



ANNO TERTIO

# GEORGII IV. REGIS.

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## *Cap. xxiv.*

An Act for the Employment, Maintenance, and Regulation of the Poor of the City of *Bristol*; and for altering the Mode of assessing the Rates for the Relief of the Poor, and certain Rates authorized to be raised and levied within the said City by certain Acts for improving the Harbour there, and for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the same City; and for the Relief of the Churchwardens and Overseers from the collecting of such Rates; and for amending the Act for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the said City. [15th May 1822.]

**W**HEREAS an Act was passed in the Seventh and Eighth Years of the Reign of King *William* the Third, intituled *An Act for erecting of Hospitals and Workhouses within the City of Bristol*, for the better employing and maintaining the Poor thereof; whereby the Mayor and Aldermen for the Time being of the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, and Eight and forty other Persons to be chosen out of the honestest and discreetest Inhabitants of the said City and County, and such other charitable Persons, elected and constituted as is therein mentioned, were and are incorporated by the Name of "The Governor, [Local.] 8 D Deputy

7 & 8 W. 3.  
c. 32.

Deputy Governor, Assistants, and Guardians of the Poor in the said City of *Bristol*," and were and are empowered, in their Courts or Assemblies, from Time to Time to set down and ascertain what Sum or Sums of Money would be needful for the Maintenance of the Poor, and the other Purposes therein mentioned, so that the same did not exceed what had been paid in the said City towards the Maintenance of the Poor thereof in any one of the Three last Years, and under their Common Seal to certify the same to the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City for the Time being, who were thereby required from Time to Time to cause the same to be raised and levied by Taxation of every Inhabitant, and of all Lands, Houses, Tithes Improprite, Appropriation of Tithes, and all Stocks and Estates in the said City and County of the same, in equal Proportion; and in order thereunto the said Mayor and Aldermen were empowered indifferently to proportion out the said Sum and Sums of Money upon each Parish and Precinct within the said City and County, and by their Warrants to authorize and require the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of each Parish and Precinct to assess the same respectively, and after such Assessment, by like Warrant, to authorize the Collection thereof, and the Recovery of the same, by Distress and Sale, or by the Commitment of any Offenders; and divers other Powers and Authorities were given to and vested in the said Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants, and Guardians, for the better ordering, Regulation, Management, Maintenance, and Employment of the Poor of the said City and County: And whereas an Act was passed in the Ninth and Tenth Years of the Reign of King *William* the Third, intituled *An Act for erecting Hospitals and Workhouses within the Town and Parish of Tiverton, in the County of Devon, for the better employing and maintaining the Poor thereof*, whereby certain Provisions were made for rendering more effectual the Powers contained in the last recited Act, for assessing, collecting, and gathering the Monies thereby authorized to be raised: And whereas an Act was passed in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen *Anne*, intituled

9 & 10 W. 3. c. 18. *An Act for making more effectual an Act passed in the Seventh and Eighth Years of the Reign of His late Majesty King William the Third, intituled 'An Act for erecting of Hospitals and Workhouses in the City of Bristol, for the better employing and maintaining the Poor thereof:'* And whereas an Act was passed in the Fourth Year of the Reign of King *George* the First,

12 Anne, c. 15. *An Act for the better explaining several Acts therein mentioned, for erecting of Hospitals and Workhouses within the City of Bristol, for the employing and maintaining the Poor thereof, and for making the said Acts more effectual:* And whereas an Act was passed in the Eighteenth Year of the

4 G. 1. c. 3. *Reign of King George the Second, intituled An Act for rendering more effectual the several Acts passed for the erecting of Hospitals and Workhouses within the City of Bristol, for the better employing and maintaining the Poor thereof:* And whereas an Act was passed in the Thirty-first Year of the

18 G. 2. c. 38. *Reign of King George the Second, intituled An Act for enlarging the Powers granted by an Act passed in the Eighteenth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled 'An Act for rendering more effectual the several Acts passed for the erecting of Hospitals and Workhouses within the City of Bristol, for the better employing and maintaining the Poor thereof,' and for making the said Act more effectual;* by which Four last-mentioned Acts various other Powers and Authorities were given to and vested in the said Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants, and Guardians, for the better Maintenance, Employment, and Regulation of the Poor of the

31 G. 2. c. 56. said

said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, and for the assessing, levying, and raising of all such Sum and Sums of Money as should be found necessary to be raised for the annual Maintenance of the Poor, and for carrying into Effect the Purposes of the said recited Acts; and also for the Apportionment of the same amongst the several Parishes in the said City and County by the Justices of the Peace of the said City and County in Sessions assembled: And whereas an Act was passed in the Forty-third Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for improving and rendering more commodious the Port and Harbour of Bristol*, by which the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of each respective Parish and Precinct within the said City are authorized and required, in manner therein mentioned, from Time to Time to rate and assess, demand, gather, and receive the yearly Sum of Money thereby directed to be rated and assessed on Lands, Houses, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said City of *Bristol*, in like Manner, and with the like Power of Distress and Sale for levying and compelling the Payment thereof, as is and are given or provided, directed or appointed in and by the said several Acts made for erecting Hospitals and Workhouses within the said City of *Bristol*, for the better maintaining and employing the Poor thereof herein-before recited; and the said Churchwardens and Overseers respectively are thereby required to collect, account for, and pay over the Money apportioned on the said several Parishes and Precincts respectively, to the Directors of the *Bristol* Dock Company, as therein mentioned, or to the Treasurer or Treasurers, Person or Persons appointed to receive the same, in like Manner, and under the like Penalties as they are by the said Acts required to collect, account for, and pay over the Money to be raised for the Maintenance of the said Poor: And whereas another Act was passed in the Forty-sixth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act to alter and amend an Act passed in the Forty-third Year of His present Majesty, intituled 'An Act for improving and rendering more commodious the Port and Harbour of Bristol,' and for extending the Powers and Provisions of the said Act*, by which it was (amongst other things) enacted, that it should be lawful for the respective senior Churchwardens and Overseers of the several Parishes and Precincts in the said City of *Bristol* to retain, have, and receive, for their own Use and Benefit respectively, the Sum of Three-pence in the Pound on the Sum and Sums from Time to Time rated, assessed, and made payable on and from their respective Parishes: And whereas another Act was passed in the said Forty-sixth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for amending, altering, and enlarging the Powers of several Acts passed for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the Streets and other Places within the City of Bristol and Liberties thereof*, by which the Churchwardens of each respective Parish within the said City and Liberties thereof, and the Overseers of the Poor of the *Castle Precincts* within the said City, were authorized and required in manner therein mentioned to rate, assess, demand, collect, and receive the yearly Sums of Money therein mentioned, and that the said Churchwardens and Overseers respectively should assess, collect, account for, and pay the same to the Treasurer to be appointed by virtue of the said recited Act for the Time being, in like Manner as they are by the several Acts of Parliament made for erecting of Hospitals and Workhouses within the said City, and for raising Money for the Maintenance of the Poor within the same, or any of them, required to assess, collect, account for, and

and pay to the Treasurer of the Corporation of the Poor of the said City, the Money to be raised for the Maintenance of the said Poor; and all and every of the Articles, Rules, Clauses, Matters, and Things in the said several Acts of Parliament, any or either of them, contained or thereby referred to, where the same were or was not contrary to the Provisions of the said reciting Act contained, should be in full Force and Effect (except as therein is excepted), and be duly observed, practised, and put in Execution for assessing and collecting the said Sum and Sums of Money by the said reciting Act granted, and for imposing, levying, recovering, and mitigating Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures, and for appealing and doing all other Acts, Matters, and Things relative to the Premises, and consistently therewith; and it was by the said Act further enacted, that it should be lawful for the respective senior Churchwardens of the several Parishes within the said City and Liberties thereof, and for the Overseers of the Poor of the *Castle Precincts*, to retain, have, and receive, for their own Use and Benefit respectively, the Sum of Three-pence in the Pound on the Sum and Sums of Money from Time to Time rated, assessed, and paid on, by, and out of their respective Parishes and Precincts: And whereas it hath been found extremely burthensome and inconvenient to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the several Parishes and Precincts in the said City of *Bristol* to collect, receive, and pay over the several Rates and Assessments raised and levied therein, and it is therefore expedient that the said Churchwardens and Overseers should be relieved from the Collection thereof, and that proper and efficient Persons should be appointed Collectors of the said Rates, and that more effectual Powers and Provisions should be granted and made for assessing and collecting the said Rates: And whereas divers Provisions have been made by various Statutes now in force for the Care and Maintenance of Lunatics, being Paupers or Criminals, and Asylums have been established in divers Counties for the Reception of Lunatics and other insane Persons, and various Powers are by the said Acts given to His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, as well for restraining such Lunatics, being Paupers or Criminals, as for removing such Lunatics as are Paupers to their last legal Places of Settlement: And whereas no Asylum for the Reception of Lunatics hath been erected or established in the said City and County of the City of *Bristol* by virtue of the Provisions of the said several Acts of Parliament, or any of them; and the Hospital or Workhouse in the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, provided for the Reception of the Poor of the said City and County of the said City, is not a House duly licensed for the Reception of insane Persons under the Provisions of an Act of Parliament passed in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty

14G. 3. c.49. King George the Third, intituled *An Act for regulating Madhouses*: And whereas it is expedient that the several Provisions made, and the Powers and Authorities given by the several Laws now in force relative to insane Persons, being Paupers or Criminals, should be extended to the said City and County; and that for the Purposes of the said several Acts the said Hospital or Workhouse should be established, and be deemed and considered to be a Lunatic Asylum for the said City and County: And whereas several of the Provisions of the said recited Acts for the Employment, Maintenance, and Regulation of the Poor, have been found inadequate for the Purposes thereby intended, and it is expedient that the same should be altered, amended, and enlarged: And whereas it would tend greatly to facilitate the Execution of the Purposes aforesaid if so much of the

the said recited Act passed in the Ninth and Tenth Years of the Reign of His late Majesty King *William* the Third, as relates to the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, and if all the said several other recited Acts relative to the Employment and Maintenance of the Poor of the said City and County, and so much of the said several other recited Acts for improving and rendering more commodious the Port and Harbour of *Bristol*, as relate to the Assessment, Apportionment, and Collection of the said Rate or Assessment on Houses, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, and so much of the said recited Act for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the Streets and other Places within the City of *Bristol* and Liberties thereof, as relates to the Assessment, Apportionment, and Collection of the Rates and Assessments authorized to be levied and raised by the said last-mentioned Act, were repealed, and if further and other Powers and Provisions were granted and made for those Purposes : And whereas it is expedient that the Powers and Provisions of the said last-mentioned Act should be in other respects amended : May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted ; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, the said recited Act passed in the Seventh and Eighth Years of the Reign of King *William* the Third, the said recited Act passed in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of Queen *Anne*, the said recited Act passed in the Fourth Year of the Reign of King *George* the First, the said recited Act passed in the Eighteenth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Second, and the said recited Act passed in the Thirty-first Year of the Reign of King *George* the Second, and also so much and such Part of the said recited Act passed in the Ninth and Tenth Years of the Reign of King *William* the Third, as relates to the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, shall be and the same are and is hereby declared to be repealed.

Former Acts  
repealed.

II. And be it further enacted, That so much of the said recited Act passed in the Forty-third Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for improving and rendering more commodious the Port and Harbour of Bristol*, as authorizes and requires the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of each respective Parish and Precinct within the City of *Bristol*, from Time to Time to rate and assess, demand, gather, and receive the yearly Sum of Money thereby directed to be rated and assessed on Lands, Houses, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said City, in like Manner, and with the like Power of Distress and Sale for levying and compelling the Payment thereof, as is and are given or provided, directed or appointed in and by the said several Acts made for erecting Hospitals and Workhouses within the said City of *Bristol*, for the better maintaining and employing the Poor thereof, and as requires the said Churchwardens and Overseers respectively to collect, account for, and pay over the Money apportioned on the said several Parishes and Precincts respectively to the Directors of the *Bristol* Dock Company, or to the Treasurer or Treasurers, Person or Persons appointed to receive the same, in like Manner and under the like Penalties as they are by the said Acts required to collect, account for, and pay over the Money to be raised for the Maintenance of the said Poor ; and also so much of the said recited Act passed in the Forty-sixth Year

Repealing so  
much of  
43G.3.c.140.  
as relates to  
the assessing  
and collect-  
ing of the  
Rates.

[*Local.*]

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of.

46 G. 3. c. 35. of the Reign of His said late Majesty King George the Third, intituled *An Act to alter and amend an Act passed in the Forty-third Year of His present Majesty, intituled 'An Act for improving and rendering more commodious the 'Port and Harbour of Bristol,' and for extending the Powers and Provisions of the said Act*, as enacts, that it shall be lawful for the respective senior Churchwardens and Overseers of the several Parishes and Precincts in the City of *Bristol* to retain, have, and receive, for their own Use and Benefit respectively, the Sum of Three-pence in the Pound on the Sum and Sums from Time to Time rated, assessed, and made payable on and from their respective Parishes, shall be and the same is hereby declared to be repealed.

Repealing so much of 46 G. 3. c. 26. as relates to the assessing and collecting of the Rates.

III. And be it further enacted, That so much of the said recited Act passed in the Forty-sixth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King George the Third, intituled *An Act for amending, altering, and enlarging the Powers of several Acts passed for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the Streets and other Places within the City of Bristol and Liberties thereof*, as authorizes and requires the Churchwardens of each respective Parish within the City of *Bristol* and Liberties thereof, and the Overseers of the Poor of the *Castle Precincts* within the said City, to rate, assess, demand, collect, and receive the yearly Sums of Money thereby authorized to be raised for the Purposes of the same Act, and as authorizes or requires the said Churchwardens and Overseers respectively to assess, collect, account for, and pay the same to the Treasurer to be appointed by virtue of the same Act, for the Time being, in like Manner as they are by the several Acts of Parliament made for erecting of Hospitals and Workhouses within the said City, and for raising Money for the Maintenance of the Poor within the same, or any of them, required to assess, collect, account for, and pay to the Treasurer of the Corporation of the Poor of the said City the Money to be raised for the Maintenance of the said Poor; and as enacts, that all and every of the Articles, Rules, Clauses, Matters, and Things in the said several Acts of Parliament, or any or either of them, contained, or thereby referred to, shall be in full Force and Effect, and be duly observed, practised, and put in Execution for assessing and collecting the said Sum and Sums of Money by the same Act granted, and for imposing, levying, recovering, and mitigating Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures, and for appealing and doing all other Acts, Matters, and Things relative to the Premises, and consistently therewith; and also so much thereof as enacts that it shall be lawful for the respective senior Churchwardens of the several Parishes within the said City and Liberties thereof, and for the Overseers of the Poor of the *Castle Precincts*, to retain, have, and receive, for their own Use and Benefit respectively, the Sum of Three-pence in the Pound on the Sum and Sums of Money from Time to Time rated, assessed, and paid on, by, and out of their respective Parishes and Precincts, shall be and the same is hereby declared to be repealed.

Castle Precinct to remain a Ward.

IV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the *Castle Precinct* in the said City, made a Ward by the said recited Act passed in the Seventh and Eighth Years of the Reign of King *William* the Third, shall be to all Intents and Purposes, from henceforth for ever, a Ward within the said City and County.

V. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That such Repeal of the said Acts, or any thing in this Act contained, shall not extend or be construed to extend to alter or affect the Powers or Provisions of an Act passed in the Fifty-sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the Third, intituled *An Act for building a new Gaol in the City of Bristol, and for other Purposes.*

Act not to  
affect 56 G. 3.  
c. 59.

VI. And be it further enacted, That from and after the said Twenty-fifth Day of *March* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City and County of the City of *Bristol* for the Time being, and the senior Churchwardens for the Time being of the several Parishes within the said City and County, together with the several other Persons who on the said Twenty-fifth Day of *March* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-three shall be the Guardians of the Poor of the said City and County, elected under and by virtue of the said recited Acts hereby then repealed, and their Successors, to be elected and appointed in Manner herein-after expressed, shall be and are hereby appointed Guardians of the Poor of the said City and County, for the Purposes of well governing, providing for, employing, and managing the said Poor, and for carrying the several other Purposes of this Act into Execution, and shall continue in Office until others shall be elected and appointed in Manner herein-after mentioned.

Guardians  
of the Poor  
appointed.

