said Act directed to be provided, any Thing in the said recited Act to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

III. And whereas by the said recited Act it is enacted, that when and as often as the said Commissioners, or any of them, or their or any of their Successors, to be elected and appointed Commissioners in Manner therein-after mentioned, should depart this Life, or should resign, or refuse to act as a Commissioner, or should cease to be a resident Householder or resident Householders within the said Town of *Belfast*, or within the Precincts thereof, then and in any of the said Cases, and as often as the same should happen, the Sovereign of the said Town for the Time being should and he was thereby required to give Fourteen Days Public Notice thereof in Writing, posted on the Market House in the said Town, and to summon in such Notice all the Inhabitants of the said Town who should stand assessed to the Parish Rates at the Sum of Twenty Shillings, to meet upon a certain Day, and at a certain Hour and Place, to be appointed by him in such Notice, for the Election of a Successor or Successors to fill the Vacancy or Vacancies occasioned by such Death, Resignation, or Refusal to act as a Commissioner or Commissioners of such Person or Persons, or by his or their ceasing to be a resident Householder or resident Householders as aforesaid: And by the said recited Act it was further enacted, that Committee Men should be elected and chosen; which Provisions, as they stand, have been attended with great Inconvenience; be it therefore enacted, That from and immediately after the passing of this Act, in case of any future Election for a Commissioner occasioned by any of the Means aforesaid, all and every Person and Persons who shall be rated and assessed by the said Assessors or Valuers under this present Act, for One Year previous to such Election, as paying the Sum of Four Pounds *per Annum*, shall be entitled to vote at the Election of any Commissioner; and in case of any future Election for a Committee Man, all and every Person and Persons who shall be so rated and assessed, for One Year previous to such Election, as paying the Sum of Forty Shillings *per Annum*, shall be entitled to vote at the Election of any Committee Man; and that no Person or Persons who shall not stand rated and assessed for the Period and to the Amount herein-before specified shall be entitled to vote at the Election of any Commissioner or Committee Man, any Thing in this Act or in the said recited Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

New Commissioners and Committee Men how to be elected.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the Notice directed to be given by the said recited Act, respecting the Election of Commissioners, shall, instead of being posted in the Market House in the said Town, as is directed by the said recited Act, be on every future Occasion inserted in One of the Newspapers published in the said Town, and be also affixed on some conspicuous Part of the Exchange in the said Town.

Directing how Notices for the Election of Commissioners shall be given.

V. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Person who shall hereafter be appointed a Commissioner in the Execution of this Act and the said recited Act (except the Sovereign and Burgeses of the said Corporation) shall be capable or qualified, to act as such Commissioner, (except in administering the Oath herein-after next mentioned) unless at the Time of his acting he shall have been rated and assessed, and shall have paid for One Year, previous to his so acting, the Sum of Four Pounds *per Annum* to the Rates made under and by virtue of the said recited Act or of this Act, nor until such Person shall have taken and subscribed an Oath

Qualification of Commissioners.

to

to the Effect following, which Oath the said Commissioners are hereby empowered to administer; (that is to say),

Oath.

‘ I *A. B.* do swear [*or affirm, as the Case may require*], That I will truly, faithfully, impartially, and honestly, according to the best of my Skill and Knowledge, execute the several Powers and Authorities reposed in me as a Commissioner by an Act passed in the Fifty-sixth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act* [*here insert the Title of this Act,*] or by an Act passed in the Fortieth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act* [*here insert the Title of the Act of Fortieth George the Third*], and that I will judge and determine upon all Appeals, and all other Matters and Things which shall be brought before me as a Commissioner under the said Acts, or either of them, without Favour or Affection, Prejudice or Malice. ‘ So help me GOD.’

Nor shall any Person be capable of acting as a Commissioner in the Execution of this Act in any Case where he shall be concerned in Interest; and if any Person hereby declared incapable or not qualified to be or act as a Commissioner in the Execution of this Act shall nevertheless act as such, every Person so acting shall forfeit and pay the Sum of One hundred Pounds to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same by Action of Debt, or on the Case, or by Bill, Suit, or Information in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record, in which Action, Bill, Suit, or Information, no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than one Imparlance, shall be allowed; and that no Person who shall hereafter be appointed a Committee Man in the Execution of this Act shall be capable or qualified to act as a Committee Man in the Execution of this Act (except in administering the Oath herein-after next mentioned), unless at the Time of his acting he shall have been rated and assessed, and shall have paid for One Year previous to his so acting, the Sum of Two Pounds *per Annum* to the Rates made under and by virtue of the said recited Act or of this Act, nor until such Person shall have taken and subscribed an Oath to the Effect following, (which Oath the said Committee Men are hereby empowered to administer, (that is to say),

Qualifications of Committee Men.

Oath.

‘ I *A. B.* do swear [*or affirm, as the Case may require*], That I will truly, faithfully, impartially, and honestly, according to the best of my Skill and Knowledge, execute the Office of a Committee Man, to which I am appointed by Authority of an Act passed in the Fifty-sixth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act* [*here insert the Title of this Act*], or by an Act passed in the Fortieth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act* [*here insert the Title of the Act of Fortieth George the Third*], and that I will faithfully and honestly act therein without Favour or Affection, Prejudice, or Malice. ‘ So help me GOD.’

Nor shall any Person be capable of acting as a Committee Man in the Execution of this Act in any Case where he shall be concerned in Interest; and if any Person hereby declared incapable or not qualified to be or act as a Committee Man in the Execution of this Act shall nevertheless act as such, every Person so acting shall forfeit and pay the Sum of One hundred Pounds to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same by Action of Debt or on the Case, or by Bill, Suit, or Information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record, in which Action, Bill, Suit, or Information, no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance, shall be allowed.

VI. And

VI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Committee elected and chosen under or by virtue of the said recited Act and of this Act, and such Committee is hereby required Once, or as often in every Year as there shall be Occasion, within Ten Days after such Committee shall be thereunto required by the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, to deliver in Writing, to the Commissioners by the said recited Act. nominated and appointed, or any Five or more of them, a List, containing the Names of Four Inhabitants or Residents in the said Town of *Belfast*, whom the said Committee shall recommend as fit Persons to be Valuers of the several Messuages, Tenements, Houses, Buildings, and Hereditaments within the said Town, and the Precincts thereof now built and hereafter to be built; and that it shall thereupon be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, to judge of the Eligibility of the Inhabitants or Residents whose Names shall be so delivered in, and in their absolute Discretion either to reject such Inhabitants or Residents, or any of them, or by Writing under their Hands to approve of and appoint such Inhabitants or Residents, or any of them, to be such Assessors or Valuers as aforesaid.

Committee to name Four Inhabitants to be Valuers, whom the Commissioners may either reject or appoint.

VII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in case the Inhabitants or Residents whose Names shall be delivered in and by the said Committee in pursuance of the Requisition aforesaid, or of this present Provision, or any of them, shall be rejected by the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, then, and as often as the same shall happen, the said Commissioners shall cause immediate Notice of such Rejection to be given to the said Committee, who shall thereupon be at Liberty and are hereby required to deliver in to the said Commissioners, in Manner and for the Purpose herein-before directed, a List of as many other Inhabitants or Residents in the said Town, who shall not have been previously rejected, as shall be equal in Number to the Inhabitants or Residents who shall from Time to Time be rejected as aforesaid, until the said Commissioners shall approve of and appoint Four Inhabitants or Residents, whose Names shall be delivered in by the said Committee, to be such Assessors or Valuers as aforesaid, or until the said Committee shall have delivered in the Names of Sixteen Inhabitants or Residents, but so nevertheless that the said Committee shall deliver in every such List within Four Days after receiving from the said Commissioners such Notice as aforesaid, and so that the said Committee shall not be at Liberty to deliver in more than Sixteen Names in the Whole.

If rejected, Committee to name others not exceeding Sixteen.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That in case the said Committee shall neglect or refuse to deliver in the Names of Four Inhabitants or Residents as aforesaid, or in case the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, shall think fit to reject all or any of the Persons whose Names shall be so delivered in as ineligible, then, and as often as the same shall happen, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, and they are hereby authorized and required, by Writing under their Hands, to nominate and appoint so many Inhabitants or Residents as shall be equal in Number to the Inhabitants or Residents whose Names shall not be delivered in by the said Committee, or whose Names being so delivered in shall be rejected as aforesaid, to be such Assessors or Valuers as aforesaid, either alone or as the Case may require, in Addition to the Inhabitants or Residents whose Names shall be so delivered in, and shall be approved of as aforesaid.