VII. And be it further enacted, That the said Mayor and Aldermen, and senior Churchwardens of the several Parishes within the said City and County of the City of *Bristol* for the Time being, together with the said several other Persons herein-before mentioned or referred to, and their Successors, to be elected in Manner herein-after directed, shall, from and after the said Twenty-fifth Day of *March* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, be and they are hereby declared to be One Body Politic and Corporate, in Name, Fact, and Deed, by the Name of "The Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants, and Guardians of the Poor of the City of *Bristol*," and by that Name shall have perpetual Succession, and from thenceforth for ever remain and continue to be One Body Politic and Corporate in Law to all Intents and Purposes; and shall have a Common Seal; and shall be enabled to sue and be sued by that Name in all Courts and Places of Judicature within these Realms; and by that Name shall and may from Time to Time, without Licence in Mortmain, purchase any Land, Tenements, or Hereditaments, for the Purposes of this Act, not exceeding Five Acres, and take or receive any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, and take and receive the Gift, Alienation, and Devise of any Person or Persons for any Estate or Interest whatsoever; and by that Name the said Corporation may and are hereby empowered, under their Common Seal, from Time to Time to convey, assign, release, transfer, or dispose of any such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, Money, Goods, or Chattels, or any other Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments vested in them by this Act, or which they now possess, or may hereafter purchase for the Purposes of this Act, as there shall be Occasion; and there shall be elected and chosen, out of and from the Members of the said Corporation, in Manner herein-after prescribed, the Officers following; that is to say, One Governor, One Deputy Governor, and Twelve Assistants, for the better governing the said Corporation.

Incorporating  
Guardians of the  
Poor.

VIII. And

Periods of  
Guardians  
going out of  
Office.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That such of the said several Persons, other than the said Mayor and Aldermen, and the senior Churchwardens of the said several Parishes; as were or may be elected and constituted Guardians of the Poor under and by virtue of the said recited Acts hereby repealed, at any Time or Times prior to the First *Thursday* in *April* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, shall continue to be such Guardians, and to execute the Duties of their respective Offices until the First *Thursday* in *April* which will be in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, and no longer, and shall then go out of Office; and that the several other Persons elected and constituted Guardians of the Poor under the said recited Acts hereby repealed, upon the said First *Thursday* in *April* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, or who may, under the Authority of the said recited Acts or this Act, be elected and constituted Guardians of the Poor in the Room or Place of any such last-named Guardians, at any Time or Times prior to the First *Thursday* in *April* which will be in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and twenty-six, shall continue to be such Guardians, and to execute the Duties of their respective Offices, until the First *Thursday* in *April* which will be in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and twenty-six, and no longer, and shall then go out of Office.

Members of  
the Corpora-  
tion or Guar-  
dians to be  
elected in  
perpetual  
Succession.

IX. And to the Intent that the said Corporation may have perpetual Succession, be it further enacted, That the respective Aldermen of the said City and County of the City of *Bristol* for the Time being, or their respective Deputies, shall and they are hereby required, on the First *Thursday* in *April* which will be in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, and on the First *Thursday* in *April* in every succeeding Second Year, to hold a Court in their respective Wards, and then and there, by the Votes of such of the Inhabitants of or Persons carrying on Trade within the said Wards respectively as shall be rated and assessed towards the Relief of the Poor of the said City and County, in respect of any Lands or Tenements in their respective Occupations, to be situate within the said Wards respectively, and of all and every other Person or Persons whomsoever who shall be rated in respect of any Lands or Tenements within the said Wards respectively, or of the Majority of such Inhabitants or Persons carrying on Trade, or rated as aforesaid, then present, to elect and choose, in each and every of the said Wards, Two of the honestest and discreetest Male Persons out of such of the Inhabitants or Persons carrying on Trade within the said Wards respectively, as shall be so rated and assessed as aforesaid; and the Twenty-four Persons who shall be so elected at such General Election shall be and become Guardians of the Poor of the said City and County, and Members of the said Corporation for the Term of Four Years, and no longer, to be accounted from the Day on which such Elections shall respectively be made.

If Election of  
Guardians  
shall not be  
completed  
on the Day  
appointed,  
former  
Guardians  
continued.

X. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in case it shall happen that the Election of Guardians of the Poor for either or any of the said Wards shall not be made or completed on the First *Thursday* in *April* which will be in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, or in any succeeding Year, the Persons then holding the Offices of Guardians of the Poor shall continue to hold the said Offices, and to execute the Duties thereof, and to be Members of the said Corporation, until the Election of such other Persons to be Guardians shall be completed

completed from Time to Time; any thing in this Act contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

XI. And be it further enacted, That when and as often as any of the Persons (other than the said Mayor, Aldermen, and senior Churchwardens) hereby constituted or appointed Guardians of the Poor of the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, or any other Person or Persons who shall be elected in the Room of any or either of the said several Persons hereby constituted Guardians of the Poor, or their or any of their Successors, shall, after their respective Elections as aforesaid, and during the Continuance of their respective Offices, die, compound with their Creditors, or become Bankrupt, or by reason of any mental or other Infirmary, or otherwise, become disqualified or incapable of acting, or by Writing under their or his Hands or Hand, delivered to the Governor or Deputy Governor for the Time being of the said Corporation, shall refuse to act, or who shall omit to act, and be fined or excused by the General Court in manner herein-after directed, it shall be lawful to and for the Alderman of the Ward for which such Persons respectively dying, compounding with their Creditors, becoming Bankrupt, or incapable of acting, or refusing or neglecting to act as aforesaid, were elected, or for his Deputy, and such Alderman and his Deputy are hereby respectively required, upon Ten Days Notice in Writing of such Vacancy, signed by the Governor or Deputy Governor for the Time being, left for him at the Council House of the said City and County, to hold a Court within the said Ward, and then and there to proceed to the Election of some other fit and proper Person or Persons duly qualified, to succeed the Person or Persons respectively who shall have so died, compounded with their Creditors, or become Bankrupt, or incapable of acting, or have refused or neglected as aforesaid to act, by the Votes of the Inhabitants of or Persons carrying on Trade or Persons rated in respect of Property within the said Ward in Manner aforesaid; and the respective Persons who shall be so elected shall be Guardians of the Poor, and be Members of the said Corporation, during the Remainder of such Term for which the respective Persons whose Office shall have become void were chosen, or would have continued in Office if such Disability or Refusal or Omission to act had not happened or been made, and no longer.

Forsupplying  
Vacancies in  
Cases of Death  
or Insolvency  
of Guardians.

XII. And be it further enacted, That the Governor of the said Corporation, or the Deputy Governor, or any Six of the Assistants for the Time being, shall have Power and Authority, and are hereby required from Time to Time, upon the Second *Thursday* in every Second Month in each and every Year, accounting *January* for the First Month, to summon and assemble a General Court or Assembly of the said Corporation; and also shall have respectively Power and Authority, at any such other Time or Times as to him or them respectively shall seem meet, to summon, assemble, and hold a Special General Court or Assembly of the said Corporation; and in case any Twenty of the Members of the said Corporation shall upon any Emergency signify to the Governor or Deputy Governor for the Time being of the said Corporation, by any Writing under their Hands, to be left for the said Governor or Deputy Governor at his or their usual or last Place of Residence, that it is their Desire that an Extraordinary General Court or Assembly of the said Corporation shall be called and held, and shall state the Reasons and

General  
Courts or  
Assemblies  
of the Cor-  
poration to  
be summoned  
regularly by  
the Gover-  
nor, &c.  
once in Two  
Months;  
may be also  
summoned  
on special  
Occasions by  
the Gover-  
nor, &c.;  
and Extra-  
ordinary  
General  
Courts shall

[*Local.*]

8 F

Grounds

be summoned  
on Requisition of  
Twenty  
Members.

Grounds of such their Desire, and the Particulars and Nature of the Business then intended to be brought forward, the said Governor shall and is hereby enjoined and required to call and hold such Extraordinary General Court or Assembly for the Purposes in such Requisition expressed, and no other, at such Time as the said Twenty Members shall so desire; and on his Refusal or Neglect for the Space of Seven Days, the said Deputy Governor for the Time being, on such Signification, shall and he is hereby likewise enjoined and required to call and hold such Extraordinary General Court or Assembly; and on his Refusal or Neglect for the Space of Seven Days, any Six of the Assistants shall have Authority to call and hold such Extraordinary General Court or Assembly, on Application made to them in Writing under the Hands of Twenty Members of the said Corporation; at all which Courts or Assemblies all and every Member and Members of the said Corporation for the Time being are hereby enjoined to appear and be present, and not to depart from the same without the Licence of the Chairman of the said Court or Assembly, on pain to forfeit such reasonable Sum and Sums of Money, not exceeding Five Shillings, to the Use of the said Corporation, as by the Court or Assembly so to be holden, or any succeeding Court or Assembly, shall be assessed upon them, unless he or they shall show some reasonable Excuse, to be allowed of by the said Court or Assembly, or some succeeding Court or Assembly.

Treasurer to  
be summoned  
to attend  
Courts.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That the Treasurer or Treasurers who shall be appointed by virtue of this Act for the Time being shall have Notice from the Governor, Deputy Governor, or the Master for the Time being of the said Hospital, of all General Courts or Assemblies of the said Corporation, and also of all such Committees as shall from Time to Time be directed by the Bye Laws hereby authorized to be made, and be at liberty to attend the same, or any of them.

First and  
other Courts  
or Assemblies  
where to be  
held.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That the First General Court or Assembly of the said Corporation shall be held in the Court Room of the present Hospital, or in some other convenient Place within the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, on the Second *Thursday* in *April* in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, between the Hours of Five and Seven of the Clock in the Afternoon; and all future Courts or Assemblies of the said Corporation shall be held in the said Court Room of the present Hospital, or in some other convenient Place within the said City and County; and all General Courts or Assemblies of the said Corporation shall consist of Twenty-one Guardians at the least; and it shall be lawful for each and every such General Court or Assembly of the said Corporation to proceed to carry into Execution all and every the Powers and Authorities by this Act granted; and all Proceedings had or done at any of such Courts or Assemblies, in which the Majority in Number of the Twenty-one or more Guardians present shall concur, shall (except in Cases where any other Number is particularly required by this Act) be as valid and effectual as if all the Guardians present had concurred therein; and at all Courts or Assemblies of the said Corporation, as well ordinary as extraordinary, and at all Meetings of Committees to be holden by virtue of this Act, the Governor of the said Corporation for the Time being, if present, shall preside, and in case the Governor shall be absent, the Deputy Governor, if present, shall preside; and

and, in case the Deputy Governor shall be absent, then such Person as shall be elected and chosen for the Purpose by any such Court or Assembly, or by the major Part in Number of the Members of such Committee then present, shall preside at such Court or Assembly or Committee; and at all Courts or Assemblies of the said Corporation, and at all Committees to be held by virtue of this Act, in any Cases where there shall be an equal Number of Votes upon any Question, including the Vote of the Person presiding, such Person presiding shall in all such Cases have an additional or casting Vote: Provided always, that in case Twenty-one Guardians shall not be present at the said First or any future General Courts or Assemblies of the said Corporation, it shall be lawful for the Guardian or Guardians who shall be present, or if no Guardian shall be present, then for the Clerk, and they are hereby respectively required to adjourn such Meeting to any other Day, to be then holden in the Court Room of the said Hospital, or in some other convenient Place within the said City and County.

XV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any General Court or Assembly of the said Corporation, to be held in pursuance of this Act, from Time to Time to make and appoint a Common Seal or Common Seals for the Use of the said Corporation, and to alter or vary the same from Time to Time; and also from Time to Time to make Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations for the Conduct and Government of all and every the Members of the said Corporation in the Execution of this Act, as well at the General Courts as at any Committee or Committees, and also for the Conduct or Government of the senior Churchwardens of the said Parishes, and of the Overseers of the said Precinct for the Time being respectively, in all Matters relative to the Purposes of this Act; and also for the good Conduct and Behaviour of the several Officers and Servants employed by the said Corporation, or any of the Members thereof, in the Execution of this Act, and for the better accommodating, maintaining, governing, employing, removing, managing, and regulating the Poor for the Time being under their Care and Management, and for all or any other the Purposes of the said Corporation; 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 and Nonperformance of any such Bye Law, Rule, Order, or Regulation, or of any Part thereof, or for any Omission, Neglect, or Refusal to perform the Duties imposed on the several Members of the said Corporation by this Act, or by any such Bye Law, Rule, Order, or Regulation, as to them shall seem proper or expedient, not exceeding Twenty Shillings for every Default; and all such Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations when made shall be printed, and a Copy thereof kept affixed in some conspicuous Place at the Hospital or Workhouse of the said City and County, and shall be good and binding upon all Persons concerned; provided that the same, or any Alteration to be made therein from Time to Time, be not inconsistent with or repugnant to the Laws of that Part of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* called *England*, or to the Provisions and Directions in this Act contained; and provided also, that no such Bye Law, Rule, Order, or Regulation which shall be made, nor any Resolution which shall be entered into

Powers of  
the General  
Courts or  
Assemblies.

into at any one General Court or Assembly of the said Corporation, shall be varied, altered, amended, or repealed, unless Notice of such proposed Variation, Alteration, Amendment, or Repeal be given and entered in the Proceedings of the General Court or Assembly of the said Corporation next immediately preceding the Court or Assembly at which the same shall be proposed, nor unless Two Thirds of the Persons present at such last-mentioned Court or Assembly shall concur in and agree to such Variation, Alteration, Amendment, or Repeal.

Power to  
appoint  
Committees.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That it shall also be lawful for any General Court or Assembly of the said Corporation to be held by virtue of the Provision herein-before contained, to appoint any Committee or Committees, to consist of the said Governor, Deputy Governor, and Assistants for the Time being, and of such other of the Members of the said Corporation as it shall from Time to Time be thought expedient to nominate; and also to adjourn such General Court or Assembly to any other Day, either in the Court Room of the said Hospital or Workhouse, or some other convenient Place within the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, and so from Time to Time as often as it shall be thought expedient; and also to summon any of the Inhabitants of the said City and County, by Writing under the Hand of the Governor or Deputy Governor of the said Corporation for the Time being, to be delivered to the said Person, or left at his or her last usual Place of Abode or Dwelling One Day at least before the Time appointed for his or her Appearance, to appear before such Court or Assembly, or before any future or succeeding Court or Assembly, or before any Committee of the said Corporation, to answer all legal Questions on Matters relating to the Affairs and Business of the said Corporation, in carrying all or any of the Purposes of this Act into Execution, but to none other; and such Inhabitants shall and are hereby required to appear upon such Summons, and to answer such Questions, on pain of Forfeiture to the Use of the said Corporation, for the Purposes of this Act, of a Sum not exceeding Five Shillings for every Default, to be recovered as herein-after mentioned: Provided always, that until a Common Seal shall be made or appointed by virtue of the Powers of this Act, it shall be lawful for the said Corporation to use the Common Seal used by the former Corporation, and also that the Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations of the former Corporation shall continue in force, and be as valid and effectual as if the same had been made in pursuance of this Act, until Bye Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations shall be made by virtue of this Act.

Committees  
may act in  
Execution of  
Act, provided  
the Gover-  
nor, &c. be  
present, and  
not other-  
wise.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That (except in Cases where it is otherwise directed or provided by this Act) the several Powers and Authorities in this Act contained, which by this Act may be executed by the said Corporation, shall and may be performed and executed by any Committee of the said Corporation to be appointed as aforesaid, provided the Governor, or the Deputy Governor of the said Corporation, or Four of the said Assistants for the Time being, shall be present at such Committee, and not otherwise; provided that the Governor or Deputy Governor, or One Assistant and One Guardian, shall be sufficient to form the Committee of Relief as heretofore.

XVIII. And

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That the Guardians of the Poor of the said City and County shall and they are hereby required at their First General Court or Assembly of the said Corporation, to be held as herein-before mentioned, or at some subsequent Court or Assembly, to elect and choose One of the said Guardians to be the Governor of the said Corporation, One other of the said Guardians to be the Deputy Governor of the said Corporation, and Twelve other of the said Guardians to be Assistants, of whom the Six junior Assistants theretofore chosen under the said recited Acts hereby repealed shall be Six, and shall also then and there, or at some subsequent Court or Assembly, appoint some proper Person or Persons to be a Treasurer or Treasurers of the said Corporation, and also some proper Person or Persons to be the Clerk or Clerks of the said Corporation, and shall likewise appoint all such other Officers for the Year ensuing as they shall think necessary or proper; and the Person holding the Office of Governor of the former Corporation (constituted by the said Acts hereby repealed) shall, if present, preside at such First General Court or Assembly; and in case the said Governor shall not be present, the Person holding the Office of Deputy Governor of the said former Corporation shall preside at such First General Court or Assembly; and in case the said Deputy Governor shall not be present, then the said First General Court or Assembly shall elect and choose some proper Person to preside at such First General Court or Assembly; and the Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants, and Treasurer or Treasurers so to be elected and appointed shall continue in their respective Offices for One Year, and until others shall be appointed in their Stead: Provided always, that the Clerks and other Persons who have been appointed under and employed in the Execution of the Acts hereby repealed (other than the Treasurer) shall continue to exercise the Duties of their respective Offices under this Act until they shall resign or be removed from the same by virtue of the Powers or Provisions of this Act, and shall perform the same Duties, and be subject and liable to the like Rules and Regulations, Pains and Penalties, in all respects, as if they had been appointed by virtue of this Act.