If all the Sixteen are rejected, the Commissioners may appoint other Persons to be Valuers.

[Local.]

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IX. And

Duties of
Valuators.

IX. And be it further enacted, That the said Valuators or Assessors shall and they are hereby required to make Three different Classifications or Valuations of the said Messuages, Tenements, Houses, Buildings, and Hereditaments, *videlicet*, One Return of all Houses, Tenements, Buildings, and Hereditaments of the Annual Value of from Five Pounds to any Sum not exceeding Twenty Pounds; one other Return of all Houses, Tenements, Buildings, and Hereditaments of the Annual Value of from Twenty Pounds, and not exceeding Eighty Pounds, and one other Return, being the Third Classification, of all Houses, Tenements, Buildings, and Hereditaments of the Annual Value of from Eighty Pounds and upwards; and the said Commissioners shall and may from Time to Time divide the said Town into suitable and convenient Districts, and also direct and appoint the said Assessors or Valuators to such Parts of the said Town as they the said Commissioners shall think proper for the more convenient and easy Valuation of the said several Houses, Tenements, Buildings, and Hereditaments.

Committee to
make Rates.

X. And be it further enacted, That as soon as the said Valuation or Return shall be made by the said Assessors, which the said Assessors are hereby authorized and required to do within One Month from the Time they shall be so directed by the said Commissioners, such Valuation or Return shall be delivered to the said Committee; which Committee, or any Five or more of them, shall proceed to make an Applotment or Taxation for levying and raising the necessary Sums of Money which the said Commissioners, or any Five of them, shall by Writing under their Hands order and direct to be raised for the Purposes of the said recited Act and of this Act, upon all and every Person or Persons who shall rent or occupy within the said Town of *Belfast*, or the Precincts thereof, any Messuage, Tenement, Building, or other Hereditaments, in the following Manner; (that is to say), upon all such Persons as shall so rent or occupy within the said Town of *Belfast*, or the Precincts thereof, any House, Tenement, or other Hereditaments within the said Town, or the Precincts thereof, of the Annual Value of from Five Pounds, and not exceeding Twenty Pounds, at the Rate of Sixpence in the Pound; and upon all Messuages, Houses, Buildings, and Hereditaments, of the Annual Value of from Twenty Pounds, and not exceeding Eighty Pounds, at the Rate of One Shilling in the Pound; and upon all Messuages, Houses, Buildings, and Hereditaments exceeding the Annual Value of Eighty Pounds, at the Rate of One Shilling and Sixpence in the Pound; and that such Applotment shall be made and delivered by the Committee to the said Commissioners within Fourteen Days after the said Valuation or Return shall be made by the said Valuator; and that if no such Applotment as aforesaid shall be made by the said Committee, or any Five or more of them, within the Time herein-before appointed for that Purpose, then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for the Sovereign for the Time being, and any Two Burgeses of the said Town of *Belfast*, to make the same Applotment in the Manner herein-before directed, and that after every such Applotment to be made as aforesaid the said Commissioners, or any Five of them, shall or may order and direct the Sums of Money aforesaid to be levied and raised according to such Applotment.

Provisions in
former Act
respecting
Committee
to continue
in force.

XI. And be it further enacted, That the several Clauses and Provisions contained in the said recited Act respecting the said Committee shall, so far as the same are not hereby repealed or altered, be and continue in full Force.

XII. Pro-

XII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in all Cases where any Person or Persons shall hold, occupy, or enjoy any Stores, Storehouse, Manufactory, Provision Yard, Timber Yard, or other Yard of Business or Trade whatsoever, separately and apart from his, her, or their Dwelling-house, the said Assessors or Valuers shall value and assess all such Stores, Storehouses, Manufactories, Provision Yards, Timber Yards, and other Yards separately, and not conjointly with such Dwelling-house.

Storehouses held separately from Dwellings to be separately assessed.

XIII. Provided always, and it is hereby enacted, That the said Rate and Rates is and are to be increased or diminished in the same Proportion as is hereby enacted, according to the Sum that shall be required by the said Commissioners to be raised for the Purposes directed in and by the said recited Act and this Act; and the said Committee, or the Sovereign and Burgeffes (as the Case may be), are hereby required to rate and assess all such Messuages, Tenements, Houses, Buildings, and other Hereditaments and Premises, in the Proportions herein-before directed, according to the true Annual Value thereof respectively; and the respective Tenants and Occupiers of such Hereditaments shall and are hereby required to pay the Whole of every such Rate as shall be charged upon them in Manner aforesaid: Provided always, that all Messuages, Tenements, and other Hereditaments under the Annual Value of Five Pounds, and the Occupiers thereof, shall be exempted from the Payment of the Annual Taxes of the said Town hereby directed to be raised and levied.

Property to be rated in certain Proportions, &c.

XIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That all Churches, Chapels, Meeting Houses, Buildings, and Hereditaments in the said Town of *Belfast*, set apart and appropriated or to be set apart and appropriated for the Purpose of religious Worship (but exclusive of any Messuage, Tenement, or Hereditaments occupied or used as Dwellings for the Ministers or other Persons officiating in such Places of Worship), and all Messuages, Tenements, Buildings, and Hereditaments in the said Town, set apart and appropriated or to be set apart and appropriated as public Charities, or public Foundations for the Purpose of Education, and for the Accommodation of the Objects of such Charities or Foundations, and of the Officers and others belonging thereto, shall, so long as the same respectively shall continue to be occupied and used for the respective Purposes aforesaid, and for no other Purpose, be exempted from the Payment of the Annual Taxes of the said Town hereby directed to be raised and levied.

Buildings for Public Worship and Education to be exempted from Taxes.

XV. And be it further enacted, That the said Assessors or Valuers, after they shall have been so appointed, and before they shall proceed to make such Valuation, shall take and subscribe the following Oath (or Affirmation, if a Quaker), which the said Commissioners or any of them is and are hereby required to administer;

Assessors to be sworn.

‘ I *A. B.* do swear, [*or affirm*], That I will well, truly, and diligently, to the best of my Knowledge, Skill, and Judgment, execute the Office of Valuator or Assessor in and for the Town of *Belfast*, and the Precincts thereof, without Favour or Affection, Malice or Ill-will, to any Person or Persons whomsoever; and that the Return which shall be made to the Commissioners of Police for the said Town, of the Valuation of all

Form of Oath.

‘ all Messuages, Tenements, Buildings, and Hereditaments within the said
 ‘ Town, which shall be signed by me, shall, to the best of my Knowledge,
 ‘ and Judgment, be just, fair, and impartial. So help me GOD.’

And when the Annual Assessment and Valuation made by such Persons shall from Time to Time be confirmed by the said Commissioners, which they the said Commissioners are hereby required to do, then it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners to direct such reasonable Sum as the said Commissioners shall think fit to be raised on the said Town, and paid to the said Valutors for their Trouble in making such Annual Valuation as aforesaid, provided the same do not exceed the Sum of Fifty Pounds for such Annual Valuation.

How Rates shall be apportioned on change of Occupations.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where any Person shall remove from or quit any Messuage, House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament which shall be rated or assessed by virtue of this Act, such Person shall be liable to pay such Rates or Assessments in Proportion to the Time that he or she occupied the same, in like Manner as if such Person had not removed or quitted the same; and in all Cases where any Person or Persons shall come into or occupy any such Messuage, House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament as aforesaid, out of or from which any other Person who shall then have been rated or assessed for the same shall be removed, or which at the Time of making any such Rate or Assessment was or were empty or unoccupied, the same shall, for and in respect of his, her, or their Occupation thereof, be liable to any such Rate or Assessment in Proportion to the Time he, she, or they shall occupy the same, in the same Manner as if he, she, or they had been originally rated and assessed for such Messuage, House, Warehouse, Shop, Cellar, Vault, Stable, Coach-house, Brewhouse, Granary, Malthouse, Building, Garden, Land, Tenement, or Hereditament.