The First General Court to elect a Governor and Deputy Governor, and Twelve Assistants.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That at the Court or Assembly of the said Corporation to be held on the Second *Thursday* in *April* in every Year, or at some subsequent Court or Assembly to be held within One Month then next ensuing, the Guardians of the Poor shall yearly and every Year elect and choose, from amongst the said Guardians of the Poor, One Governor, One Deputy Governor, and Twelve Assistants, of whom so many of the Six junior Assistants for the Time being (not being elected Governor or Deputy Governor) as shall be then living shall be first appointed; and shall also at the said Court or Assembly, or at some subsequent Court or Assembly, appoint a Treasurer and Clerks, and all such other Officers and Persons as may be expedient or necessary for the Execution of this Act, who shall continue in their respective Offices for One Year, and from thence until some other Persons shall be elected and appointed in their Stead: Provided always, that it shall and may be lawful for the said Corporation to remove any such Officers or Persons respectively as the said Corporation shall from Time to Time see Occasion, and thereupon, as also in the Event of the Death of any such Officer or Officers, to appoint others in their Stead; and out of the Monies to be received by virtue of this Act to allow and pay such Salaries, Wages, and

Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants, Treasurer, and Clerks, to be chosen annually.

Allowances to the said Officers and other Persons respectively, as the said Corporation shall from Time to Time think reasonable.

Offices of Clerk and Treasurer not to be held by same Person.

XX. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the said Corporation to continue or appoint any Person or Persons who may be continued or appointed to act as their Clerk in the Execution of this Act, or the Partner of any such Clerk, a Treasurer for the Purposes of this Act, or to continue or appoint any Person who may be continued or appointed a Treasurer for the Purposes of this Act, or the Partner or Partners of any such Treasurer, the Clerk to the said Corporation for executing this Act; and if any Person shall act in both the Capacities of Clerk and Treasurer for the Purposes of this Act, or if any Person being the Partner of any such Clerk shall act as Treasurer, or being a Partner of any such Treasurer shall act as Clerk in the Execution of this Act, every Person so offending 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, together with full Costs of Suit, 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 Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, nor more than one Imparlance, shall be allowed.

No Person having served the Office of Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistant, or Guardian, to be re-elected within Six Years.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That no Person who shall have been elected or appointed a Guardian, Governor, Deputy Governor, or Assistant of the said Corporation, and shall have executed the Duties of any such Office during the whole Period for which he shall have been so elected under the Provisions of this Act, shall be liable to be re-elected into, or compelled to take upon himself, or to execute the Duties of any such of the said Offices in which he shall have so served, within the Period of Six Years next after he shall have so served such Office as aforesaid, or be liable to any Penalty or Forfeiture whatever for refusing or neglecting so to do.

Persons chosen Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants, or Guardians, declining to act, &c. to be fined.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons who shall be duly elected a Guardian, Governor, Deputy Governor, or Assistant of the said Corporation, by virtue of the Provisions herein contained, other than and except the Mayor of the said City for the Time being, and the Aldermen of the said City, shall, after Twenty Days Notice in Writing, signed by the Governor, Deputy Governor, or by the Master for the Time being of the said Hospital, of such his Election or Appointment, and left at his or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, or at his or their House or Houses of Business if he or they shall not actually reside within the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, refuse or omit to take upon himself or themselves respectively the Trust or Office or Trusts or Offices to which he and they shall be so elected as aforesaid, then and in either of such Cases all and every such Person and Persons so refusing or neglecting as aforesaid shall respectively forfeit and pay the several Sums of Money following; (that is to say,) every such Person who shall have been duly elected Governor of the said Corporation, the Sum of One hundred Pounds; every such Person who shall have been duly elected Deputy Governor, the Sum of Fifty Pounds; every such Person who shall have been duly elected an Assistant, the Sum of Thirty Pounds; and every such Person who shall have been duly elected a Guardian, the Sum of

of Twenty Pounds ; all which said Forfeitures and Penalties shall be recoverable by Action or Suit in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, wherein no Essoign or Wager of Law, nor more than one Imparlance, shall be allowed ; and the said Corporation shall at any General or Special General Court or Assembly proceed to the Election of a new Governor or Deputy Governor, Assistant or Assistants, in the Place and Stead of the Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistant or Assistants refusing or omitting to act, as the Case may require : Provided always, that no Person shall be liable to any Penalty for omitting or refusing to take upon himself the Office of Guardian who shall at the Time of his Election to the said Office have attained the Age of Sixty Years.

XXIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Corporation, at any of their General Courts or Assemblies, upon a reasonable and sufficient Cause or Ground of Excuse being shown by any such Person or Persons so refusing or omitting to act, to remit the said Penalties or Forfeitures, or any of them, and to accept the Resignation of any such Person or Persons so refusing or omitting to act, or of any Person or Persons who shall discontinue to act, and thereupon, and also when and as often as any such Governor, Deputy Governor, or Assistant shall die, compound with his Creditors, or become Bankrupt, or by reason of any mental or bodily Infirmary become incapable of acting, to proceed to the Election of a new Governor or Deputy Governor, Assistant or Assistants, as the Case may require, in manner prescribed by this Act ; and any Vacancy or Vacancies which shall by such Resignation or Resignations be occasioned amongst the Guardians of the Poor shall be supplied in manner herein-before directed in case of the Death, Insolvency, Refusal, or Omission to act of any of the Persons, except the said Mayor, Aldermen, and senior Churchwardens hereby constituted Guardians ; provided nevertheless, that no such Remission of Penalties, or Acceptance of Resignation, shall be valid or effectual unless Two Thirds in Number of the Guardians present at the General Court or Assembly wherein the same shall be proposed shall concur therein and agree thereto.

Corporation may accept Resignation of Governors, &c. on sufficient Cause.

XXIV. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That no Person who shall have paid the Penalty or Fine hereby imposed on his or their Refusal to execute any of the Offices aforesaid shall be liable to be re-elected into, or compelled to take upon himself, or to execute the Duties of the said Offices, or any of them, within Ten Years after the Period of his Election into such Office, or be liable to any Penalty or Forfeiture whatsoever for refusing or neglecting so to do ; but nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to render any Person or Persons ineligible to be re-elected to any such Office if he shall be willing to take upon himself the Performance of the Duties thereof.

Persons having paid the Fine for refusing to serve the Offices of Governor, &c. to be discharged from serving again for Ten Years.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That all Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments vested in the former Corporation erected and constituted by the said several recited Acts hereby repealed, and all Goods, Chattels, Monies, Securities for Money and Effects, Stock, Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, Debts, Demands, Rights, Remedies, Cause and Causes of Action, which at the Time when this Act shall take effect shall

Property of the old Corporation vested in the new Corporation.

shall belong to the said former Corporation, or which shall be in the Hands, Custody, or Possession of any Person or Persons whomsoever, for the Use or on Account of the same, and all Arrears of the Rates, and all Rents and other Monies which at the same Period shall be due or owing to the said former Corporation, and all other Materials, Articles, or Things which shall have been provided for the Purposes of the said recited Acts hereby repealed, or which shall have been purchased, collected, or provided for the Purposes of this Act, shall be fully and absolutely vested in the Corporation by this Act constituted, for such and the like Estates, Terms, and Interests, and to such and the like Effect in Law, as the same were previously vested in or held or possessed by or for the said former Corporation.

Persons holding Books or Monies under former Acts made accountable to the new Corporation.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That all and every Person or Persons whomsoever who shall have received, or who shall have in his or their Custody or Power, any Monies collected by virtue of the said several recited Acts hereby repealed, or any Books, Papers, Deeds, or Writings relating to all or any of the Matters aforesaid, or to the Execution of the said Acts, shall, when thereunto required, by Notice in Writing signed by the Governor or Deputy Governor for the Time being of the Corporation by this Act constituted, given to him, her, or them, or left at his, her, or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, account for and deliver the same to the said Governor or Deputy Governor, or any Person or Persons appointed by them, or either of them, for that Purpose, in the like Manner and under the like Penalties as is herein-after directed with respect to any Officer or Person appointed under or by virtue of this Act.

New Corporation made liable to the Obligations of the old.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That the Corporation by this Act constituted shall be and is hereby made subject and liable to and for all Agreements, Bonds, Covenants, Matters, and Things, to or for which the Corporation erected and constituted by the said recited Acts hereby repealed are or shall be, at the Time this Act shall take effect, subject and liable, in the same Manner to all Intents and Purposes as if such Agreements, Bonds, Covenants, Matters, and Things had been made, entered into, given, or done, under the Powers or Provisions of this Act.

Books of Proceedings to be kept.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That a Book or Books shall be provided by the said Corporation, in which Book or Books fair and regular Entries shall be made of all the Rules, Orders, and Regulations, Acts, Directions, and Proceedings of the said Guardians, relative to the Execution of this Act, and of the Names of the Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants, and Guardians who shall be present at the respective Courts or Assemblies or Meetings, and the same shall be subscribed by the Chairman of the respective Courts or Assemblies or Meetings, and all such Entries being so signed shall be deemed Originals, and shall be allowed to be read in Evidence in all Courts whatsoever, in all Causes, Suits, and Actions touching any thing done in pursuance of this Act; and such Book and Books shall be kept by the Master of the said Hospital for the Time being, in such secure Place or Places as the Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants, and Guardians shall from Time to Time direct; and shall at every such Court or Assembly and Meeting, and at all

all other seasonable Times, be open and subject to the Inspection of the said Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants, and Guardians.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall have the Care of and provide for the Maintenance of all the Poor of the said City and County, of what Age or Kind soever they be, with Power to receive all such poor Persons into any Hospital or Workhouse belonging or to belong to the said Corporation.

The Corporation to have the Care of the Poor.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Corporation, or any Committee or Committees of the said Corporation, to cause any Person who shall be received into any such Hospital or Workhouse to be employed in any Work, Trade, Manufacture, or Employment, or otherwise, as they shall think proper, during the Time he or she shall continue in any such Hospital or Workhouse, and shall and may, in case they shall think proper, purchase and provide a sufficient Stock of Flax, Hemp, Silk, Wool, Cotton, Thread, Iron, Stone, Wood, Leather, or other Materials of what Nature or Kind soever, for the Employment of the Poor and other Persons received into any such Hospital or Workhouse, and for that Purpose only may set up, use, and occupy any Trade, Mystery, or Occupation whatsoever in any such Hospital or Workhouse or other Building used therewith for the Purposes of this Act; and for the Purposes of this Act may sell and dispose of such Goods, Wares, and Merchandizes as shall be manufactured or made by such Poor or other Persons in any such Hospital or Workhouse or other Building, any Law, Usage, or Privilege to the contrary notwithstanding; and out of the Profits arising from any Work which shall be done by such Persons, such Gratuities or Rewards shall be distributed to the industrious and skilful, according to the Quality and Perfection of their Work, and of the Industry and good Conduct of the Persons executing the same, as to the said Corporation or any Committee or Committees of the same shall appear reasonable and proper; and the Remainder of the Profits shall be applied by the said Corporation to the Purposes of this Act.

And with Power to employ the Poor.

XXXI. And whereas divers Persons belonging to and who ought by the Laws now in force to be relieved by the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, are often found wandering and begging in the said City and County, and committing Acts of Vagrancy, and misbehaving themselves by exposing, in an offensive and improper Manner, their Persons or Limbs: And whereas divers Persons, by reason of their idle and disorderly Habits, neglect or refuse to maintain, or threaten to desert their Families, such Families not being able to maintain themselves; and if Power were given to apprehend such Persons and send them to any Hospital or Workhouse in the said City and County, it might tend to inure them to Habits of Industry, and render them useful Members of Society; be it therefore further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Corporation to order and compel all and every Person and Persons found wandering and begging in the said City and County, or committing Acts of Vagrancy, and all and every idle and disorderly Person and Persons neglecting or refusing to maintain or threatening to desert their Families, such Families not being able to maintain themselves, and who shall belong to or ought to be relieved and provided for by the said City and County, to come into and to dwell and inhabit in any Hospital or Workhouse

Governor, &c. empowered to compel Vagrants and others who belong to the City to inhabit the Workhouse.

[*Local.*]

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which

which shall at any Time belong to the said Corporation, and to work and labour therein, and to receive, detain, keep, maintain, and employ all such Persons therein, so long as it shall appear to the said Corporation that any of such Vagrants or Paupers respectively are not of Ability, or cannot otherwise be sufficiently maintained and provided for without the Aid and Provision of the said Corporation: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be deemed or construed to extend to authorize the said Corporation to erect any additional Workhouses or Buildings for the Reception of the Poor of the said City and County.

Vagrants  
may be dis-  
charged by  
Justices.

XXXII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any Two of the Justices in and for the said City and County, upon the Complaint and Application of any Person or Persons who may be so compelled to come into, dwell, and inhabit in any such Hospital or Workhouse, having first duly summoned the Governor or Deputy Governor of the said Corporation, to inquire into and investigate, in the Presence of such Governor or Deputy Governor, or in his Absence, if he shall refuse or neglect to attend at the Time and Place mentioned in such Summons, the Grounds of such Complaint and Application, and thereupon to make such Order for the Discharge of the Person or Persons so complaining, or for his, her, or their further Detention, as to such Justices shall under all the Circumstances of the Case seem reasonable and proper.

Vesting the  
Corporation  
with Power  
of Overseers.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That from and after the said Twenty-fifth Day of *March* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, the said Corporation and their Successors shall be and they are hereby declared to be invested with, and shall and are hereby required to exercise, all and every the Powers and Authorities with which Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or any of them, by any Laws made or to be made in all or any Cases touching or concerning the apprenticing, Maintenance, Relief, Management, Removal, or Employment of the Poor, or the Application of any of the Rates made for their Use or Maintenance, are or shall be invested (except as is herein otherwise provided); and the said Corporation, or the Governor or Deputy Governor for the Time being on behalf of the said Corporation, are and is hereby authorized and empowered to do and perform all and every such Act or Acts, and in the same Manner as Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or any of them, are or may be enabled to do and perform (except as herein otherwise provided) in all or any such Cases; and the said Corporation, or the Governor or Deputy Governor for the Time being on behalf of the said Corporation, shall and may institute and defend any Appeal against any Rate, or any Order of Removal, or any other Order in anywise relating to or affecting the Objects or Purposes of this Act, and issue or receive any Notices respecting the same, in the same Manner as Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor respectively, by any Law made or to be made, are empowered or required to do; and shall and may take any legal Securities or Indemnifications in Trust for the Inhabitants of the said City and County, or of any Parish or Precinct within the same, which they shall deem necessary or prudent to be taken for the Purposes of this Act, in any Case or Cases whatsoever; provided nevertheless, that the senior Churchwardens for the Time being of the said respective Parishes, and the Overseers of the Poor of the said Precinct of the *Castle*, shall at

all Times hereafter (subject to such Rules, Orders, and Regulations as shall from Time to Time be made by the said Corporation) continue to pay the Poor resident in their respective Parishes, and in the said Precinct; all such Sum and Sums of Money as shall be authorized and allowed by the said Corporation, or any Committee of the same, to be paid for the Relief of such poor Persons; and the said Corporation are hereby required to issue, by weekly or other Payments, and to pay over to the said Churchwardens and Overseers respectively, such Sum and Sums of Money as shall be necessary for and adequate to the due and regular Payment of such Allowances.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases not herein otherwise provided for, where One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace is or are empowered by any Law, now or hereafter to be made, to proceed on the Complaint of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or any of them, it shall and may be lawful for such Justice or Justices, and he and they is and are hereby required to proceed on the Complaint of the said Governor or Deputy Governor, or the Clerks or Clerk of the said Corporation for the Time being, in such and the like Manner, to all Intents and Purposes, as if such Complaint had been made by any such Churchwardens and Overseers, or any of them.

Justices empowered to proceed on Complaint made by Guardians, the same as if made by Churchwardens or Overseers.

XXXV. And be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall and are hereby required, yearly and every Year, at their General Court or Assembly which shall be held on the Second *Thursday* in *April*, or at any Special General Court or Assembly to be held within Fourteen Days then next ensuing, to set down and ascertain what Sum or Sums of Money will be requisite for the Maintenance of the Poor of the said City and County of the said City of *Bristol* for the then current Year, commencing on the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* then next preceding, and for all or any other the Purposes of this Act; and to certify by some Writing under their Common Seal to the Justices of the Peace for the said City and County, at their General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden in the Week next after the Feast of *Easter* in every Year, or at any Adjournment thereof, the Amount which shall be so set down and ascertained to be requisite for the Purposes aforesaid; and at the same Time to produce to the Justices there present a Statement or Account of their Receipts and Payments ending on the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* then next preceding; and the Justices then and there present shall and may make such Inquiry and Examination into the Circumstances of the Case as they may think expedient, and thereupon shall and are hereby required to order, award, and direct, by Writing under the Hand of the Town Clerk of the said City and County, such Sum or Sums of Money to be levied and raised for the Purposes aforesaid as they shall think proper, not exceeding the Sum which shall have been so set down, ascertained, and certified as herein-before mentioned; and such Order, Award, or Direction shall be signed by the said Town Clerk, and a Duplicate thereof, signed by such Town Clerk, shall be by him forthwith transmitted to the Governor for the Time being of the said Corporation, at the Hospital or Workhouse of the said Corporation, in the said City and County.

Corporation empowered to ascertain annually the Sum requisite for Maintenance of the Poor for the current Year, as also for incidental Payments, and to certify same to Justices in Quarter Sessions at Easter.

XXXVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall and they are hereby required, within Ten Days next after such

Accounts to be published.

such Order shall be made and transmitted as aforesaid, to cause a Copy of such Statement or Account of such Receipts and Payments to be inserted in Two or more of the weekly Newspapers published in the said City.

Justices to order, at same Sessions the Monies authorized by the Dock Acts to be raised for the Purposes thereof.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Justices of the Peace at the same *Easter* Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the said City and County of the said City of *Bristol*, or at some Adjournment thereof, and they are hereby empowered and required, upon the Application of the Directors of the *Bristol* Dock Company, or any Five or more of them, to order and appoint, by Writing under the Hand of the said Town Clerk, the Sum of Two thousand and four hundred Pounds, to be raised and levied as by the said recited Act of the Forty-third Year of the Reign of His late Majesty is authorized and required for the Purposes thereof; and Duplicates of such Order, signed by the said Town Clerk, shall be by such Town Clerk transmitted to the Governor of the said Corporation at the Hospital or Workhouse of the said Corporation in the said City and County, and to the Directors of the *Bristol* Dock Company, at the same Time and together with the Order herein-before directed to be made for raising and levying the Monies which shall be found requisite for the Purposes of this Act.

Justices at the same Sessions, to order the Monies authorized by the Paving Act to be raised for the Purposes thereof.

XXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for such Justices at the same *Easter* Quarter Sessions of the Peace, or at some Adjournment thereof, and they are hereby empowered, to order and appoint, by Writing under the Hand of the said Town Clerk, such Sum to be raised and levied for the Purposes of the said recited Act passed in the Forty-sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty, for amending, altering, and enlarging the Powers of several Acts passed for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the City of *Bristol*, and Liberties thereof, as by the same Act is authorized, upon the Application of the Commissioners for executing the same, and upon such Certificate as in the said Act is mentioned being produced to such Justices; and Duplicates of such Orders, signed by the said Town Clerk, shall be by such Town Clerk also transmitted to the Governor of the said Corporation at the Hospital or Workhouse of the said Corporation in the said City and County, and to the Commissioners acting in Execution of the said Act, at the same Time and together with the Order herein-before directed to be made for the raising and levying the Monies which shall be found requisite for the Purposes of this Act.

If *Easter* Sessions be held before the Second Thursday in April, or if the Corporation be not prepared with their Statement, Justices may adjourn to a convenient Day.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That in case it shall happen at any Time hereafter that any *Easter* Sessions of the Peace shall commence and be holden before the Second *Thursday* in *April*, or in case the said Corporation shall not be prepared to prove to the said Justices such Statement of their Account as is herein-before required upon the Day appointed for holding such Sessions in any Year, that then and in such Case the said Justices then and there present shall and they are hereby required, upon the Application of the Governor or Deputy Governor of the said Corporation for the Time being, to adjourn the said Sessions to some other convenient Day in the said Month of *April*, subsequent to the Second *Thursday* in the said Month, for the Purpose of receiving such Account, and of making such Examination and Order thereon as aforesaid.

XL. And

XL. And be it further enacted, That as soon after such said several Orders of Sessions shall have been made and transmitted as aforesaid, as conveniently may be, it shall and may be lawful for the Mayor of the said City and County of *Bristol* for the Time being, and any Two or more of the Justices of the said City and County, or any Five of the Justices, without the Mayor, and he and they are hereby required, to cause all such Sum and Sums of Money which shall be so ordered to be raised by such several Orders of Sessions respectively as aforesaid, as also all such Sum or Sums of Money as shall from Time to Time remain uncollected on any preceding Rate or Rates made under the Authority of this Act, either by reason of any Property rated being unoccupied, or by reason of the Insolvency or Removal of any of the Persons rated, or which shall have been lost by reason of the Insolvency of any Person or Persons appointed to collect and receive the same, or be lost or left uncollected by any other Means whatsoever, otherwise than by the Default or Insolvency of any Churchwarden or Churchwardens, the Amount whereof shall be certified to the said Justices by the Persons to whom the Collection of the said Rates shall from Time to Time belong, and also all such Sum or Sums of Money as shall or may be expended by the said Corporation, Directors, and Commissioners respectively, in and about the Prosecution of all or any of the Remedies by this Act given for the recovering of any Monies which from Time to Time shall be in the Hands of the Collectors appointed under this Act, or of any of them, or of any other Person or Persons whomsoever, to be raised and levied by Taxation of every Inhabitant, and of all Lands, Houses, Tithes, and other rateable Property in the City of *Bristol* and County of the same, in equal Proportions, according to their respective Worths and Values; and in order thereunto the said Mayor and any Two of the said Justices, or any Five of the said Justices without the Mayor, shall and may and he and they are hereby required indifferently to proportion all the same several Sums of Money respectively upon each Parish and Precinct within the said City and County, and thereupon Duplicates of such Apportionments shall be by the said Justices transmitted to the Governor of the said Corporation at the Hospital or Workhouse of the said Corporation in the said City and County, and also to the said Directors and Commissioners respectively; provided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to authorize or empower any Rate or Assessment to be made for or in respect of the Cathedral Church or Churchyard within the said City.

Mayor and Two Justices, or any Five Justices, to apportion the Sums to be rated amongst the respective Parishes and Precinct.

XLI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in all Cases where it shall be made to appear to the Justices of the Peace in and for the said City and County, or any Two or more of them, that any Monies have remained uncollected or been lost by reason of any Neglect or Default of any Churchwarden or Churchwardens, or of the Overseers of the said Precinct, or either of them, it shall and may be lawful for the said Justices, or any Two or more of them, upon the Complaint of any Inhabitant of the said City, to inquire in a summary Way into the Circumstances under which such Monies have remained uncollected or been lost; and in case they shall find that the same have remained uncollected by reason of any Neglect or Default of any Churchwarden or Churchwardens, or of the said Overseers, or either of them, they shall and are hereby required to order and direct that such Monies so remaining uncollected by reason of

Deficiencies occasioned by Neglect, &c. of Churchwardens, &c. to be raised by the particular Parish or Precinct.

any such Neglect or Default as aforesaid, shall be paid over to the said Corporation, Directors, and Commissioners respectively, by the Churchwarden or Churchwardens, or Overseer or Overseers respectively, by whose Neglect or Default the same shall have been left uncollected; and all Monies which shall be or shall have been lost by the Insolvency of any Churchwarden or Churchwardens, or of the said Overseer or Overseers, shall be re-assessed upon the Parish or respective Parishes in which such Loss shall have arisen or occurred, and shall be collected at the same Time as the apportioned Share of the general Rate of such of the said Parishes and Precinct respectively, the Churchwardens or Overseers of which shall make such Default, shall be collected; and all such Monies which shall be so ordered and directed to be paid over by any such Churchwardens or Overseers respectively shall and may be sued for and recovered, together with full Costs of Suit, of and from such Churchwardens or Overseers respectively, by Action of Debt or on the Case, or by Bill, Suit, or Information in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, to be commenced and prosecuted in the Name of the said Corporation, so far as respects the Monies ordered to be raised for the Purposes of this Act, and so far as regards the Monies to be raised for the Purposes of the said *Bristol Dock Company*, and the said Commissioners respectively, in the Name of such Person or Persons as is and are authorized by the said recited Acts respectively under which the said Dock Company and Commissioners respectively are constituted to sue in their respective Behalves, in which Actions respectively no Protection, Essoign, or Wager of Law, nor more than one Impar lance, shall be allowed.

Justices empowered to cause a Survey, preparatory to the First Assessment.

XLII. And in order the better to enable the Justices to apportion the Sum and Sums of Money so to be raised and assessed as aforesaid, and to ascertain the annual Value of all Houses, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said City and County of *Bristol*, be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Mayor and any Two of such Justices, or to and for any Five of the said Justices without the Mayor, and he and they are hereby required, as soon as conveniently may be after the passing of this Act, to cause a Survey and Valuation to be made of all Houses, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said City and County, and for that Purpose to employ any Surveyor or Surveyors, or other Person or Persons whom they shall deem competent, to estimate and ascertain the annual Value of all or any Houses, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said City and County; and the said Corporation and Commissioners respectively shall and are hereby required to pay, out of any Monies received or receivable by them respectively by virtue of this Act, such Sum or Sums of Money to every such Surveyor or Surveyors, or other competent Person or Persons so to be employed as aforesaid, for his or their Trouble therein, and in such Proportions respectively as the said Mayor and any Two of the said Justices, or any Five of the said Justices without the Mayor, shall order and direct: Provided always, that no Person shall be capable of acting as a Surveyor or Valuer as aforesaid until he shall have taken and subscribed the Oath, or, being a Quaker, until he shall have made and subscribed the Affirmation following, before some One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the said City and County, which

which Oath or Affirmation the said Justice is hereby empowered to administer :

‘ I A. B. do swear [*or, being one of the People called Quakers, do solemnly affirm, as the Case may be*], That I will truly, impartially, and honestly execute the Duties incumbent on me, and the Trust in me reposed, as a Surveyor and Valuer, under and by virtue of an Act passed in the Third Year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Fourth, intituled *An Act* [*here insert the Title of the Act*]. So help me GOD.’  
[*Or being a Quaker, omit the Words ‘ So help me God.’*]

XLIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Mayor and any Two of the said Justices, or any Five of the said Justices without the Mayor, and he and they are hereby required at any Time or Times after the Expiration of Seven Years next after the passing of this Act, and so from Time to Time at any Time after the Expiration of every Seven Years next following any such Survey, either upon the Requisition of any of the Churchwardens or Overseers of the said respective Parishes and Precinct, or otherwise at his and their Discretion, to cause a new Survey and Estimate of the annual Value of all Houses, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said City and County, or of such Part or Parts of the same as may in their Judgment be requisite for the Purpose of enabling them to make a just and fair Apportionment; such Survey to be made in the Manner herein-before directed, at the Costs and Charges of the said Corporation and Commissioners respectively, to be ascertained and apportioned in Manner herein-before directed.

And to repeat the same at the End of every Seven Years.

XLIV. And be it further enacted, That when and as soon as the said Justices shall have made such Apportionment as aforesaid, it shall be lawful to and for any Two of the said Justices and they are hereby required to issue Warrants under their Hands and Seals, directed to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the several Parishes and Precinct of the *Castle* in the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, to assess the same upon the said several Parishes and Precinct; and the said several Churchwardens and Overseers shall and are hereby required, as soon as conveniently may be after the issuing of such Warrants, to assess the several Sums of Money which shall be so apportioned upon each of the said respective Parishes and Precinct amongst the several Inhabitants, Owners, or Occupiers of all Lands, Houses, Tithes, and other rateable Property within the said City and County of *Bristol*, according to their several and respective Abilities, either by One fair and equal Assessment for each Parish and Precinct, distinguishing in several Columns the Sums respectively assessed for the Use of the said Corporation, Directors, and Commissioners respectively, or by Three several distinct Rates or Assessments, as may be found most convenient; which said Rates or Assessments, Rate or Assessment, when made, shall be payable by equal quarterly Payments on the Twenty-fourth Day of *June*, the Twenty-ninth Day of *September*, the Twenty-first Day of *December*, and the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* in each Year, and the First Payment thereof shall begin and be made on the Twenty-fourth Day of *June* next after the same Rate shall be made: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to authorize any Rate or Assessment to be made for the Purposes of the said recited Acts for improving

Justices to issue Warrants, and Churchwardens and Overseers thereupon to assess.

proving and rendering more commodious the Port and Harbour of *Bristol*, and for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the Streets of the said City of *Bristol* and the Liberties thereof, or either of them, on any Description of Property whatsoever which was not subject and liable to be rated under and by virtue of such Acts respectively.

Rates to be deposited for the Inspection of rated Inhabitants, with Power to review and alter same at Vestry Meetings, after Notice.

XLV. And be it further enacted, That when and as soon as such Rates and Assessments shall be respectively made as aforesaid, the Churchwardens of the said several Parishes respectively shall cause the same Rates and Assessments, for the said several Parishes, to be deposited and remain in the respective Vestry Rooms of the Parish Churches, and the Overseers of the said Precinct shall cause the Rate and Assessment for the said Precinct to be deposited and remain in the Vestry Room of the Parish Church of *Saint Peter* in the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, or otherwise such Churchwardens and Overseers respectively shall cause the same Rates and Assessments to be deposited at some proper Place or Places within the said Parishes or Precinct respectively, as they shall respectively think proper, for the Space of Six Days at the least after Public Notice of the respective Places where the same shall be deposited shall have been given by the respective Parish Clerks of the said several Parishes on the *Sunday* next preceding such Deposit, affixing a written or printed Notice to the principal Door of each of the said Parish Churches immediately before Morning Service, and reading the same in such of the said Churches respectively as may be open for Divine Service immediately after Morning Prayer, and by the said Overseers of the said Precinct affixing a written or printed Notice on the principal Doors of the Churches of *Saint Peter* and *Saint Philip and Jacob*, within the said City, immediately before the usual Hour of Morning Service; and the same several Rates and Assessments shall remain open to the Inspection of the several rated Inhabitants of the said respective Parishes and Precinct from the Hour of Ten in the Forenoon to the Hour of Three in the Afternoon of each of the same Days, after which the said Churchwardens shall cause the said Rates or Assessments on the said Parishes to be submitted to some Meeting of the said respective Vestries in the said several Parishes, and the said Overseers shall cause the Rate or Assessment on the said Precinct to be submitted to some Meeting of the Inhabitants of the said Precinct, for the better Consideration, Revision, and Correction of the same; and it shall be lawful for the said Vestries, and the Inhabitants of the said Precinct respectively, to make all such Alterations and Corrections in such Rates or Assessments respectively, by adding any Name or Names thereto, or by altering the Amount or Amounts at which any Inhabitant or Inhabitants of the same Parishes or Precinct respectively shall be rated, as to the said Vestries, and the Inhabitants of the Precinct respectively, shall seem expedient or proper; but no such Addition or Alteration shall be made of the said Rates or Assessments on the said Parishes respectively, except at some Meeting of the said respective Vestries of the said several Parishes, of which Public Notice shall have been given in Manner herein-before directed on the *Sunday* immediately preceding such Meeting, nor of the Rate on the said Precinct, by the Inhabitants as aforesaid, unless a similar Notice shall have been affixed to the principal Doors of the said Parish Churches of *Saint Peter* and *Saint Philip and Jacob*, in Manner herein-before directed; and which Meetings all Persons rated in respect of any Property within the said

said Parishes and Precinct respectively shall by such Notices respectively be invited to attend, for the Purpose of submitting such Matters and Things relative to the said Rates respectively, or any Alteration or Alterations therein, as they may think proper, for the Consideration and Determination of such Meeting.