As to rating Houses let in Lodgings.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That when any Messuage, House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament which shall be rated and assessed by virtue of this Act, shall be let or demised to more than one Tenant or Occupier, any one or more of such Tenants or Occupiers shall be deemed the Occupier or Occupiers thereof for the Purposes of this Act; but no such Tenant or Occupier shall be subject or liable to pay any greater Sum for or on account of any Rate or Assessment, or Arrears thereof, than the Amount of the Rent due and payable by such Tenant or Occupier to the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of the Premises occupied by him, her, or them; and where any House or Houses shall be let ready furnished, or in Lodgings, the Person or Persons immediately in Possession of the same shall be deemed the Occupier or Occupiers for the Purposes of this Act; and the said Rates or Assessments shall be levied by Distress and Sale, in Manner in the said former Act mentioned, of all or any of the Goods and Chattels in such Messuage, House, Building, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or all or any of the Goods or Chattels hereby made liable to pay such Rates or Assessments; and it shall and may be lawful for any of such Inhabitants or Occupiers who shall be so as aforesaid compelled to pay any such Rate or Assessment, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to pay such Sum and Sums of Money as shall be so assessed, and to deduct such Payments out of the Rent payable by them for or in respect of such Apartments, Rooms, or Lodgings; and the Persons
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entitled to receive such Rents are hereby required to allow such Payments upon Receipts of the Residue of the Rents; and every such Inhabitant and Occupier shall be acquitted and discharged of so much Money as the said Assessment or Assessments shall amount unto, as if the same had been actually paid unto the Persons entitled to receive the said Rents: Provided always, that no such Inhabitant or Occupier shall at any Time be required to pay or to be subject or liable to pay any greater Sum, for or towards the Discharge of any such Rate or Assessment, or any Arrears thereof, than the Amount of the Rent actually due or payable by such Inhabitant or Occupier for or in respect of the Premises so occupied by him or her.

XVIII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That no Messuage, House, Warehouse, Building, Garden, Tenement, or Hereditament, hereby made liable to be rated or assessed, shall be charged or chargeable with any Rate or Assessment as aforesaid during the Time the same shall be empty or unoccupied, in case the same shall be empty and unoccupied for the Space of Six Months preceding the making of such Rate or Assessment. Houses un-occupied for Six Months not to be rated.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That when and so often as any new-built Messuages, Tenements, or Buildings within the said Town of *Belfast*, or the Precincts thereof, shall be first demised or let or occupied by the Builder or Owner, the respective Owners or Proprietors thereof shall, within One Calendar Month after the same shall be so demised or let, cause Notice in Writing of such demising, occupying, or letting, to be given to the Clerk for the Time being of the said Commissioners, under a Penalty of Five Pounds for every Neglect or Refusal to give such Notice, to be levied and applied as the other Penalties imposed by the said recited Act or this Act are authorized to be levied and applied. When new-built Houses are let, Notice to be given to the Clerk of the Commissioners.

XX. Provided always, and be it enacted, That all and every the Remedies and Powers given in and by the said recited Act of the Fortieth Year of His present Majesty, for the rendering valid, enforcing, and carrying into Effect the Applotments, Rates, and Assessments thereby authorized to be made, shall be in full Force with regard to the Applotments, Rates, and Assessments authorized to be made under or by virtue of this present Act, so far as the same may be applicable thereto respectively; and that all and every the Remedies and Authorities in and by the said recited Act given for enforcing the Payment, and levying the said Applotments, Rates, or Assessments thereby authorized to be made, with the like Right and Benefit of Appeal to the said Commissioners as thereby given, shall be and remain in full Force and Virtue in Law as fully as if the same had been repeated and re-enacted in the Body of this Act with relation thereto respectively: Provided also, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to repeal, alter, abridge, or defeat all or any of the Articles, Clauses, Provisions, Powers, and Authorities in the said recited Act contained, which are not hereby varied, altered, or repealed; and that the said Commissioners and Committee shall have full Power and Authority to act in all and every the other Matters in the said recited Act contained not hereby expressly repealed. Assessors invested with same Powers as by the former Act were given to the Committee.
This Act not to affect such of the Powers of the former Act as are not altered or repealed.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That for the Improvement of the said Town, and for Public Advantage, it shall and may be lawful to and for Powers to widen, &c. Streets.

[Local.]

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the said Commissioners or any Five or more of them present at a General Meeting to be specially summoned for that Purpose, to alter, widen, turn, and extend any of the Streets, Lanes, Ways, Passages, or Places, and to lengthen, continue, and open the same from the Sides or Ends of any Streets, Lanes, Ways, Passages, Roads, or Places within the said Town; and in case any Houses, Walls, Buildings, Lands, Tenements or Hereditaments, or any Part thereof, which shall in the Opinion of the said Commissioners project into, obstruct, or prevent them from so doing, and the Possession or Occupation and Purchase of such Houses, Walls, Buildings, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, shall be or will be found necessary for any of the Purposes aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners or any Five or more of them present at a Meeting to be specially summoned as aforesaid, to treat, contract, and agree, or to employ any Person or Persons to treat, contract, and agree with the Owner or Owners of any such Houses, Walls, Buildings, Lands, and Hereditaments, of what Nature, Kind, Tenure, or Quality whatsoever, and to pay for the same such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be agreed upon by the said Commissioners as aforesaid, out of the Money to be raised or to arise or accrue by virtue of this Act, and to pull down, use, sell, or dispose of the same, or the Materials thereof, in such Way, Manner, and Form as they shall think most expedient, and to lay the Sites thereof, or such Parts thereof as the said Commissioners shall think necessary, into the said Streets, Lanes, Ways, Passages, Roads, or Places.

Not more than One thousand Pounds to be raised in One Year for improving the Streets.

XXII. Provided always, and be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no greater Sum shall be levied on the several Occupiers of Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said Town of *Belfast*, in any one Year, for the Purposes of widening and improving the said Streets, Lanes, and Passages, than the Sum of One thousand Pounds, any Thing in this Act to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

Corporations, &c. empowered to convey.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations whether Aggregate or Sole, Spiritual or Lay, and all Feoffees in Trust, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, Committees of or for Lunatics and Idiots; and other Trustees whomsoever, not only for and on Behalf of themselves, their Heirs and Successors, but also for and on Behalf of their respective *Cestuique* Trusts, whether Infants or Issue unborn, Lunatics, Idiots, or Femes Covert, who are or shall be seised in their own Right, and to and for all Persons, whether Tenants for Life or Tenants in Tail, General or Special, or for Years determinable on any Life or Lives, and to and for all and every Person and Persons whomsoever who are or shall be seised, possessed of, or interested in any such Houses, Buildings, or Erections, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or any Part thereof; which shall be thought necessary to be purchased for the Purposes of this Act, to treat, contract, and agree with the said Commissioners for the Sale thereof, or any Part thereof, and to sell, convey, surrender, and assure all or any Part thereof, and all his, her, or their Estate, Right, Title, and Interest whatsoever of, in, and to the same, to the said Commissioners and their Successors, or to such Person or Persons, and his, her, or their Heirs for ever, as the said Commissioners shall direct, in Trust for them, for any of the Purposes of this Act, or to agree with the said Commissioners for any Recompense to be made for the Damage which may be

done to any such Houses, Buildings, Erections, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, in the Execution of any of the Powers of this Act; and that all Contracts, Agreements, Bargains, Sales, and Conveyances, Assignments, Surrenders, and Assurances, which shall be so made by virtue and in pursuance of this Act, shall be good, valid, and effectual to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, not only to convey the Estate and Interest of the Person or Persons conveying, but also to convey all Right, Estate, Interest, Use, Property, Claim, and Demand whatsoever of the said several and respective *Cestuique* Trusts, and all claiming or to claim by, from, or under them, any Law, Statute, Usage, or any other Matter or Thing whatsoever to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding; and all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Spiritual or Lay, and all Feoffees in Trust, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, Committees, Trustees, and all other Persons whomsoever, are and shall be hereby indemnified for what they shall do by virtue and in pursuance of this Act.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That every Sum of Money or Re-compense to be agreed for as aforesaid shall be paid out of the Rates to be raised and collected by virtue of the said recited Act or this Act, or either of them, or out of the Monies to be borrowed on the Credit thereof, either to the Party or Parties respectively entitled thereto, or into the Bank of *Ireland*, in the Manner directed by this Act; and upon Payment thereof to the Party or Parties entitled to receive the same, or into the Bank of *Ireland* in the Manner directed by this Act, for the Use of such Parties or Persons respectively, and after Fourteen Days Notice thereof given to such Parties or Persons, or their Agents, or left at their respective usual Places of Abode, or at their last known Place of Abode, or with the Tenant or Tenants in Possession of such Lands or Hereditaments, then such Lands and Hereditaments shall be taken and used for the Purpose of this Act; and from thenceforth all Parties and Persons shall be divested of all Right and Title to such Lands and Hereditaments.

How Purchase Monies are to be paid or tendered.

XXV. And whereas by reason of the Purchases which the said Commissioners are empowered to make by virtue of this Act, they may happen to be seised of some Piece or Pieces of Ground, or of some Buildings over and above what will be necessary for effecting the Purposes of this Act; be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, to sell and dispose of such Piece or Pieces of Ground or Buildings, either together or in Parcels, as they shall find most convenient or advantageous to such Person or Persons as shall be willing to contract for and purchase the same.

Commissioners may resell Lands not wanted.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That the Conveyance of any Estate, or Interest of any Houses of Femes Covert to the said Commissioners (or any Five or more of them), or to any Person or Persons in Trust for them, by Bargain and Sale, acknowledged by such Femes Covert, and duly enrolled in One of His Majesty's Courts of Record in *Ireland*, within Six Calendar Months after the making thereof, shall as effectually and absolutely convey the Estate and Interest of such Femes Covert in the Premises as any Fine or Fines, Recovery or Recoveries, would or could do if levied or suffered thereof in due Form at Law; and all Bargains and Sales whatsoever to be made of any such Lands and Hereditaments as shall be so purchased

Bargains and Sales to have the Effect of Fines and Recoveries.

chafed by the faid Commissioners (or any Five or more of them) by virtue of and for the Purpofes of this Act, and enrolled as aforefaid, fhall have the like Force, Effect, and Operation in the Law, to all Intents and Purpofes, as any Fine or Fines, Recovery or Recoveries whatfoever, would have had if levied or fuffered by the Bargainer or Bargainers, or any Perfon or Perfons feifed of an Eftate in the Premifes in Trust for fuch Bargainer or Bargainers, in any legal Manner or Form whatfoever.

Application
of Purchase
Monies
amounting to
Two hundred
Pounds.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That the Principal Money to arife from the Sale of any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, which fhall be purchafed for the Purpofes of this Act, of any Body Corporate, Ecclefiaftical or Civil, Corporation Aggregate or Sole, Feoffees in Trust, Guardians, Committees, or other Truftees, or any Feme or Femmes Covert, or other Perfon or Perfons, being incapacitated to give Difcharges for the Purchase or Compenfation Money, fhall, in cafe the fame fhall amount to or exceed the Sum of Two hundred Pounds, with all convenient Speed be paid into the Bank of *Ireland*, in the Name and with the Privity of the Accountant General of the High Court of Chancery in *Ireland*, to be placed to his Account, *ex parte* the Commissioners for executing this Act (or any Five or more of them), to the Intent that fuch Money fhall be applied, under the Direction and with the Approbation of the faid Court, to be fignified by an Order made upon a Petition to be preferred in a fummery Way by the Perfon or Perfons who would have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the faid Lands or Hereditaments, if the fame had not been purchafed for the Purpofes of this Act, in or towards the Difcharge of any Debt or Debts, or fuch other Incumbrances, or Part thereof, as the faid Court fhall authorize to be paid, affecting the fame Lands or Hereditaments, or affecting other Lands or Hereditaments ftanding fettled therewith to the fame or the like Ufes, Trusts, Intents, or Purpofes; or where fuch Money fhall not be fo applied, then the fame fhall be laid out and invested, under the like Direction and Approbation of the faid Court, in the Purchase of other Lands and Hereditaments, which fhall be conveyed and fettled to, for, and upon fuch and the like Ufes, Trusts, Intents, and Purpofes, and in the fame Manner as the Lands and Hereditaments which fhall be fo purchafed, taken, or ufed as aforefaid, ftood fettled or limited, or fuch of them as at the Time of making the Conveyance or Settlement fhall be exifting undetermined and capable of taking Effect; and in the meantime, and until fuch Purchase fhall be made, the faid Money fhall, by Order of the faid Court of Chancery, upon Application thereto, be invested by the faid Accountant General in his Name in the Purchase of Government Securities; and in the meantime and until fuch Government Securities fhall be ordered by the faid Court to be fold for the Purpofes aforefaid, the Dividends and annual Produce of the faid Government Securities fhall from Time to Time be paid, by Order of the faid Court, to the Perfon or Perfons who would for the Time being have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the Lands or Hereditaments fo to be purchafed, in cafe fuch Purchase or Settlement were made.

When under
Two hun-
dred Pounds.

XXVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Money fo agreed to be paid for any Lands or Hereditaments purchafed, taken, or ufed for the Purpofes aforefaid, and belonging to any Corporation, or to any Perfon or Perfons under Difability or Incapacity as aforefaid, fhall be lefs than Two hundred Pounds, and fhall amount to or exceed the Sum of Twenty Pounds, then and in all fuch Cafes the fame fhall, at the Option
of

of the Person or Persons for the Time being entitled to the Rents and Profits of the Lands and Hereditaments so purchased, taken, or used, or of his, her, or their Guardian or Guardians, Committee or Committees, in case of Infancy or Lunacy, to be signified in Writing under their Hands, be paid into the said Bank with the Privity and in the Name of the said Accountant General of the High Court of Chancery in *Ireland*, and be placed to his Account as aforesaid, in order to be applied in Manner herein directed, or otherwise the same shall be paid at the like Option to Two Trustees, to be nominated by the Person or Persons making such Option, and approved of by Five or more of the Commissioners for executing this Act (such Nomination and Approbation to be signified in Writing under the Hands of the nominating and approving Parties), in order that such Principal Money and the Dividends arising thereon may be applied in any Manner herein directed, so far as the Case may be applicable, without obtaining or being required to obtain the Direction or Approbation of the Court of Chancery.

XXIX. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That where such Money so agreed to be paid as next before mentioned shall be less than Twenty Pounds, then and in all such Cases the same shall be applied to the Use of the Person or Persons who would for the Time being have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the Lands and Hereditaments so purchased as aforesaid, in such Manner as the said Commissioners or any Five or more of them shall think fit, or in case of Infancy or Lunacy, then to his, her, or their Guardian or Guardians, Committee or Committees, to and for the Use and Benefit of such Person or Persons so entitled respectively.

When under
Twenty
Pounds.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That in case the Person or Persons to whom any Sum or Sums of Money shall be agreed to be paid for the Purchase of any Lands or Hereditaments to be purchased by virtue of this Act, shall not be able to make a good Title to the Premises to the Satisfaction of the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, to order the said Sum or Sums of Money, so agreed to be paid as aforesaid, to be paid into the Bank of *Ireland*, in the Name and with the Privity of the Accountant General of the said Court of Chancery, to be placed to his Account to the Credit of the Parties interested in the said Lands or Hereditaments, [describing them] subject to the Order, Control, and Disposition of the said Court of Chancery, which said Court, on the Application of any Person or Persons making Claim to such Sum or Sums of Money, or any Part thereof, by Motion or Petition, shall be and is hereby empowered, in a summary Way of Proceeding or otherwise, as to the same Court shall seem meet, to order the same to be laid out and invested in Government Securities, and to order Distribution thereof according to the respective Estate or Estates, Title or Interest of the Person or Persons making Claim thereto, and to make such other Order in the Premises as to the same Court shall seem just and reasonable; and the Cashier or Cashiers of the Bank of *Ireland*, who shall receive such Sum or Sums of Money, is and are hereby required to give a Receipt or Receipts for such Sum or Sums of Money, mentioning and specifying for what and for whose Use the same is or are received, to such Person or Persons as shall pay any Sum or Sums of Money into the Bank as aforesaid.

Purchase
Monies may
be paid into
the Bank in
certain Cases.

[Local.]

14 I

XXXI. Pro-

Persons in Possession to be deemed well entitled until the contrary be shewn.

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

Court may order reasonable Expences of Purchases to be paid by Commissioners.