XLVI. And be it further enacted, That the said Corporation, or some Committee of the same to be for that Purpose appointed at any General Court or Assembly of the said Corporation, shall and they are hereby required, in each and every Year hereafter, as soon as conveniently may be after such Apportionment shall have been made and transmitted as herein-before is directed, and so from Time to Time as often as shall be necessary, to summon both the Churchwardens for the Time being of each of the several Parishes, and the Overseers of the Precinct of the *Castle* within the said City and County of *Bristol*, by a written or a printed Summons under the Hand of the Governor or Deputy Governor of the said Corporation, to be left at the Dwelling House or Place of Business of each of the said Churchwardens and Overseers at least Seven Days before the Day appointed in such Summons for such Meeting, to assemble and meet together in the Court Room of the said Hospital or Workhouse, or at such other Place or Places, and at such Time or Times, as they may think proper, which Summons the said Churchwardens and Overseers respectively are hereby enjoined and required to obey; at which said Meeting and Meetings respectively, or at some Adjournment or Adjournments of such Meeting or Meetings, the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or such of them as shall be present at such Meeting, the Number present not being less than Fifteen, are hereby authorized and required to nominate and appoint such Number of Persons as they shall think expedient, not being less than Four nor more than Eight, to collect, gather in, and receive all such Sum and Sums of Money as shall from Time to Time, after the said Twenty-fifth Day of *March* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, be assessed and become payable under the Rates and Assessments hereby authorized to be made, and to allot to each of the Persons who shall be so appointed Collectors such District or Districts of the said City wherein to make the respective Collections as they shall deem expedient and proper; and also to order and direct what Sum or Sums of Money shall be paid or allowed to the said several Collectors respectively, by way of Salary or Poundage, in such Proportions as they shall think fit, so as that the same in the whole shall not exceed Four-pence Halfpenny in the Pound on the Monies actually collected; which Salary or Poundage shall be paid to the said Collectors respectively by the Parties respectively entitled to receive the said Monies which shall be so assessed, when and as soon as the whole of the Monies which shall have been so assessed shall have been collected, gathered in, and paid over; or if any Part thereof shall necessarily remain uncollected, then as soon as the Monies which shall have been collected shall have been duly paid over, and the Residue remaining uncollected added to the next or some succeeding Rate, and not before: Provided always, that the Election and Appointment of such Collectors, as well in the Event of the Removal, Resignation, Death, or Incapacity of any Collector or Collectors who shall be so appointed as in the first Instance, and the Amount of the Poundage or Salary to be paid or allowed to them respectively, shall be determined by the Majority of the Votes of the said Churchwardens and Overseers respectively who shall be present at such Meeting or Meetings, which Votes

Appointment  
of Collectors  
by Church-  
wardens and  
Overseers.

[*Local.*]

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shall

shall be regulated in Manner following; (that is to say,) the Churchwarden or Churchwardens representing each of the said Parishes, and the said Overseers of the said Precinct, shall be entitled respectively to One Vote in respect of each Parish or Precinct, in Cases where the Portion of the Monies hereby or by the said recited Acts authorized to be raised and appointed to be assessed on their or his respective Parish or Precinct shall not amount to One thousand Pounds; and in Cases where the same shall amount to One thousand Pounds, and not amount to Two thousand Pounds, to Two Votes; and where the same shall amount to Two thousand Pounds, and not amount to Three thousand Pounds, to Three Votes; and where the same shall amount to Three thousand Pounds, and not amount to Four thousand Pounds, to Four Votes; and where the same shall amount to Four thousand Pounds or upwards, to Five Votes; provided also, that at all Meetings of the said Churchwardens and Overseers to be held in pursuance of this Act, a Chairman shall be appointed by the Majority in Number of the Persons present at such Meeting, and such Chairman, in all Cases where there shall be an equal Number of Votes, including the Vote or Votes of such Chairman, upon any Question, shall have an additional or casting Vote: Provided always, that in case it shall happen at any Time or Times that Fifteen of the said Churchwardens shall not attend at any such Meeting so summoned, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Corporation to summon the said Churchwardens and Overseers respectively to attend upon some other Day to be appointed for that Purpose in like Manner as is herein-before directed, and so from Time to Time as often as the said Corporation shall deem it expedient.

Power to  
Justices to  
remove  
Collectors.

XLVII. And be it further enacted, That if at any Time or Times hereafter the said Corporation, Directors, or Commissioners respectively, or the Churchwardens for the Time being of any of the said Parishes, or the Overseers for the Time being of the said Precinct, shall be desirous that any Collector or Collectors to be appointed under the Authority for that Purpose herein-before contained, shall be removed or displaced, or if any such Collector or Collectors shall be desirous of being discharged from the further Execution of the Duties of his or their Office or respective Offices, it shall and may be lawful to and for any Two of the Justices of the Peace for the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, upon the Application of any of the said Parties respectively, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to summon any such Collector or Collectors against whom any Complaint may be preferred, or in the Event of any such Collector or Collectors being desirous of being discharged, by like Warrant to summon the Clerks of the said Corporation, Directors, and Commissioners respectively, to appear before them, and thereupon, or on due Proof of such Summons having been served, then in the Absence of the Party summoned, to inquire into and investigate, in a summary Way, the Grounds of such Application, and, if they shall think fit, wholly to displace and remove such Collector or Collectors.

Power to ap-  
point Collec-  
tors in the  
Event of  
Resignation,  
Death, or  
Incapacity.

XLVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That as well in the Event of the Removal of any such Collector or Collectors, as in case any such Collector or Collectors shall die, or become incapable, either by reason of any mental or bodily Infirmary, to act further in the Execution of his or their Office or respective Offices, it shall and may be lawful, and the said Corporation are hereby required, to summon the said several Churchwardens and Overseers of the said Precinct in Manner herein directed,

to assemble in the said Court Room of the said Hospital, or at such other Place or Places and at such Time or Times as they may think proper, which Summons the said Churchwardens and Overseers respectively are hereby required to obey; and it shall be lawful for the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or any Fifteen or more of them present at such Meeting, or at any Adjournment or Adjournments thereof, to appoint some other Person or Persons in the Room or Place of such Collector or Collectors who shall be so removed, die, or become incapable of acting as aforesaid; and such Collector or Collectors who shall be so appointed shall execute the Duties of the Collector or respective Collectors in whose Room he or they shall be so appointed then remaining unperformed, and shall have and be entitled to exercise all such and the same Powers and Authorities as though he or they had been originally appointed a Collector or Collectors under and by virtue of the Provisions for that Purpose herein-before contained.

XLIX. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be and they are hereby directed to stand possessed of such Security or Securities so far as the same relate to the Collection and Payment of the Monies hereby authorized to be raised for the Purposes of the said Acts for improving and rendering more commodious the Port and Harbour of *Bristol*, and for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the said City respectively, and the Conduct of such Collectors respectively in the Collection and Payment of the same Monies to the said Directors and Commissioners respectively, in Trust and for the Benefit of the said Directors and Commissioners respectively; and shall from Time to Time, at the proper Costs and Charges of the said Directors and Commissioners respectively, take, or permit or allow to be taken, in the Name of the said Corporation, all such Proceedings for recovering the Penalties of the said Bonds, for the Benefit of their said Cestuique Trusts respectively, as they shall from Time to Time require.

Corporation to stand possessed of Securities in Trust for Directors and Paving Commissioners.

L. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall and they are hereby required to take sufficient Security from each and every Treasurer and Collector to be appointed by virtue of this Act, for the due and faithful Execution of their respective Offices, by the Bond or Bonds of the Person or Persons who shall be so appointed, and of Two other Persons as his or their Sureties respectively, being substantial Householders residing within the said City and County, to be approved by the said Parties respectively, before any such Treasurer or Collector shall enter upon his Office; and if they shall so think proper shall and may also take Security from any other Officer to be appointed or continued under or by virtue of this Act.

Treasurers and Collectors to give Security by the Bonds of themselves and Two Sureties.

LI. And be it further enacted, That until a Collector or Collectors, who shall take upon himself or themselves to act in Execution of the Duties of his or their Office or respective Offices shall be appointed by virtue of this Act, and during such Time, and when and as often as there shall be no such Collector appointed, and as to so much and such Parts of the said City and County of the City of *Bristol* for which no such Collector or Collectors shall be appointed, the Rates or Assessments by the said recited Acts and by this Act authorized to be made, or such Part or Parts thereof of which no such Collector shall be appointed, shall be collected and received by the senior Churchwarden of the said respective Parishes, and

Churchwardens to collect until Collectors are appointed.

and by the Overseers of the Poor of the said Precinct of the *Castle* for the Time being respectively ; and the said Churchwardens and Overseers respectively shall have and may exercise, for the Recovery of such several Rates and Assessments, all and every the Powers, Authorities, and Remedies which are hereby given or authorized to be given to any Collector or Collectors to be appointed under the Provisions herein contained ; and the said Justices of the said City and County, and the said Corporation in their Default, are hereby authorized and required to issue all such and the like Warrants or Orders to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the said several Parishes and Precincts, for the Collection of the said Rates or Assessments, as are herein authorized to be issued to such Collectors respectively.

Rates, when completed, to be submitted for Allowance to Justices.

LII. And be it further enacted, That each and every Rate, when and as soon as the same shall be respectively made, and shall have been submitted for Revision and Correction as aforesaid, shall, by the said Churchwardens and Overseers respectively making the same, be submitted to Two or more of the Justices of the said City and County of *Bristol*, for Allowance, together with the Names of such Person or Persons as shall be appointed to collect the same ; and the said Justices are hereby required, within Ten Days next after the same shall have been left at the Council House of the said City and County, to issue out and grant their Order or Warrant or Orders or Warrants, thereby authorizing and requiring the Collectors respectively, who shall be so appointed and certified as aforesaid, to demand, gather, collect, and receive, within the respective Districts to which they shall be respectively appointed as aforesaid, the Sum and Sums of Money which shall be so rated and assessed upon the Inhabitants of and Owners and Occupiers of rateable Property within the said respective Parishes and Precincts, by such Rates or Assessments, by Four even and equal quarterly Payments, on the Twenty-fourth Day of *June*, the Twenty-ninth Day of *September*, the Twenty-first Day of *December*, and the Twenty-fifth Day of *March*, in each and every Year ; and when and as the said Sum or Sums so rated and assessed, or any Part thereof, shall be received, the said Collectors so respectively receiving the same shall immediately pay such Portion thereof as shall be directed to be raised and levied for the Purposes of this Act to the Treasurer of the said Corporation for the Time being, on account and for the Use of the said Corporation ; and such Portion thereof as shall be ordered to be raised and levied for the Use of the said *Bristol* Dock Company, to the said Directors of the said Company, or any Five of them, or to the Treasurer or Treasurers of the said Company, or such other Person or Persons as shall from Time to Time be appointed by the said Directors, or any Five of them, to receive the same ; and such Portion thereof as shall be directed to be levied and raised for the Purposes of the said Act passed in the Forty-sixth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty, for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the said City, herein-before recited, to the Treasurer to be appointed by virtue of the said Act for the Time being, without making any Deduction thereout for or on account or under the Pretence of any Salary or Poundage having accrued due thereon.

Warrants may be transmitted by Clerk of

LIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That all such Warrants or Orders as are hereby directed to be issued, as well for the Assessment as the Collection of the Rates hereby authorized to be made, shall, as

as soon as conveniently may be after the same shall be issued, be transmitted by the Clerk of the Peace of the said City and County of *Bristol*, or his Deputy, to the said Corporation, Directors, and Commissioners respectively, who shall forthwith cause the same to be served upon the several Churchwardens and Overseers of the said several Parishes and Precinct, and on the said Collectors respectively, as the same shall respectively be directed, by leaving the same at the last or usual Place of Abode of such said several Churchwardens, Overseers, and Collectors respectively, or at their respective Places of Business.

Peace to the Corporation, &c. who shall serve same on Churchwardens, &c.

LIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the said Churchwardens and Overseers respectively, as and when they shall respectively submit the said respective Rates or Assessments for Allowance as aforesaid, shall deposit with the Clerk of the Peace of the said City and County of *Bristol*, and with the Clerk or Clerks of the said Corporation, Duplicates of such Rates or Assessments, together with Copies of the Warrants on which the same respectively are founded, one of which Duplicates shall be retained by the said Clerk of the Peace for the Use of the said Justices, and the other shall be deposited in the Hospital or Workhouse of the said Corporation, and shall at all seasonable Times be open to the Inspection of the said Directors and Commissioners respectively, with Power for them or their respective Clerks to make all such Copies or Extracts therefrom as they shall from Time to Time require.

Duplicates of Rates to be deposited with the Clerk of the Peace and Clerks of the Corporation, open to the Inspection of the Directors and Commissioners respectively.

LV. And be it further enacted, That if the said Justices shall omit or neglect, for the Space of Ten Days next after the said Justices shall have made such Apportionment as aforesaid, to issue forth their Warrants for assessing the same; or if they shall, by the like Space after any such Rate or Assessment shall be left at the Council House of the said City and County of the City of *Bristol* for Allowance, neglect or omit to issue forth their Orders or Warrants for the gathering, receiving, levying, and paying the said several Sums by the said Rate or several Rates assessed, pursuant to the Provision for that Purpose herein-before contained, it shall and may be lawful for the said Governor or Deputy Governor of the said Corporation hereby constituted for the Time being, to issue Orders or Warrants under the Common Seal of the said Corporation, as well for the assessing as for the gathering, collecting, receiving, and paying the same; and the Persons to whom it shall, under the Provisions of this Act, from Time to Time belong to assess, collect, gather in, and receive the same, shall under and by virtue of such Order or Warrant have and be entitled to use and exercise all such Powers and Authorities for the collecting, gathering in, and receiving of the same, as are hereby given or are authorized to be given by the said Justices to the Collectors to be appointed by virtue of the Provisions herein contained, in case such Neglect, Refusal, or Omission had not taken place.

If the Justices neglect for Ten Days to issue their Warrants for collecting the Rates, the Corporation may issue Warrants for that Purpose.

LVI. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That in case the said Churchwardens and Overseers respectively shall omit or neglect to attend such Meetings as are herein-before directed to be held, to the Number of Fifteen at the least, or when assembled shall omit or neglect to proceed to and perform and execute the Powers, Authorities, and Duties herein-before to them given, within Ten Days next after the Day which shall be first appointed for that Purpose, or shall by the like Space, after such Warrant

If the Churchwardens, &c. neglect to meet and execute the Powers of this Act, the same may be

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of Assessment shall have been issued as aforesaid, omit or neglect to make and complete such Rate or Assessment, Rates or Assessments as herein-before directed, and to submit the same for Correction, Revision, and Allowance, in Manner herein-before directed, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Corporation from Time to Time to exercise, execute, and perform all and every the Powers, Authorities, and Duties herein-before directed to be exercised, executed, and performed by the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the said Parishes and Precinct respectively.

For rating  
Landlords of  
Houses under  
20*l.* Rent.

LVII. And be it further enacted, That when the yearly Rent or Value of any Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments within the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, shall not amount to Twenty Pounds, or where any Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments, whatever the yearly Rent or Value of the same may be, shall be let to any weekly or monthly Tenants, or in separate Apartments, furnished or unfurnished, the Rents whereof shall become payable or be collected at any shorter Period than quarterly, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the Persons making any Rate or Assessment by virtue of this Act, in and by any such Rate or Assessment so to be made as aforesaid, at their Discretion to rate and assess the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of all and every or any such House or Houses, Tenement or Tenements, Hereditament or Hereditaments in the said City and County, for the Payment of such several Rates or Assessments, Rate or Assessment hereby authorized to be made; and in each and every such Case the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of all and every such Houses, Tenements, and Hereditaments respectively shall from thenceforth, and until the Expiration of the current Year for which such Rates or Assessments, Rate or Assessment shall be made, be deemed and taken, for the Purposes of this Act, to be the Occupier and Occupiers of such Premises, and shall thereupon be rated to, and from Time to Time shall pay or cause to be paid such Rates or Assessments charged upon the same respective Premises, according to a fair and equal Assessment to be made upon and in respect of the same; and upon Nonpayment thereof the said Collectors are and each and every of them is hereby authorized to levy the same by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, wheresoever the same may be found respectively: Provided always, that the Goods and Chattels of all and every Person or Persons renting or occupying any such House, Tenement, or Hereditament, or any Part or Parts thereof, the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments whereof the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners is and are hereby made liable and subject to as aforesaid, shall be liable at all Times to be distrained and sold for Payment of so much of the said Rates or Assessments, and of all Arrears thereof, as became due upon the said Premises during the Time of his, her, or their Occupancy only, 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, and the Arrears thereof, than the Amount of the Rent actually due by such Occupier or Occupiers to the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of the Premises so occupied by him, her, or them: Provided also, that each and every such Occupier who shall pay any such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or any Arrear thereof, or upon whom the same shall

shall be levied, shall and may from Time to Time deduct the Amount of the Sum which shall be so paid or levied from the Rent then due or at any Time thereafter to be due from him, her, or them to the respective Landlords or Owners of the Premises, and the Receipt for such Payment shall be a good and sufficient Discharge to such Occupier or Occupiers, (or to his, her, or their Landlord or Landlords,) for so much Money as he, she, or they shall pay in the Manner directed by this Act: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to authorize the Assessment of any such Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, in respect of any House, Tenement, or Hereditament, the yearly Rent or Value whereof shall not amount to Twenty Pounds, which shall be *bonâ fide* let by such Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, to the immediate Occupier thereof, for the Period of One Year at the least, and the Rent whereof shall not be reserved at shorter Periods than by quarterly Payments, or be collected or received in the Whole or in Part until the Expiration of the current Quarter.