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

When Tenants are to give up Possession, &c.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That every Tenant at Will, or Lessee for a Year, or any other Person or Persons in Possession of any Lands, Tenements, Houses, Buildings, Grounds, and Hereditaments, or any Part thereof, which shall be purchased by virtue of and for the Purposes of this Act, and who shall have no greater Interest in the Premises than as Tenant at Will, or as a Lessee for a Year, or from Year to Year, in case the said Commissioners (or any Five or more of them), or some Person or Persons authorized by them, shall give Six Calendar Months Notice to quit such Possession, then such Tenant or Tenants shall at the End of the said Six Calendar Months, or so soon after as he or they shall be required, peaceably and quietly deliver up the Possession of the said Premises to the said Commissioners (or any Five or more of them), or to the Person or Persons authorized by them to take Possession thereof; and that in case any such Tenant or Tenants, or Person or Persons so in Possession as aforesaid, shall refuse to give such Possession as aforesaid, then it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, to issue their Precept or Precepts to the Sheriff of the said County to deliver Possession of the Premises to such Person or Persons as shall in such Precept or Precepts be nominated to receive the same, and the said Sheriff is hereby required to deliver

deliver such Possession accordingly of the Premises, and to levy such Costs as shall accrue from the issuing and Execution of such Precept or Precepts on the Person or Persons so refusing to give Possession as aforesaid, by Distress and Sale of his, her, or their Goods and Chattels: Provided always, that when any Tenant at Will shall by virtue of this Act be required to quit any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, before the Expiration of the current Year of such Tenancy, the said Commissioners shall make such Recompence to every such Tenant for so quitting, as shall be agreed upon between the said Commissioners (or any Five or more of them) and such Tenant.

XXXIV. And whereas several Houses and other Buildings in the said Town and Borough have been, and some now are, in so ruinous and decayed a State as to be dangerous to Passengers, and other Buildings may become so: And whereas the Owners and Proprietors of some of such Houses and other Buildings may be unknown and cannot be found; be it therefore enacted, That in all Cases where any Houses or other Buildings are or may be in so ruinous or decayed a State as to be dangerous to Passengers, it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners, after giving Two Days Notice to any Owner or Owners of such House or Buildings, (if he, she, or they can be found, or if the Place of Residence of such Owner or Proprietor cannot be discovered,) then, upon affixing such Notice for Eight Days upon the House or other Building, to cause Two or more Inspectors to view the same, and on an Affidavit being made before the said Sovereign, or any other Justice of the Peace for the said County of *Antrim*, by any One of such Inspectors, that the said Houses or Buildings are in such a ruinous and decayed State as to be dangerous to Passengers, or of soon becoming so (and which said Affidavit the said Commissioners are hereby authorized to take), and upon the View of any Five of the said Commissioners, or any Five of the said Committee, then and in such Case it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners to order the said Houses or Buildings to be taken and pulled down, and the Materials composing the same to be sold, and the Produce thereof (after deducting the Expences of taking down the same) to be paid to the Treasurer or Clerk of the said Commissioners, in Trust for the Person or Persons who shall or may be entitled thereto.

Power to take down ruinous and dangerous Buildings.

XXXV. And be it further enacted, That all Landlords, Owners, Tenants or Occupiers of any Waste or vacant Piece of Ground, or Site of any House or Tenement lying in or adjoining to any of the Streets, Lanes, or Places comprised in this Act, and which shall lie open and unfenced from the same, or when the Fence shall be in a ruinous Condition or out of Repair, shall, within Thirty Days after Notice delivered to him, her, or them, or any or either of them, by Order of the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, well and sufficiently fence in the Premises mentioned in such Notice, or cause the old Fence (if any) to be well and sufficiently repaired within the Time aforesaid; and in case such Work shall not be completely finished within the Time aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners to order and cause the same to be done, completed, and finished, and the Tenant or Occupier thereof, or other Person in Possession, or seized thereof, to whom such Notice as aforesaid shall have been given, shall pay the Expence thereof, upon the Demand of the Person authorized by the said Commissioners to receive the same;

Commissioners may direct Waste Grounds to be fenced.

same; and in case of Refusal or Neglect to pay the same, it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners to bring, commence, or prosecute One or more Action or Actions, Suit or Suits in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Dublin*, or other inferior Court, for the Recovery of such Expences, together with Costs of Suit, from the Person or Persons so neglecting or refusing to pay as aforesaid.

Commissioners may direct Grounds adjoining new Buildings to be formed.

XXXVI. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, all and every Person and Persons who shall within the Space of Three Calendar Months have built or erected, and who shall at any Time thereafter build or erect, or cause to be built or erected, any Dwelling House or other Building, Wall or Fence within, adjoining, or contiguous to any of the Streets, Lanes, Highways, or other public Passages or Places within the said Town of *Belfast*, shall at his, her, or their own Costs and Charges, from Time to Time, within Two Months after Notice in Writing for that Purpose given by any Five or more of the said Commissioners, cause the Ground before, behind, or at the Sides of such Dwelling Houses, or other Building, Wall, or Fence, as far as the Centre of the said Streets, Roads, Lanes, Highways, or Places to be raised or lowered, and well and sufficiently paved, pitched, repaired, or altered in such Manner and Form, and with such Materials as the said Commissioners, or any Five of them, shall direct or require: Provided always, that in case any Person or Persons who shall within the Space aforesaid have built or erected, or who shall or may at any Time hereafter build or erect, or cause to be built or erected, any such Dwelling House, Building, Wall, or Fence, shall refuse or neglect to do and perform all or any Part of such last-mentioned paving, pitching, repairing, or altering, within the Time and in the Manner before directed, that then and in such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, to cause the same, or any Part thereof, to be done in such Manner and Form as they shall think fit to order and direct, and the Charges and Expences attending the same to be paid by the Person or Persons erecting or building the same, or causing the same to be so built or erected; and in case any such Person or Persons shall refuse or neglect to pay all such Charges and Expences for the Space of Ten Days after the same shall be demanded, then it shall and may be lawful to and for the Sovereign of the said Borough, or any one Justice of the Peace for the said County of *Antrim*, upon Complaint made to him by the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, or by the Surveyor or Surveyors, Collector or Collectors, Clerk or Clerks respectively, or any or either of them, to cause all such Charges and Expences to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Person or Persons so refusing or neglecting as aforesaid, together with all reasonable Costs and Charges of such Complaint, Distress, and Sale, rendering the Overplus (if any) upon Demand to the Person or Persons whose Goods and Chattels shall be so distrained and sold.

Foot Pavements to be cleared of Snow, &c.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That all and every Person or Persons inhabiting any House or other Building within the said Town of *Belfast*, shall, from and after the passing of the Act, in Times of Frost and Snow, and at all other Times as often as shall be requisite, sweep and cleanse, or cause to be swept and cleansed, the Foot Pavement before their respective Houses, Buildings, Walls, and Premises, and also any Drains
or

or Watercourses which shall run therefrom upon such Foot Pavements, and shall cause to be cleansed away all Ice and Snow, Filth and Rubbish from such Foot Pavement, Drains, and Warehouses, before Ten of the Clock in the Morning, and at any Time of the Day thereafter, being thereunto required by the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, or their Surveyor or Surveyors for the Time being, within Two Hours after being so required, upon pain of forfeiting any Sum not exceeding Ten Shillings for every Neglect therein.

XXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Goods, Wares, or Merchandise, except Timber and Flax Seeds, shall be left on any Quay or Quays within the said Town, or Precincts thereof, for Two successive Days and Nights, or if any Timber or Flax Seeds shall be left on any such Quay or Quays for Four successive Days and Nights, it shall be lawful for the Commissioners aforesaid to carry and transport the same to any Yard or Warehouse, at the Expence of the Defaulter; all which Expences shall be ascertained, levied, and recovered in like Manner as any Fines or Penalties are by the said Act or this Act authorized to be ascertained, levied, and recovered.

Penalty on Persons leaving Goods on Quays at Night.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Stones, Timber, Mortar, Rubbish, Materials, or other Things, shall be laid or placed in any Hole or Opening which shall be made upon or in any of the Streets, Squares, Lanes, Ways, Passages, or public Places already made or built, or which shall hereafter be made or built within the said Town of *Belfast* as aforesaid; for any Purpose whatsoever not prohibited by or contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, the Owner of such Houses, Materials, or other Things, or Person or Persons causing such Stones or other Things to be so laid or placed on such Hole or Opening to be made, shall at his, her, or their Expence, cause a Light to be affixed in or near the same respectively, for securing Passengers and Cattle from Accidents, every Night from Sun-setting to Sun-rising during the Time such Stones, Materials, Hole, or Opening shall remain; and also, if the Commissioners shall think proper and direct, shall at his, her, or their Expence, cause such Stones, Materials, or other Things, Hole, or Opening (as the Case may be) to be fenced and enclosed in such Manner as the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, shall think proper, and continue the same so fenced and enclosed until the Stones, Materials, or other Things, Hole or Opening (as the Case may be) shall be removed or filled up, and in Default thereof shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Ten Shillings for every Day's Neglect; and the Commissioners, on such Default being made, are hereby empowered to cause such Lights to be put up, and to fence and enclose such Stones, Materials, and other Things, Hole or Opening, and charge such Owners, or other Person or Persons as aforesaid, with the Expences thereof respectively, and to recover such Expences and the Expences attending such Recovery, and to apply the same in the same Manner as other Expences are herein-before directed to be recovered and applied.

Lights to be set up to prevent Accidents.

XL. And be it further enacted, That all private Drains which now are or which shall hereafter be made within any of the said Streets, Squares, Lanes, Ways, Passages, or Public Places, within the said Town of *Belfast*, and which do or shall issue into any of the public Sewers, Drains, or

[Local.]

14 K

Vaults,

Drains to be repaired under Direction of Commissioners Surveyor.

Vaults, shall be repaired and cleaned, under the Inspection and Direction of the Surveyor or other proper Officer to the said Commissioners, at the Costs and Charges of the Owner or Owners, Occupier or Occupiers of the Lands or Tenements to which the said private Drains do and shall respectively belong; such Costs and Charges to be levied and raised in the same or the like Manner as is herein-before directed, with respect to the Charges and Expences of paving, repairing, and altering the Ground round such Dwelling Houses, Buildings, Walls, or Fences as aforesaid.

Penalty on
Watchmen
misbehaving.

XLI. And be it further enacted, That if any Watchman, Beadles, Constables, and other Officers, or any of them, shall not observe, perform, and keep the legal Orders, Rules, and Regulations which shall be made by the Commissioners, or shall in any Manner neglect their Duty or misbehave themselves, every Person so offending shall forfeit and pay for every such Neglect or Offence any Sum not exceeding Twenty Shillings, and, if the Commissioners shall think proper, shall be immediately discharged from his or their respective Office or Employment.

Commissioners may
reward
Watchmen
hurt.

XLII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, to give such Rewards in Money to the Watchmen respectively to be appointed as aforesaid, who may be disabled or wounded in the Execution of their Office, as they the said Commissioners shall think reasonable, such Money to be paid out of the Monies to be raised for the Purposes of this Act.

Penalty on
Publicans
harbouring
Watchmen.

XLIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Victualler, Publican, or other Person selling Spirituous and other Liquors, shall entertain or harbour in his, her, or their House or Habitation, or Shop, any Watchman to be appointed under the said recited Act or this Act, during any of the Hours or Times appointed for such Watchmen to be on Duty, in virtue or in pursuance of this Act, then every such Victualler, Publican, or other Person; shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings.

Drivers of
Carriages
misbehaving.

XLIV. And be it further enacted, That if any Driver of any Cart, Car, Dray, or Waggon, shall ride thereon in any Street, Lane, public Passage, or Place within the said Town, not having some other Person on Foot or on Horseback to guide the same, (such Carriages as are usually conducted by some Person holding the Reins of the Horse or Horses drawing the same excepted), or if the Driver of any Carriage whatsoever shall in any such Street, Lane, public Passage, or Place, by Negligence or wilful Misbehaviour, cause any Hurt or Damage to any Person or Carriage passing, or shall wilfully be at such Distance from such Carriage whilst it shall be passing in any such Street, Lane, public Passage, or Place, that he cannot have the Direction and Government of the Horse or Horses, or other Cattle drawing the same, or shall by Negligence or wilful Misbehaviour prevent, hinder, or interrupt the free Passage of any other Carriage, or of any of His Majesty's Subjects in any such Street, Lane, public Passage, or Place, or if the Driver of any empty or unloaded Waggon, Cart, or other Carriage, shall refuse or neglect to turn aside and make way for any Coach, Chariot, Chaise, loaded Waggon, Cart, or other loaded Carriage, or drive or ride furiously through the Streets of the said Town, then and in every such Case every such Driver so offending, and being convicted of

any such Offence, either by his own Confession, the View of the Sovereign of *Belfast*, or of any of the said Commissioners, or of a Justice of Peace of the said County of *Antrim*, or by the Oath of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, before any Justice of the Peace for the said County, or the Sovereign of *Belfast*, shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Twenty Shillings, in case the Driver shall not be the Owner of such Carriage; and in case such Driver be the Owner of such Carriage, then any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings; and every such Driver offending in any of the said Cases shall and may by Authority of this Act, with or without any Warrant, be apprehended by any Person or Persons who shall see such Offence committed, and it shall and may be lawful to and for the Person or Persons so apprehending such Driver, to convey such Driver or to cause him to be conveyed or delivered to a Constable or other Peace Officer, in order to be conveyed before the Sovereign of the Borough, or other Justice of the Peace for the said County, to be dealt with according to Law; and if such Driver in any of the Cases aforesaid shall refuse to disclose his Name, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Sovereign of the Borough, or other Justice of the Peace before whom he shall be taken, or to whom any such Complaint shall be made, to commit him to the House of Correction or County Gaol for any Time not exceeding One Month, or to proceed against any such Offender for the Penalty aforesaid by a Description of his Person and the Offence, and expressing in such Proceedings that the said Driver refused to disclose his Name.

XLV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, in conjunction with the said Committee, to make, constitute, ordain, and provide from Time to Time such Bye Laws, Rules, and Orders, as they the said Commissioners and Committee shall think fit, for licensing and authorizing a sufficient Number of Hackney Coaches, Sedan Chairs, and Porters, to ply for Hire, and for regulating and ordering such Hackney Coaches, Sedan Chairs, and Porters, and in what Manner the Owners, Drivers, and Carriers thereof respectively shall conduct and demean themselves in their several Employments, and also in what Manner and Order and how such Hackney Coaches and Sedan Chairs shall be furnished, provided, kept, and numbered, and what Number of Persons may be carried and conveyed in each of such Coaches, and what Number of Horses are to draw the same, and concerning the Letters, Parcels, Goods, Things, and Messages to be carried by such Porters or any of them, and the respective Numbers which each of them shall have and keep, and for ascertaining, fixing, altering, and removing the Stands of such Coaches, Chairs, and Porters, or any of them, from Time to Time; and also to fix and ascertain the Situation where all Porters looking for daily Labour shall resort to and remain, in order to be in Readiness for Employment, and for punishing the Misconduct and Misbehaviour of Hackney Coachmen, Chairmen, and Porters plying for Hire within the said Town of *Belfast*, and the Distances within which they are respectively to go and come, and for ascertaining and defining what Rates, Fares, and Prices, as well for Time as Distance, shall be allowed to be taken by such Hackney Coachmen, Chairmen, and Porters plying for Hire, and to what Distance such Hackney Coachmen, Chairmen, and Porters shall be obliged to drive, go, and come, in, over, and round and about every Part of the said Town of *Belfast* and the Neighbourhood,

Commissioners may make Bye-Laws for regulating Hackney Coaches, &c.

Circuit,

Circuit, and District thereof, not exceeding for such Coachmen Five Miles, to be measured from the Exchange of the said Town of *Belfast*, and not exceeding for such Chairmen One Mile, to be measured from the same Place, and the Rates and Fares to be taken for the same; and also that it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, in conjunction with the said Committee, and they are hereby authorized and empowered from Time to Time, to make such other Bye Laws, Rules, and Orders as to them shall seem necessary and expedient for carrying the Purposes of this Act into Execution, (such Bye Laws, Rules, and Orders, or any Alteration thereof, not to be repugnant to any Law or Statute of that Part of the United Kingdom called *Ireland*, or any Thing in this Act contained); and the said Commissioners and Committee may from Time to Time, as they shall think fit, alter, repeal, or amend, or new-make such Bye Laws, Rules, and Orders, or any of them, and shall ascertain and set down what pecuniary Penalties or Forfeitures shall be incurred by Persons breaking or avoiding the same, or any of them, provided no such Penalty or Forfeiture shall exceed the Sum of Five Pounds for one Offence.

Regulations
as to Bye
Laws.

XLVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no such Bye Law, Rule, or Order shall be made, unless the same shall have been proposed and formed at a Public Meeting of the said Commissioners held at some Time not less than Eight Days before the making of such Bye Laws, Rules, or Orders, and shall have been publicly made known, and Notice thereof given in One of the Newspapers published or circulated within the said Town of *Belfast*, Eight Days before the holding of the Meeting at which such Bye Law, Rule, or Order shall be finally made and agreed on; and that all Bye Laws, Rules, and Orders of the said Commissioners, made in pursuance of this Act, shall be printed in legible Letters, and printed Copies thereof shall be hung up and continued in some conspicuous Part of the Exchange of the Town of *Belfast* aforesaid, to the end that all Persons concerned may have due Notice thereof.

Regulations
as to Licen-
ces.

XLVII. And be it further enacted, That every Licence to be granted to any Person for the Purposes aforesaid under this Act shall be signed by Five of the said Commissioners at the least present at some Meeting to be held under this Act, and every Licence not so signed shall be void; and every Licence so granted and signed for the Purposes aforesaid shall express the Number to which such Person is licensed, and every such Licence shall continue and be of force for One Year from the Day of the Date of such Licence; and no one Licence shall include both Coach and Chair, nor more than One Coach or Chair, or Porter; and every such Licence shall be made out by the Clerk for the Time being to the said Commissioners, and be duly entered in a Book to be provided and kept for that Purpose in his Office, with the Name of the Person licensed, and his or her Number and Place of Residence; and in such Book shall be contained Columns or Places of Entries to be made of every Offence committed by any Driver or Chairman, or any Porter, for each of which Licences, and doing the Business aforesaid, there shall be paid to the said Clerk for the Time being, for his Trouble and Charge, the following Sums; *videlicet*, for each Licence for a Hackney Coach, the Person to whom such Licence shall be granted shall pay, on granting the same, the Sum of Five Shillings, and for each Licence for a Hackney Chair the Person or Persons to whom such Licence shall be granted shall pay, on granting the same, the Sum of Two Shillings
and

and Sixpence; and for each Licence to be a Porter, the Person to whom such Licence shall be granted shall pay, on having the same granted, the Sum of Two Shillings and Sixpence.

XLVIII. And be it further enacted, That if the Driver of any Coach, or the Carrier or Carriers of any Sedan Chair, or any Porter, shall be found standing or plying for Hire, or using such Coach or Sedan Chair, or carrying any Matter or Thing for Hire directed to be carried by a licensed Porter, in any Part of the Town of *Belfast* aforesaid, or the Precincts thereof, without such Licence as aforesaid, or having such Licence shall be found plying for Hire contrary to and against the Rules or Regulations which shall be made by the said Commissioners for licensing and regulating the Persons aforesaid to drive such Coach, and the Owner or Owners, Carrier or Carriers of such Sedan Chair, and every such Porter so offending, shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings.

Licences to be shewn.

XLIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall wilfully set fire to, or cause, permit, or suffer the Chimney of any House, Workshop, Out-house, or other Building in the said Town, to be on Fire, the Owner or Occupier of every such House, Workshop, Out-house, or other Building, shall forfeit and pay for every such Offence any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings.

Penalty on setting Fire to Chimneys.

L. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act no Person or Persons whomsoever shall be permitted to act in the Capacity of a Sweep Chimney, in the said Town or Suburbs thereof, without a Licence for that Purpose first had and obtained in Writing from the said Commissioners; and that in case any Person or Persons shall attempt to act in such Capacity without such Licence first had and obtained, he or they so acting shall be liable to a Penalty of Forty Shillings for each and every Chimney he or they shall so sweep.

Sweep Chimneys to be licensed.

LI. And be it further enacted, That the Owners or Occupiers of all Engines commonly called Steam Engines, erected or hereafter to be erected, set up, or used in the said Town of *Belfast*, shall use the Mode or Method now adopted in *England*, or other equally efficacious Mode, to consume and burn the Smoke arising therefrom, so as to prevent the same occasioning any Nuisance whatsoever; and if any Person or Persons shall set up or use any such Steam Engine, without burning or consuming the Smoke upon the Principle aforesaid, they shall forfeit and pay for every such Neglect or Default Fifty Pounds, to be recovered by Action of Debt or on the Case in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record in *Ireland*.

Steam Engines to consume their own Smoke.

LII. And be it further enacted, That no Shopkeeper, or other Person or Persons, shall keep at the same Time in any Shop, Cellar, or Warehouse, or other Apartment within the said Town and Suburbs, more than One Cask containing Twenty-five Pounds Weight of Gunpowder, but shall carry or cause to be carried all the Gunpowder belonging to him or them exceeding that Quantity, to such Magazine or Place as may be hereafter provided and appointed by the said Commissioners, for which the said Commissioners shall have a Power to charge such Person or Persons any reasonable Sum by way of Storage, unless such Person shall have a Cellar,

Regulations as to Gunpowder.

[Local.]

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Magazine,

Magazine, or other Place for depositing the same, which shall be approved of by the said Commissioners; and every Person and Persons so offending, neglecting, or failing, shall for every Offence forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Twenty Pounds, to be levied in Manner herein-after mentioned, besides forfeiting all the Gunpowder which shall be in his, her, or their Houses, Shops, Cellars, Warehouses, or other Apartments exceeding the aforesaid Quantity.

Gunpowder not to be sold, except by Day-light.

LIII. And be it further enacted, That the Gunpowder allowed to be kept in Shops, Cellars, Warehouses, or other Apartments as aforesaid, shall be deposited in a Place by itself, separate from all other Goods and Commodities, and shall be secured by Lock and Key, under a Penalty not exceeding Ten Pounds, to be paid for each Offence by the Occupier of the House, Shop, Cellar, Warehouse, or other Apartment in which the same shall be kept, to be levied in Manner herein-after directed; and it shall not be lawful for the said Shopkeeper, or other Person or Persons, to sell or dispose of any Quantity of Gunpowder by Candle-light or after Day-light on any Account or for any Purpose whatsoever, under a Penalty not exceeding Ten Pounds for each Offence, to be levied and applied in Manner herein-after directed.

Penalty on using Fires in Ships in the Harbour.

LIV. And be it further enacted, That if any Fire or Fires shall be lighted, used, or kept on board of any Ship or Vessel, while lying in or adjoining the Quays or Docks of the Town of *Belfast*, on any Pretence whatever, then and in every such Case the Master, or other Person having the Command or Charge of such Ship or Vessel, shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds for every such Offence, besides paying all Damages that may be sustained or incurred thereby.

Regulations respecting Gunpowder not to affect the Navy or Army.

LV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That none of the Regulations herein contained respecting Gunpowder shall extend to or affect His Majesty's Naval or Military Service, or His Majesty's Navy or Army.

Penalties how recovered and applied.

LVI. And be it further enacted, That all Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures by this or the said former Act imposed or inflicted, or authorized to be imposed or inflicted, (the Manner of levying or recovering whereof is not by the said recited Act or hereby otherwise particularly directed), shall, upon Proof of the Offences respectively before any Justice of the Peace for the said County of *Antrim*, either by Confession of the Party or Parties, or by the Oath of One credible Witness, (which Oath the said Sovereign or any such Justice is hereby empowered and required to administer without any other Fee or Reward than One Shilling), be levied and recovered by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Party or Parties offending, by Warrant or Warrants under the Hand and Seal of such Sovereign or Justice of the Peace, (which Warrant or Warrants the Sovereign of the Town for the Time being, or any Justice of the Peace for the said County of *Antrim*, is hereby empowered to grant); and the Overplus (after such Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures, and the Charges of such Distress, and keeping and selling the same, are recovered and deducted) shall be returned upon Demand to the Owner or Owners of such Goods and Chattels, and the Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures, when so levied and recovered, shall from Time to Time be paid to the said Commissioners,

or their Treasurer or Treasurers, and shall be applied for and towards the Purposes of this Act; and in case sufficient Distress cannot be found, and such Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures shall not be forthwith paid, it shall and may be lawful for the said Sovereign, or any Justice of the Peace for the said County, and he is hereby authorized and required, by any Warrant or Warrants under his Hand and Seal, to cause such Offender or Offenders to be committed to the House of Correction or County Gaol for the said County of *Antrim*, there to remain without Bail for such Time as such Sovereign or other Justice shall direct, not exceeding Three Calendar Months, unless such Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures, and all reasonable Charges attending the same, shall be sooner paid and satisfied.

LVII. And be it further enacted, That no Person or Persons shall be subject or liable to the Payment of any of the Penalties or Forfeitures inflicted by virtue of this Act for any Offence or Offences against this Act, unless some Proceeding or Notice of some Proceeding shall be had or given, according to the Direction of this Act, respecting such Offence or Offences, within Six Calendar Months next after such Offence committed.

Prosecutions
for Penalties
limited.

LVIII. 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 or the said recited Act, no Replevin shall issue for such Distress, nor shall the Distress itself 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 the Summons, Conviction, Warrant of Distress, or other Proceeding relating thereto; nor shall the Party or Parties distraining be deemed a Trespasser or Trespassers *ab initio*, on account of any Irregularity which shall afterwards be done by the Party or Parties so distraining, but the Person or Persons aggrieved by such Irregularity shall and may recover full Satisfaction for the special Damage in an Action upon the Case.

Distress not
unlawful for
want of
Form.

LIX. And be it further enacted, That no Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall recover in any Actions for any Irregularity, or for any Trespass or other wrongful Proceeding, done or committed by any Person or Persons touching or concerning the Execution of any of the Powers or Directions contained in the said recited Act and this Act, or either of them, unless Notice in Writing shall be given to the Clerk of the said Commissioners, Twenty Days before such Action shall be commenced, of such intended Action, signed by the Attorney for the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, specifying the Cause of such Action; nor shall the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs recover in such Action if Tender of sufficient Amends hath been made to him, her, or them, or his, her, or their Attorney, by or on behalf of the Defendant or Defendants, before such Action brought; and in case no such Tender shall have been made, it shall be lawful for the Defendant or Defendants in any such Action, by Leave of the Court, after such Action shall have been brought, at any Time before Issue joined, to pay into Court such Sum of Money as he, she, or they shall think fit, whereupon such Proceeding, Order, and Judgment shall be made and given in and by such Court as in other Actions where the Defendant is allowed to pay Money into Court.

Actions not
to be brought
till Notice,
nor after
Tender of
Amends.

LX. And

Conviction
not unlawful
for Want of
Form.

LX. And be it further enacted, That no Order, Verdict, Assessment, Judgment, or other Proceeding made, touching or concerning any of the Matters aforesaid, or touching or concerning the Conviction of any Offender or Offenders against this Act or the said recited Act, shall be quashed or vacated for Want of Form only, or be removed or removable by *Certiorari*, or other Writ or Process whatsoever, into any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Dublin*, any Law or Statute to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Form of
Conviction.

LXI. And be it further enacted, That the said Sovereign, and 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),

‘ to wit. } BE it remembered, That on this Day
‘ of A.D. A.B. is duly convicted
‘ before me [or us] of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace
‘ for of having [here state the Offence against this 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 and
‘ Seal, [or our Hands and Seals, as the Case may be] the Day and Year
‘ first above written.’

Power of
Appeal.

LXII. 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, or omitted to be done, in pursuance of the said recited Act or of this Act, except such Determinations, Acts, or Proceedings of the said Commissioners, as are by the said recited Act or this Act directed to be final, such Person or Persons may appeal to the General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held for the County or Place where the Cause of Appeal shall have arisen, within Three Calendar Months next after such Cause of Complaint shall arise, or such Determination of the said Commissioners shall be made, such Appellant first giving or causing to be given Fourteen Days Notice at the least in Writing of his, her, their Intention to bring such Appeal, and of the Matter thereof, to the Clerk or Clerks of the said Commissioners, or to the other Party or Parties concerned in such Appeal, or leaving such Notice for him, her, or them, at his, her, or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, and within Four Days after such Notice entering into a Recognizance before One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County or Place where the Cause of Appeal shall have arisen, with Two sufficient Sureties conditioned to try such Appeal, and to abide the Order of and 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 County or Place where the Cause of Appeal shall have arisen, upon due Proof of such Notice having been given as aforesaid, and of entering into such Recognizance, shall hear and determine the Cause and Matter of such Appeal in a summary Way, and award such Costs to the Party appealing or appealed

pealed against as they the said Justices shall think proper; and the Determination of such Justices shall be binding and conclusive.

LXIII. And be it further enacted, That in order to obviate any Inconvenience which might arise from the Inability of the Sovereign of the Town of *Belfast* to execute or perform all or any of the Acts, Matters, or Things required or directed by the said recited Act and by this Act directed to be executed or performed by him, by reason of his Absence, Sickness, or otherwise, it shall be lawful for any other Justice of the Peace for the said County to execute and perform all or any of such Acts, Matters, or Things, as by the said recited Act and this Act, or either of them, are authorized to be done and performed by the Sovereign of the said Town.

Acts required to be done by the Sovereign may be done by a Justice of the Peace during his Absence or Incapacity.

LXIV. Provided always, 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 the said recited Act, after Three Calendar Months next after the Fact committed, and every such Action or Suit shall be brought and tried in the County where the Cause of Action shall have arisen, and not elsewhere; and the Defendant or Defendants in every such Action or Suit shall or may, at his or their Election, plead specially or the General Issue, and give this Act and the said recited Act, and the special Matter, in Evidence at any Trial to be had thereupon, and that the same was done in pursuance and by the Authority of this Act, or the said recited Act; and if the same shall appear to be so done, or if such Action or Suit shall be brought in any other County than as aforesaid, then the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants; and upon such Verdict, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall be nonsuited, or discontinue his, her, or their Action or Suit after the Defendant or Defendants shall have appeared, or if upon Demurrer Judgment shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, then the Defendant or Defendants shall receive Treble Costs, and have such Remedy for the same as any Defendant or Defendants hath in other Cases by Law.

Limitation of Actions.

LXV. And be it further enacted, That in all Actions, Prosecutions, Informations, Causes, and Proceedings whatsoever relating to or concerning this Act or the said recited Act, none of the said Commissioners, nor any Inhabitant within the said Town or Precincts thereof shall be deemed incompetent to give Evidence by reason of his or her being charged with and liable to pay and paying any Rate or Assessment by virtue of this Act.

Commissioners and Inhabitants not incompetent Witnesses.

LXVI. And be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to prejudice, lessen, or defeat, abridge, derogate from, prejudice, or interfere with in any Manner whatsoever, the Rights, Interests, Privileges, Franchises, or Authorities of the said *George Augustus* Marquis of *Donegall*, the Lord of the Manor of *Belfast*, or the Lord or Lords of the said Manor for the Time being, or the Powers and Authorities vested in and heretofore exercised by the Courts Leet and Courts Baron within the said Manor, or Dues or Customs of Right payable to the Lord or Lords of the said Manor, or his or their Deputy or Deputies for the Time being, nor shall the same be construed to extend, defeat, prejudice, or interfere with the Rights or Authorities of the Sovereign of the Corporation of the said Borough of *Belfast*, but

Act not to affect certain Privileges.

[Local.]

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that

that the same and all and every Part thereof shall be enjoyed and exercised by the said Lord or Lords of the said Manor, and his and their Deputy and Deputies, and also by the said Sovereign, in as full, ample, and beneficial a Manner as at the Time of the passing this Act the same and every Part thereof were enjoyed and exercised.

Costs of the
Act.

LXVII. And be it further enacted, That the Costs and Charges of obtaining this Act, and the soliciting thereof, and all other Charges and Expences relating thereto, together with legal Interest for the Money advanced by any Person or Persons for that Purpose, shall be paid by the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, to the Person or Persons entitled thereto, out of the Money already raised by virtue of the said recited Act of the Fortieth Year of the Reign of His said Majesty, or out of the first Monies which shall be raised by virtue of that Act and this Act, or of either of them.

Public Act.

LXVIII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, 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.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN,
Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1816.