LVIII. And to prevent Disputes touching the Designation of the Landlord or Owner intended to be made liable by this Act, be it enacted, That every Person receiving, either on his own Account, or as the Agent of any other Person or Persons, Body Corporate or Collegiate, Bodies Corporate or Collegiate, or claiming to be entitled to the Rents of every such House or Houses, Tenement or Tenements, Hereditaments or Premises, payable by the Tenants or Occupiers in the actual Possession thereof respectively, shall be deemed and taken to be the Landlord or Owner of the same for the Purposes of this Act, and shall continue to be rated to and liable to the Payment of all and every such Rates as aforesaid, until some other Person or Persons shall be rated to or pay the same.

Persons receiving Rents to be deemed Landlords.

LIX. And be it further enacted, That in Default or Failure of Payment of any or either of the said Rates or Assessments in respect of any House, Tenement, or Hereditament, the Landlord or Owner whereof shall be rated or assessed in pursuance of the Provisions herein contained, or any Part thereof as aforesaid, for any Period not exceeding One Quarter of the last preceding Year, the same shall be and remain a Charge upon the Premises in respect whereof the same shall be so rated and assessed, and shall and may, after Seven Days Notice left upon the Premises, not only be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of any such Owner or Owners, Landlord or Landlords, or of any Person or Persons inhabiting or occupying the same, or any Part thereof, subject to the Limitation herein-before contained, but also shall and may be sued for and recovered of and from such Owner or Owners, Landlord or Landlords respectively, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, to be commenced and prosecuted in the Name of the said Corporation, so far as respects the Monies ordered to be raised for the Purposes of this Act; and so far as regards the Monies to be raised for the Purposes of the said *Bristol Dock Company*, and the said Commissioners respectively, in the Name of such Person or Persons as is and are authorized by the said several recited Acts respectively under which the said Dock Company and Commissioners respectively are constituted to sue in their respective Behalves; in which Actions respectively no Protection, Essoign, or Wager of Law, nor more than one Imparance, shall be allowed; and if the Plaintiff shall recover in

Arrears of Rates to remain a Charge upon the Premises.

in any such Action of Debt, Bill, Complaint, or Information, he shall have full Costs, to be levied and recovered as other Monies upon Judgments are by Law now levied and recovered: Provided always nevertheless, that in case any Landlord or Owner of any House, Tenement, or Hereditament, who under the Provisions herein-before contained shall be assessed in respect of any such House, Tenement, or Hereditament, shall make it appear to the Satisfaction of any One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said City and County, that he has been unable, either by reason of the Insolvency or absconding of any Tenant or Occupier of such House, Tenement, or Hereditament, or by reason of its having remained void and unoccupied for the Whole or any Part of the Year for which he shall have been rated or assessed in respect thereof, to obtain Payment of any Part of the Rent which would otherwise have been paid for the same, it shall and may be lawful to and for such Justice, and he is hereby authorized and required, having first duly summoned the Collector of the District in which the Premises so rated shall be situated, and having in the Presence of such Collector, or in his Absence if he shall neglect or refuse to attend at the Time and Place mentioned in such Summons, duly inquired into and investigated the Cause or Occasion of such Loss, to remit to such Landlord or Owner such Portion of the Rate or Assessment charged upon the said Premises as shall have accrued due for the Period during which such Landlord or Owner shall by any or either of the Causes aforesaid have been unable to obtain Payment of Rent.

Act not to affect Agreements between Landlord and Tenant.

LX. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to make void any Contract, Covenant, or Agreement between Landlord and Tenant, relating to the Payment of any Rates or Assessments within any of the said several Parishes and Precinct of the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*.

Rates may be distrained for after Summons of Parties neglecting to pay, and their not showing sufficient Cause, or on Non-appearance.

LXI. And for the better and more effectually raising and levying the Rates and Assessments authorized and directed to be made by this Act, be it further enacted, That in case any Person or Persons whomsoever, who shall by virtue of this Act be liable to be rated or assessed towards the Payment of the Monies by this Act and the said recited Acts of the Forty-third and Forty-sixth Years of the Reign of His late Majesty, or any or either of them, authorized to be raised, shall refuse or neglect to pay any Rate or Assessment which shall be made, laid, or assessed upon him, her, or them, under and by virtue of this Act, or any Arrear or Arrears due thereon, or upon any former Rate or Assessment, Rates or Assessments made under the Authority of any or either of the said Acts, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Justices of the said City and County, or any One or more of them, and he and they is and are hereby authorized and required, upon Oath being made before him or them by any Collector or Collectors to be appointed as aforesaid for the Time being, in Manner herein-before mentioned, of his or their having attended upon or at the Dwelling House or last or usual Place of Abode within the said City and County, of the Person or Persons then intended to be summoned, or at the Premises for which such Rates or Assessments shall remain due, and having demanded the Rate or Assessment, Rates or Assessments, and of such Person or Persons having neglected or refused to pay the same, to summon, by Writing under his or their Hand or Hands, all and every Person or Persons who shall have refused or neglected to pay as aforesaid, to appear before such Justices,

tices, or any One or more of them, at the Time and Place to be mentioned in such Summons; and it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Collector or Collectors as aforesaid, or for any of the Constables of the said City and County, or any One or more of them, or other the Person or Persons to whom the same shall be severally addressed, to serve all and every such Summons and Summonses upon all and every Person and Persons refusing or neglecting to pay as aforesaid, either by delivering the same to the Person or Persons thereby intended to be summoned, or by leaving the same at his, her, or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, or at the Premises for which the Rates or Assessments mentioned in such Summonses 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, then upon due Proof of Service of the Summons, and that such Rate or Assessment remains due and unpaid, or if he, she, or they shall attend, and shall not show good and sufficient Cause to such Justices, or any One or more of them, that he, she, or they is or are not chargeable with such Rate or Assessment, Rates or Assessments, then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for such Justices, or any One or more of them, to order and adjudge all and every Person and Persons who shall have been so summoned to pay the Rate or Assessment, Rates or Assessments, in respect of which such Summons was issued, and the reasonable Costs and Charges of such Summons; and in all Cases where the said Rate or Assessment, Rates or Assessments, or any of them, and the reasonable Costs and Charges of such Summons, shall not be paid upon the Return of such Summons, it shall and may be lawful to and for such Justices, or any One or more of them, and he and they is and are hereby authorized and required, upon Oath made before him or them, of the due Service of such Summons or Summonses by the Party who shall have served the same, to grant a Warrant or Warrants under his or their Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals, authorizing and directing the said Collector or Collectors, or any Constables of the said City and County, or any One or more of them, to collect and levy all and every such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and all Arrears thereof, and the Expence of the Summons (if the same shall not have been before paid) and Warrant, by Distress of the Goods and Chattels of the Party so neglecting or refusing which shall be found either within the said City and County, or elsewhere, if removed therefrom; and if within Five Days next after any such Distress shall be made, the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, with all Arrears due thereon, shall not be paid, together with the reasonable Charges of the said Summons (if the Expence of such Summons shall not have been before paid) and Warrant, and of making such Distress, and keeping such Goods and Chattels, the said Collector or Collectors, Constable or Constables, or any One or more of them, shall cause the said Goods to be appraised by One or more Appraiser or Appraisers, and the same, or such Part or Parts thereof as shall be sufficient, to be sold by Auction or otherwise, and thereout to pay the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, together with all Arrears due thereon, and the reasonable Charges aforesaid, and the Charges 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; and if no sufficient Distress can be

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found, then it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Justices, or any One or more of them, to commit such Person or Persons so offending or neglecting to pay such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, to the Common Gaol or House of Correction for the said City and County, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until such Time as such Person or Persons so committed shall have paid the Sum or Sums so rated or assessed upon him, her, or them, and such Charges as aforesaid, or during so long Time as the Persons making such Commitment shall think reasonable; provided that no such Person or Persons shall be confined or detained in Prison for want of such Distress for any longer Space of Time than Three Calendar Months.

Justices empowered, on the Application of Parties rated, and on Notice to the senior Churchwarden of the Parish where the Applicant is rated, to reduce or discharge Assessments.

LXII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That in case any Person or Persons who shall be so summoned shall give Notice in Writing to the senior Churchwarden of the Parish or respective Parishes, or to the Overseer of the *Castle Precinct*, as the Case may be, in which such Person or Persons shall be respectively rated, Two Days at least previous to the Day appointed by the said Justice or Justices for hearing the Complaint or Complaints mentioned in the said Summons, of his, her, or their Intention to apply to the said Justice or Justices to have the said Rates or Assessments, so far as regards him, her, or them, either lessened or reduced, or otherwise to be wholly discharged from the Payment thereof on account of Poverty, or on any other Account whatsoever, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Justices, or any One or more of them, on hearing such Applicant or Applicants, and the Person or Persons who shall attend on behalf of the said Churchwardens or Overseers respectively, or of all, any, or either of the Parties entitled to the Monies comprised in the said Rates or Assessments which shall be the Subject of Complaint, or in the Absence of any Person on behalf of the said Churchwardens or Overseers, or of all, any, or either of the said Parties so entitled as aforesaid, on Proof of such Notices having been given as are herein-before required, to lessen and reduce the Amount of such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, so far as respects such Applicant or Applicants, to such Extent as the said Justices, or any One or more of them, in case he or they shall be of Opinion that the Hereditaments occupied by such Applicant or Applicants shall be assessed at too high an Amount, shall think proper; or in case he or they shall think that such Applicant or Applicants ought not to have been rated or assessed, then wholly to discharge him, her, or them, or otherwise to remit or reduce the Payment of the Amount charged in such Rate or Assessment, Rates or Assessments, on account of the Poverty of such Applicant or Applicants respectively, as to him or them shall seem reasonable and proper: Provided always, that in case the said Churchwardens or Overseers respectively, or any or either of the said Parties respectively entitled to the Monies so rated and assessed, shall be dissatisfied with such Determination, it shall and may be lawful for such Churchwarden or Churchwardens, or Overseers, or Party or Parties respectively, to appeal to the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the said City and County in manner herein-after mentioned.

Form of Warrant of Distress.

LXIII. And be it further enacted, That every Warrant of Distress for the Nonpayment of any Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments,

to be made by virtue of this Act, may include Two or more Persons, and shall be in the Words or to the Effect following :

‘ City and County } TO the Collector or Collectors appointed by virtue of  
 ‘ of Bristol. } the Powers of an Act made and passed in the Third  
 ‘ Year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Fourth,  
 ‘ intituled [*here insert the Title of this Act*], and to all Constables  
 ‘ and other Peace Officers of the same City and County :

‘ **WHEREAS** the under-mentioned Persons, now or late Inhabitants,  
 ‘ Holders, Landlords, Tenants, Occupiers, or Enjoyers of Lands,  
 ‘ Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or Parts of Lands,  
 ‘ Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, in the Parish [*or*  
 ‘ Precinct, *as the Case may be,*] of within the said City and  
 ‘ County, were and are duly rated and assessed and liable to pay the  
 ‘ Rate and Rates made by virtue of the above-mentioned Act: And  
 ‘ whereas the said Persons have refused or neglected to pay the several  
 ‘ Sums of Money at and against their Names hereunto respectively set  
 ‘ down, due from them respectively, for or towards the Purposes respec-  
 ‘ tively mentioned in the said Act; and the said several Sum and Sums  
 ‘ are still remaining due, in arrear, and unpaid, as appeareth upon Oath  
 ‘ [*or Affirmation, if a Quaker,*] to me [*or to us*] of His  
 ‘ Majesty’s Justices of the Peace for the said City and County, and the  
 ‘ said several Persons having been summoned to appear before  
 ‘ to answer the Premises, as also appeareth to me [*or us*] the said  
 ‘ Justice [*or Justices*] upon Oath [*or Affirmation, if a Quaker,*] have not  
 ‘ nor hath either of them shewn any sufficient Cause why such Sum or  
 ‘ Sums of Money should not be paid: These are therefore in His  
 ‘ Majesty’s Name to will and require you, any or either of you, forthwith  
 ‘ to levy the said several Sums due from the said Persons, and hereunder  
 ‘ set opposite to 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 be), the reasonable Charges of such  
 ‘ Summons, Warrants, Distress, Sale, and Keeping being first deducted;  
 ‘ and if no sufficient Distress can be had or taken, that then you certify  
 ‘ the same to me [*or us*], to the end that such further Proceedings may  
 ‘ be had therein, as by Law directed: And I [*or we*] do hereby strictly  
 ‘ charge and command all and singular the Constables and others His  
 ‘ Majesty’s Peace Officers for the said City and County to be aiding and  
 ‘ assisting in all things relating to the Premises. Given under my Hand  
 ‘ and Seal [*or under our Hands and Seals*] this Day of  
 ‘ in the Year of our Lord

Sums due:  
 £ s. d.

‘ A. B. Inhabitant or Occupier of Premises	-
‘ C. D. Ditto	-
‘ E. F. The Landlord for divided Premises	-
‘ G. H. Landlord [ <i>or Receiver, &amp;c. as the</i> ‘ <i>Case may be</i> ]	-
‘ J. K. Tenant	-

LXIV. And whereas Persons frequently remove out of the Houses or Tenements in which they live, without paying the Rates assessed on such Houses

For Recovery  
of Rates on  
Removal of

Persons into  
other Parts of  
the City.

Houses or Tenements, and other Persons enter and occupy the same for Part of the Year, or Houses or Tenements may be void at the Time of making such Rate or Assessment, and may afterwards become occupied; by reason whereof large Sums of Money may be lost; be it therefore further enacted, That in case any Person or Persons shall remove out of or from or quit the Possession of any Land, House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament within the City and County of the City of *Bristol* aforesaid, before the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments charged thereon by virtue of this Act shall be paid and discharged, or if any Person shall enter into the Occupation of any Land, House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament in the said City and County, out of or from which any other Person or Persons shall have so removed, before Payment of the said Rate or Assessment, or which at the Time of rating or assessing the same as aforesaid shall be empty or unoccupied, then the Person or Persons so removing out of or from or quitting the Possession of, and the Person or Persons entering into the Occupation of any such Land, House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament, shall be respectively liable to the Payment of all such Rates and Assessments in proportion to the Time such Person or Persons respectively possessed or occupied the same, in the like Manner as if the Person or Persons so removing or quitting as aforesaid had remained in the Possession or Occupation of such Land, House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament, or the Person or Persons so entering into the Possession or Occupation thereof had been originally rated or assessed to such Rates or Assessments, or any of them; which Portion, in case of Dispute, shall be ascertained by any One or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said City and County, on the Application of any Collector or Collectors who shall be appointed by virtue of this Act; and in case any Person or Persons shall come into the Occupation of any such Land, House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament, by renting or taking the same from the last immediate Occupier, then and in such Case the Person or Persons so coming into the Occupation thereof shall be subject and liable to the Rates and Assessments in arrear, for any Period not exceeding One Quarter of the Year last preceding, by virtue of this Act, as if he, she, or they had been originally rated or assessed.

For Recovery  
of Rates in  
case Parties  
remove out  
of the City.

LXV. And whereas it may happen that many Persons liable to and who may be rated and assessed by virtue of this Act may, before the Payment of the Sum or Sums which may be rated on them respectively, quit and leave the Lands, Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments in respect of which they shall be so rated or assessed as aforesaid, and remove out of the said City and County; be it therefore enacted, That when any Person or Persons who shall have been so rated and assessed shall quit or be about to quit his, her, or their Lands, Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments, before he, she, or they shall have paid such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and shall refuse to pay the same or any Part thereof when due and demanded by any Collector or Collectors authorized and appointed to receive the same, then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for such Collector or Collectors as aforesaid, or any one of them, (Proof on Oath or Affirmation being made by him or them to the Satisfaction of the said Justices, that he or they hath or have cause to suspect such Person or Persons hath or have removed, or is or are removing, or about to remove, his, her, or their

Goods

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 City and County (which Warrant such Justice or Justices is and are hereby authorized and required to grant), and in case such Person or Persons shall have removed, such Warrant being first backed or countersigned by some Justice of the County, City, Borough, or Liberty to which such Person or Persons shall have removed (which Warrant such Justice 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 Part thereof, and to sell the same, rendering the Overplus (if any), after having deducted the reasonable Costs, Charges, and Expences attending such Distress and Sale, upon Demand, to the Owner or Owners of such Goods and Chattels respectively, in like Manner as is herein-before provided for the Recovery of the said Rates in ordinary Cases, by Distress and Sale of the Goods of Persons making Default in Payment of the said Rates or Assessments; and in case no sufficient Distress can or may be found whereby to levy the same, then and in such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for such Justice or Justices, within their respective Jurisdictions, and they are hereby required, to commit such Defaulter or Defaulters to the Common Gaol of the County, City, Borough, or Place wherein he, she, or they shall then reside, in like Manner and with the like Restriction as to the Period of his, her, or their Imprisonment, as is herein-before provided in ordinary Cases.

LXVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That each and every Rate and Assessment, and the Arrears of each and every Rate and Assessment already rated and assessed, or ordered and directed to be levied, assessed, and collected by and under the Authority of the said several recited Acts, or any of them, or which shall be made under the Authority of the said recited Acts, or any of them, at any Time or Times before the said Twenty-fifth Day of *March* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, shall and may be levied, assessed, and collected by such Person or Persons, in such and the same Ways, by such Means, and under such and the same Powers, Restrictions, and Regulations, and with the same Remuneration, Salary, or Poundage, as any Rate or Assessment, or Arrears of any Rate or Assessment, ordered and directed to be levied, assessed, and collected by virtue of this Act, can or may be raised, levied, and collected, and shall and may be paid and applied by the Person or Persons hereby authorized and appointed to collect and receive the same, in the like Manner and for the like Purposes as any other Rate or Assessment is hereby directed to be paid and applied.

Arrears of Rates under former Acts to be collected by Collectors under this Act, and levied and applied in the same Way as Rates under this Act.

LXVII. And be it further enacted, That all Monies which shall have arisen under the said recited Acts hereby repealed, or shall arise by or from the said Rates or Assessments hereby granted for the Purposes of this Act, or which shall be levied or received from Time to Time by virtue of this Act, (except such Monies as are herein directed to be paid to the said Directors and Commissioners respectively, or otherwise to be disposed of,) shall be paid to the said Corporation or their Treasurer, or to such Person or Persons as the said Corporation shall appoint to receive the same, and shall be applied and disposed of, in the first Place, in paying and defraying One Moiety of the Costs, Charges, and Expences which

Application of Monies arising under former Acts and this Act.

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shall

shall have been incurred in, or shall be incident to and attend the obtaining and passing this Act, the other Moiety thereof being to be paid by the Mayor, Burgesses, and Commonalty of the said City and County, and in the next Place in Discharge of the Charges and Expences of carrying the several Purposes of this Act into Execution, and all Costs, Charges, and Expences which the said Corporation, or any of their Officers, may sustain or be put unto in carrying this Act into Execution, or in prosecuting any Indictments, Actions, or Suits in anywise relating to or concerning any of the Monies granted or arising by virtue of this Act, or any other the Purposes of this Act, or in any Manner relating to the Execution thereof, and for such other Uses and Purposes as are herein expressed, and for no other Use, Intent, or Purpose whatsoever.

Extending  
general Laws  
relating to  
Lunatics to  
Bristol.

48 G. 3. c. 96.

51 G. 3. c. 79.

55 G. 3. c. 46.

59 G. 3. c. 127.

LXVIII. And be it further enacted, That from and after the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, all and every the Powers, Provisions, Directions, Clauses, Matters, and Things whatsoever, contained in an Act passed in the Forty-eighth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for the better Care and Maintenance of Lunatics, being Paupers or Criminals, in England*; and in another Act passed in the Fifty-first Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty, intituled *An Act to amend an Act of the Forty-eighth Year of His present Majesty, for the better Care and Maintenance of Lunatics, being Paupers or Criminals, in England*; and in another Act passed in the Fifty-fifth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty, intituled *An Act to amend an Act passed in the Forty-eighth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled 'An Act for the better Care and Maintenance of Lunatics, being Paupers or Criminals, in England;'* and in another Act passed in the Fifty-ninth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty, intituled *An Act for making Provision for the better Care of Pauper Lunatics in England*; except so far as the same do or shall authorize or require the Erection of any new Asylum for the Reception of Lunatics, shall extend and be deemed and construed to extend to the said City and County, as though the said City and County had been expressly named and included in the said several Acts; and that the Hospital or Workhouse belonging to the said Corporation shall for ever hereafter be and be deemed and taken to be an Asylum for the Reception of such Lunatics, to all Intents and Purposes, as though the same had been erected and established as a Lunatic Asylum for the said City and County under and by virtue of the said several Acts, and shall be subject to the Provisions, Regulations, and Directions contained in the said Acts, and made conformable thereto.

17 G. 2. c. 5.

LXIX. And whereas by an Act passed in the Seventeenth Year of the Reign of His Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled *An Act to amend and make more effectual the Laws relating to Rogues and Vagabonds, and other idle and disorderly Persons*, it is provided and declared, amongst other Things, that no Master of any Packet Boat, Ship, or Vessel bound for *Ireland* shall be compelled to take on board more than One Vagrant for every Twenty Tons Burthen of any such Boat or Vessel: And whereas the Ships and Vessels bound from the Port of *Bristol* to *Ireland* are mostly of small Tonnage, by reason whereof great Numbers of Vagrants, Natives of *Ireland*, who have not gained any Settlement in *England*, must for want of timely Opportunities of Passage be often

often detained for a long Time in the said City and County, to the great Burthen and Charge of the said Corporation, unless better Provision be made for their Removal; be it therefore further enacted, That all and every Master and Masters of any Packet Boat, Ship, or Vessel bound from the said Port of *Bristol* to *Ireland*, shall, and they and each of them are and is hereby required (upon such Warrants as in the said Act passed in the Seventeenth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Second are mentioned) to take on board the same Packet Boat, Ship, or Vessel, and convey to such Place in *Ireland* as the same shall be bound to or arrive at, all and every such Vagrant or Vagrants as shall be named and expressed in the said Warrant, not exceeding One Vagrant for every Seven Tons Burthen of such Boat, Ship, or Vessel, at the like Rate *per* Head, and under the like Penalty as in and by the same Act passed in the Seventeenth Year of His said Majesty is directed and appointed; any thing therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

Vessels bound to Ireland to take One Pauper for every Seven Tons.

LXX. And be it further enacted, That no Spirituous Liquors shall be conveyed into any such Hospital or Workhouse without the Permission of the said Corporation, or by the Order of the Apothecary or other Medical Man appointed to attend such Hospital or Workhouse; and every Person who shall so offend and be convicted thereof before One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, one Moiety of which Penalty shall be paid to the Informer or Informers, and the other Moiety to the said Corporation, to be applied to the Purposes of this Act.

For preventing improper Introduction of Spirituous Liquors into Workhouse, &c.

LXXI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Member of the said Corporation shall, either in his own Name or in the Name of any other Person or Persons, provide, furnish, or supply, for his, her, or their own Profit, any Goods, Materials, or Provisions, for the Use of the Hospital or Workhouse for the Support or Maintenance of the Poor, or be concerned directly or indirectly therein, or in any Contract or Contracts relating thereto, or under this Act, during the Time of his being a Member of the said Corporation, under the Penalty or Forfeiture of Two hundred Pounds Sterling for every such Offence, to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same, to be recovered, together with full Costs of Suit, by Action of Debt or on the Case, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, or elsewhere.

Members of the Corporation not to furnish Workhouse, &c. for their own Profit, nor be engaged in Contracts, under a Penalty of 200*l*.

LXXII. And be it further enacted, That all and every Treasurer and Treasurers, Collector and Collectors, Officer or Officers, and other Person and Persons who shall be appointed or continued by virtue of this Act or the said recited Acts of the Forty-third and Forty-sixth Years of the Reign of His late Majesty, or any or either of them, and also all and every other Person and Persons to whom the Collection and Receipt of the Rates hereby authorized to be made shall, under the Provisions herein contained, belong, or to whom any Monies shall be issued or paid by or on account of the said Corporation hereby constituted for the Purposes of the said Corporation or of this Act, shall from Time to Time, whenever thereunto required by the Governor or Deputy Governor for the Time being of the said Corporation, or by Order of any General Court or Assembly respectively, or by the said Directors of the *Bristol* Dock Company, or the said Commissioners respectively, make out and deliver

Treasurers, Collectors, and other Officers, to account.

deliver to such of the said Parties respectively as shall require the same, or to such Person and Persons as the said Parties respectively shall for that Purpose appoint, a true and perfect Account in Writing, under his or their Hand or Hands, of all Monies which shall have been by him or them had, collected, or received for or on account or for the Use of the Party requiring such Account, and how and to whom and for what Purpose the same and every Part thereof hath been disposed of, together with the Vouchers and Receipts for all such Payments, Disbursements, and Dispositions which shall have been or shall be alleged to have been made thereof; and every such Treasurer, Collector, Officer, and Person respectively, shall and is hereby required to pay to the said Governor, Deputy Governor, or other Person, as the said Corporation shall at any General Court or Assembly appoint to receive the same, and to the said Directors and Commissioners respectively, or to such Person or Persons as they shall respectively appoint to receive the same, all such Monies as upon the Balance of such Account shall appear to be owing from him or them, on account of the Monies ordered to be raised for the Purposes of this Act or the said recited Acts under which the said Directors and Commissioners respectively are constituted, to the said Corporation, Directors, and Commissioners respectively; and if any such Treasurer, Collector, Officer, or Person shall refuse or neglect to render and deliver such Account as aforesaid, or to produce and deliver up the Vouchers and Receipts relating to the same, or to pay the Balance thereof when thereunto required, or shall neglect or refuse to deliver to the said Governor or Deputy Governor, or to such Person or Persons as the said Corporation shall in Manner aforesaid appoint, or to the said Directors and Commissioners respectively, or to such Person or Persons as they shall respectively in Manner aforesaid appoint, within Ten Days after being thereunto required by the said Governor or Deputy Governor, or by any Order of a General Court or Assembly, or by the said Directors or Commissioners respectively, all Books, Papers, and Writings in his or their Custody or Power belonging to the said Corporation, Directors, or Commissioners respectively, relating to the Execution of this Act, then and in every such Case, Complaint being made by the said Governor or Deputy Governor, or by any other Person or Persons on the Behalf of the said Corporation, or by the said Directors or Commissioners respectively, or by any Person or Persons on their Behalves respectively, to any Two Justices of the Peace for the County or Place where such Treasurer, Collector, Officer, or Person so neglecting or refusing shall live or reside, or carry on Trade or Business, such Justices are hereby authorized and required, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to cause such Treasurer, Collector, Officer, or Person to be brought before them, or any other Two Justices of the same County or Place; and such Justices are hereby authorized and required, upon his or their appearing or not being to be found, to hear and determine the Matter of such Complaint in a summary Way, and to settle the said Account, if produced, in such Manner as the said Corporation, Directors, or Commissioners respectively might have done; and if upon the Confession of such Treasurer, Collector, Officer, or Person against whom such Complaint shall be made, or by the Oath or Oaths of any Witness or Witnesses, or upon the said Account, if produced, it shall appear to any such Justices that any of the Monies which shall have been collected or received shall be in the Hands of or owing from such Treasurer, Collector, Officer, or Person, such Justices, or any other Justices of the same County or Place, may and are hereby authorized, upon Nonpayment thereof, by

Warrant

Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to cause such Money to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Treasurer, Collector, Officer, or Person respectively; and if no Goods or Chattels can be found sufficient to answer or satisfy the said Monies, and the Charges of taking and making such Distress, and of selling the same, or if such Treasurer, Collector, Officer, or Person shall not appear (without sufficient Excuse), or if appearing shall refuse or neglect to make out and deliver to the said Justices such Account in Writing as aforesaid, or to produce and deliver to the said Justices the several Vouchers and Receipts, or to deliver up as aforesaid all such Books, Papers, and Writings as aforesaid, then and in any of the Cases aforesaid the said Justices, or any Two other Justices of the same County or Place, are hereby authorized and required, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to commit such Treasurer, Collector, Officer, or Person to the Common Gaol or House of Correction of the County, City, or Place where he or they shall live or reside, or carry on Trade or Business as aforesaid, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until he or they shall have delivered in and settled such Account as aforesaid, and shall have delivered up the Vouchers and Receipts relating thereto, and shall have paid all the Money which shall appear to be in the Hands of or owing from him or them, and the reasonable Charges of such Distress and Sale, if any, as shall in that respect have been made, or until he or they shall have compounded with the said Corporation, Directors, or Commissioners respectively, or such of them upon whose Complaint such Treasurer, Collector, or other Officer shall have been so committed for such Money and Charges, and paid the Composition Money to the said Corporation, Directors, or Commissioners respectively, or to such Person or Persons as they shall respectively in manner aforesaid appoint to receive the same, (and which Composition the said Corporation, Directors, and Commissioners respectively are hereby empowered to make,) and shall have delivered up as aforesaid such Books, Papers, and Writings as aforesaid, or have given Satisfaction in respect thereof to the said Corporation, Directors, or Commissioners respectively: Provided always, that no such Person who shall be committed for want of a sufficient Distress only shall be detained in Prison by virtue of this Act for any longer Time than Six Calendar Months.

LXXIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Treasurer, Collector, Officer, or other Person appointed, employed, or authorized to receive, collect, or recover any of the Rates or Sums of Money hereby authorized to be raised, any or either of them, shall die before the Expiration of his Office, or before he shall have fully accounted for, paid, and satisfied all the Monies by him received, then and in every such Case his Executors or Administrators, or other legal Representative or Representatives, shall, within Twenty-one Days after his Decease, deliver over all Things concerning his Office to such Person or Persons as the Governor or Deputy Governor for the Time being, or the said Corporation, at any General Court or Assembly respectively, or the said Directors or Commissioners respectively, shall appoint for that Purpose.

In case of the Death of Officers the Executors to deliver up Books and pay Balances, &c.

LXXIV. And be it further enacted, That neither the Removal, Prosecution, or Commitment of any Treasurer, Collector, or Officer appointed by virtue of this Act, or any Proceedings against his or their Executors or Administrators, shall acquit or discharge any Security or Surety that shall

Removal, Prosecution, or Commitment of any Officer not to

discharge  
Securities.

or may have been taken by or given to the said Corporation, either on their own Account, or in Trust for the said Directors or Commissioners respectively, for the due and faithful Execution of the Office of such Treasurer, Collector, or other Officer, or the Payment of the Money to be received by him as aforesaid; but such Security or Surety shall be discharged when the Terms or Conditions of such Security shall have been fulfilled or satisfied.

Inhabitants  
not to be  
deemed in-  
competent  
Witnesses.

LXXV. And be it further enacted, That in all Actions, Prosecutions, Informations, Causes, Appeals, and Proceedings whatsoever relating to or concerning any Rate to be made by virtue of this Act, or in anywise relating to the Settlement, Relief, or Maintenance of the Poor of the said City and County, or in any Manner relating to or concerning the Execution of this Act, or any of the said recited Acts of the Forty-third and Forty-sixth Years of the Reign of His late Majesty, no Inhabitant of the said City and County of the City of *Bristol* shall be deemed incompetent to give Evidence by reason of his or her being rated or assessed by virtue of this Act or the said recited Acts; any Law, Custom, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Distress not  
to be unlaw-  
ful for Want  
of Form.

LXXVI. 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 committed or done by the Party or Parties distraining; but the Person or Persons aggrieved by such Irregularity may recover full Satisfaction for the Special Damage in an Action upon the Case, but subject to such Regulations and Restrictions as are by this Act herein-after provided, touching any Action to be brought for or in respect of any Matter or Thing done by colour or in performance of this Act.

Repealing  
Regulation in  
former Act as  
to Day and  
Hour of  
Meeting.

LXXVII. And be it further enacted, That so much and such Part of the said recited Act of the Forty-sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the said City of *Bristol* and Liberties thereof, as requires and directs the said Commissioners appointed to carry the said Act into Effect to meet and assemble on *Tuesday* in every Week, between the Hours of Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon and One of the Clock in the Afternoon, shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

Fixing Day  
of Commis-  
sioners Meet-  
ing.

LXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That on the *Monday* Week next after the passing of this Act, the Commissioners appointed to carry the said last-mentioned Act of the Forty-sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty into Execution shall hold a General Meeting at their Office in *Small Street* in the said City at the Hour of Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon; and the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them assembled at such Meeting, shall and may proceed to put the said Act into Execution; and in case Five or more of the said Commissioners shall not be there and then assembled, then such Meeting shall be deemed to be adjourned to the next Day, and so from Day to Day, until Five or more

of the said Commissioners shall assemble at the Place and Hour aforesaid; and a General Meeting of the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, shall be held for carrying the said Act into Execution on every *Monday* Fortnight after the said Second *Monday* after the passing of this Act, at the same Place and same Hour of the Day (unless some other Day or Days in the Week, or some other Place within the said City, or some other Hour, shall be appointed by the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, at any of their Meetings, which they or any Five or more of them are hereby empowered to do); and the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them assembled at such first Meeting, or at any subsequent Meeting, shall and may adjourn the same from Time to Time to the same Place, or to any other convenient Place within the said City; and in case on the Day and Hour appointed for any such subsequent Meeting there shall not be Five of the said Commissioners present, then the Commissioners or Commissioner present, or the Clerk to the said Commissioners, in case there shall be no Commissioner present, shall and may adjourn the Meeting, to be held at the same Place and same Hour of the Day, and on such Day, not sooner than after the Expiration of Two Days nor later than Seven Days from the Day last appointed, as they or he shall think fit.

LXXIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Person, being appointed a Guardian of the Poor under this Act, shall, during the Period of serving the said Office, be appointed a Commissioner under the said Act of the Forty-sixth Year of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the said City of *Bristol*, it shall and may be lawful for any Two Justices of the Peace of and for the said City to exempt and excuse such Person from serving the said Office of Commissioner for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the said City, if in their Discretion they shall see fit so to do.

Guardians  
may be ex-  
cused serving  
the Office of  
Commis-  
sioner at the  
same Time.

LXXX. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners acting under the said recited Act for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the said City of *Bristol* and Liberties thereof, from Time to Time at any of their Meetings, to make such Rules, Orders, and Bye Laws as to them shall seem meet and proper for regulating the Proceedings and Attendance of the said Commissioners at their several Meetings, and for regulating of all Officers, Workmen, and Servants to be employed in and about the Affairs and Business of the said Commissioners, and from Time to Time to alter and repeal such Rules, Orders, and Bye Laws, and to make others, and impose and inflict such reasonable Fines and Forfeitures upon all Commissioners, Officers, Workmen, and Servants to be employed by them under the said last-recited Act, but no others, offending against such Rules, Orders, and Bye Laws, or any of them, not exceeding the Sum of Five Pounds for any one Offence, as to the said Commissioners shall seem necessary and expedient for putting the said last-recited Act and the Powers and Authorities hereby given to the said Commissioners into Execution; provided that all such Rules, Orders, and Bye Laws shall be approved and confirmed by the Commissioners at some Meeting subsequent to the Meeting at which they shall be first made and passed; and all Rules, Orders, and Bye Laws so made, and being reduced into Writing, and signed by Five or more of the said Commissioners, shall be printed, and be binding upon all such Persons, and shall be sufficient in any Court

Bye Laws.

of

of Law or Equity to justify all Persons who shall act under the same; and a Copy of all such Rules, Orders, and Bye Laws, so printed and signed as aforesaid, shall be affixed and continued in some public Place within the Office of the said Commissioners: Provided always, that such Rules, Orders, and Bye Laws be not repugnant to the Laws of that Part of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain and Ireland* called *England*, or any of the express Directions of the said recited Act, or of the Powers and Authorities granted to the said Commissioners by this Act.

Erecting  
Posts to fence  
Footpaths.

LXXXI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners to set up or cause to be set up Posts of Wood, or Pillars of Stone or Iron, in or by the Sides of such Part or Parts of any of the Footways of the said City and Precincts as they shall judge necessary; and also to set up Fences, Posts, and Rails for the Prevention of Accidents or Casualties in any of the Streets, Squares, Courts, Yards, Lanes, Passages, or public Places in the said City, when the same may want Repair; and the Expences thereof shall be borne and defrayed by the said Commissioners out of the Monies arising from the Rates or Assessments to be made under the Powers or Provisions of the said Act and of this Act, so far as the same relate to paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the said City of *Bristol* and Liberties thereof; and if any Person shall take down, alter, or remove, or wilfully break any of the said Posts, Pillars, Fences, Rails, or any such Erections for preventing Accidents, without the Authority or Consent of the said Commissioners, every Person so offending shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding the Sum of Five Pounds, to be recovered, levied, and applied in the same Manner as Penalties can or may be recovered, levied, and are directed to be applied by the said Act.

Notice to be  
given to the  
Commission-  
ers of taking  
up Pave-  
ments for al-  
tering Pipes,  
&c.

LXXXII. And be it further enacted, That when and as often as it shall be necessary that any Part of the Pavement or Pitching of any of the Streets, Squares, Courts, Yards, Lanes, Passages, and Places in the said City should be taken up for the Purpose of erecting or setting up any Inclosure, Posts, Bars, or Rails, or for laying, altering, or amending any Water Pipe or Plug, the Person or Persons so taking up such Pavement or Pitching, or causing the same to be so taken up, shall immediately give Notice thereof to the said Commissioners, in order that the same may, with all convenient Speed, be laid down and replaced, under the Inspection of their Surveyor, by the Person or Persons who shall take up the same, or cause the same to be taken up; and in case such Person or Persons shall neglect or refuse, for the Space of Three Days next after Five Days Notice in Writing under the Hand of the Clerk or Surveyor to the said Commissioners shall be given to him, her, or them, to lay down or replace the same, or shall lay down or replace the same otherwise than as the said Commissioners or their Surveyor shall direct, then and in such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners to cause the same to be relaid and replaced in such Manner as they shall think proper and direct; and the Costs and Charges attending the same shall be reimbursed to the said Commissioners by the Person or Persons making such Default as aforesaid, and the Amount thereof shall be ascertained and determined by any one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the said City, and shall and may be recovered and levied in like Manner as any Penalty may be recovered and levied under the said Act.

LXXXIII. And

LXXXIII. And whereas in and by a certain Act passed in the Eleventh and Twelfth Years of the Reign of King *William the Third*, intituled *An Act for the better preserving the Navigation of the Rivers Avon and Froome; and for cleansing, paving, and enlightening the Streets of the City of Bristol*, it is enacted, that such Sum or Sums of Money as should be assessed and collected in the several Parishes or Precincts of the said City, should be yearly accounted for by the Surveyors or Collectors thereof for the Time being to Two or more of the Justices of the Peace of the said City, the Mayor for the Time being, or the Alderman of each respective Ward or Precinct to be One, within Ten Days after the Election of the new Surveyors of the Highways for the ensuing Year; and that such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be remaining in their Hands shall be by them paid over to the next succeeding Surveyor of the Highways elected and appointed for such Parishes or Precinct: And whereas in and by a certain other Act made and passed in the Twenty-second Year of the Reign of King *George the Second*, intituled *An Act for making more effectual an Act passed in the Eleventh and Twelfth Years of the Reign of King William the Third, for the better preserving the Navigation of the Rivers Avon and Froome; and for cleansing, paving, and enlightening the Streets of the City of Bristol, so far as the same Act relates to the paving and enlightening the said Streets; and for the regulating Hackney Coachmen, Halliers, Draymen, and Carters, and the Markets and Sellers of Hay and Straw, within the said City and Liberties thereof*, it is enacted, that such Sum or Sums of Money as should be assessed and collected in the several Parishes or Precincts of the said City, for erecting, supplying, maintaining, and repairing the Lights and Lamps within the said City, should be yearly accounted for and paid over by the said Collector or Collectors thereof for the Time being to the Surveyor or Surveyors of the Highways within the respective Parishes or Precincts of the said City, within Thirty Days after the Appointment of the new Surveyor or Surveyors for the ensuing Year; and the said Surveyor or Surveyors to whom such Money should be paid by such Collector or Collectors should yearly account for such Money to Two or more Justices of the Peace of the said City, the Mayor for the Time being, or the Alderman of each respective Ward or Precinct to be One, within Fifty Days after the Appointment of the new Surveyor or Surveyors for the ensuing Year; and such Sum or Sums of Money as should be remaining in his or their Hands should be by him or them paid over to the next succeeding Surveyor or Surveyors appointed for such Parish or Precinct: And whereas in and by a certain other Act made and passed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *George the Third*, intituled *An Act for widening several Streets, Lanes, Ways, and Passages within the City of Bristol, and for opening several new Streets and Passages within the same; and for explaining, amending, and enlarging the Powers of the several Acts passed for paving, cleansing, lighting, watching, and regulating the Streets and other Places within the said City and Liberties thereof*, it is enacted, that if any Surveyor, Constable, or other Persons appointed, employed, or authorized to receive, collect, or recover any or either of the Rates, Taxes, or Sums of Money granted by the said Acts, or any or either of them, or by the now-reciting Act, or any Part or Parts of such Rates, Taxes, or Sums of Money, should die before the Expiration of his Office, or before he should have fully accounted for, paid, and satisfied all the Money by him received by virtue of the said

Enabling the Commissioners to call in the Arrears due from Surveyors of Highways and Collectors under 11&12 W. 3. c. 23.

22 G. 2. c. 20.

6 G. 3. c. 34.

[Local.]

8 P

Acts,

Acts, or either of them, then and in every such Case his Executors or Administrators, or other legal Representative or Representatives, should, within Thirty Days after his Decease, deliver over all Things concerning his Office to such Person or Persons as the Mayor and One other Justice of the Peace of the said City, or Three Justices without the Mayor, should appoint for that Purpose; and should pay, out of the Assets left by such Surveyor, Constable, Collector, or Receiver, all Sums of Money remaining due, which he had received by virtue of his said Office, before any of his other Debts were paid and satisfied: And whereas upon the passing of the said recited Act of the Forty-sixth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the City of Bristol and Liberties thereof*, the said Office of Surveyor of the Highways ceased, and no Provision was made by the said last-recited Act for Payment to the Commissioners appointed under the said last-recited Act, or their Treasurer, by the then Surveyors and Collectors, of the Monies collected and received by them under the several Rates and Assessments granted by the said former Acts, any or either of them, and unappropriated by the said Surveyors or Collectors, and then remaining in their Hands: And whereas it is expedient that the Commissioners acting in execution of the said last-recited Act of the Forty-sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty should be authorized and empowered to give sufficient Discharges for all such Monies as do now remain in the Hands of such Surveyors, or of their personal Representatives; be it therefore further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any Two Justices of the Peace for the said City and County, and they are hereby authorized, empowered, and required, upon Information exhibited to them in Writing by the said Commissioners under the Hand of their Clerk, to summon before such Justices all or any or either of the Surveyors or Collectors appointed under the said recited Acts, or any or either of them, to account for the several Sums of Money received by them, or any or either of them, under or by virtue of any Rate or Assessment, Rates or Assessments, made in pursuance of the said recited Acts, or any or either of them; and if upon such Account being produced it shall appear to such Justices that any Sum or Sums of Money shall still remain in the Hands of or unaccounted for by any such Surveyor or Surveyors, Collector or Collectors, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Justices, if they shall see fit and proper, under all the Circumstances of the Case, to order and direct the same to be paid over to the Treasurer for the Time being to the said Commissioners, who shall make, sign, and deliver to all and every such Surveyor or Surveyors, Collector or Collectors, a Receipt or Discharge, Receipts or Discharges of and for all such Sum or Sums of Money as shall or may be paid to the said Treasurer of the said Commissioners by such Surveyor or Surveyors, Collector or Collectors; and such Receipt or Receipts, signed by such Treasurer, shall be and is and are hereby declared to be good, valid, and effectual Receipts and Discharges of and for all such Monies as shall be therein expressed to have been paid by such Surveyor or Surveyors, Collector or Collectors; and all and every such Sum and Sums of Money, when and as the same shall have been so received, shall be by the said Commissioners applied for and towards the Purposes of the said Act of the Forty-sixth Year of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, for paving, pitching, cleansing, and lighting the said City of *Bristol* and Liberties thereof; and if it shall appear that any Sum or Sums of Money shall

shall be due and owing unto any Surveyor or Surveyors, Collector or Collectors, or any or either of them, upon such Account, for any Monies duly expended by them by virtue of the said recited Acts, or any or either of them, or which such Surveyor or Surveyors, Collector or Collectors, have become liable to pay, it shall and may be lawful to and for such Commissioners, if they shall be satisfied of the Correctness of such Claims (upon Application made to them within Six Calendar Months next after the passing of this Act by any such Surveyor or Surveyors, Collector or Collectors), to discharge the same by and out of any Sum or Sums of Money which may be so paid over to the Treasurer of the said Commissioners by such Surveyor or Surveyors, Collector or Collectors, under the said herein last-recited Acts.

LXXXIV. And be it further enacted, That all Fines, Penalties, Forfeitures, and Sums of Money inflicted, imposed, or recoverable by this Act, or the said recited Acts hereby repealed, or any or either of them, and which shall have been incurred and remain unpaid at the Time of the Commencement of this Act, or by any Bye Law, Rule, Order, or Regulation made in pursuance of the said recited Acts hereby repealed, or of this Act (the Manner of levying or recovering whereof is not otherwise herein-before particularly provided for,) may, in case of Nonpayment thereof, be recovered in a summary Way by Order and Adjudication of Two or more Justices of the Peace for the said City and County, on Complaint to them for that Purpose made; and such Justices, or any Two other Justices of the said City and County, are hereby authorized and required to summon the Party or Parties against whom such Complaint shall be made, by Notice in Writing given to him, her, or them, or left at his, her, or their usual or last Place or Places of Abode, and to summon and examine any Witness or Witnesses upon Oath, or Affirmation, in case such Witness or Witnesses shall be of the People called *Quakers*, of and concerning such Offences, Matters, and Things, and to hear and determine the same; and such Fines, Penalties, Forfeitures, and Sums of Money shall and may afterwards be levied on Nonpayment, as well as the Costs of such Proceedings, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Offender or respective Offenders, or Person or Persons liable to pay the same, by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of any Two such Justices, and the Overplus (if any) of the Money so levied or recovered, after discharging the Fine, Penalty, or Forfeiture for which such Warrant shall be issued, and the Costs and Expences of recovering and levying the same, shall be returned to the Owner or Owners of the Goods or Chattels so seized or distrained; and in case such Fines, Penalties, Forfeitures, and Sums of Money shall not be paid forthwith upon Conviction, then it shall and may be lawful for any Two such Justices to order the Offender or Offenders so convicted to be detained in safe Custody until Return shall be conveniently made to such Warrant of Distress, unless the same Offender or Offenders shall give sufficient Securities, to the Satisfaction of any Two such Justices, for his, her, or their Appearance before them, or any Two other of such Justices, on such Day or Days as shall be appointed for the Return of such Warrant of Distress, such Day or Days not being more than Seven Days from the Time of taking any such Security, and which Security any Two such Justices are hereby empowered to take by way of Recognizance, or otherwise; but if upon the Return of such Warrant it shall appear that no sufficient Distress can be had thereupon, it

Mode of  
recovering  
Fines and  
Penalties.

it shall be lawful for any Two Justices of the Peace as aforesaid, and they are hereby authorized and required, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to cause such Offender or Offenders to be committed to the Common Gaol or House of Correction of the said City of *Bristol*, there to remain, without Bail or Mainprize, for any Term not exceeding Three Calendar Months, unless such Fines, Penalties, Forfeitures, and Sums of Money, and all reasonable Charges, shall be sooner paid and satisfied; and such Penalties, Forfeitures, and Sums of Money, when so levied (the Application whereof is not otherwise directed), shall be paid to the respective Treasurers of the said Corporation, the said Dock Company, and the said Commissioners, or such of them on whose Account the same shall have been so levied, and wholly applied to the Purposes of the said respective Acts, and to or for no other Use or Purpose whatsoever.

LXXXV. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where any Person or Persons shall be convicted of any Offence committed against this Act or any Matter in pursuance thereof, the Conviction shall be in the Words or to the Effect following :

Form of  
Conviction.

‘ City and County of }  
‘ the City of *Bristol*, } **B**E it remembered, That on the  
‘ to wit. } Day of in the Year of our Lord  
‘ *A. B.* is convicted before me [*or us*] of His  
‘ Majesty’s Justices of the Peace for the City and County of the City of  
‘ *Bristol*, by virtue of an Act passed in the Third Year of the  
‘ Reign of King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act [here set forth the*  
‘ *Title of this Act]*, for that he the said *A. B.* did, on the Day of  
‘ in the Year of our Lord [*here state*  
‘ *the Offence*], by reason whereof I [*or we*] do hereby adjudge the said  
‘ *A. B.* to have forfeited [*if the Offender is to be found*] the Sum of [*insert*  
‘ *the Penalty*], together with the Sum of for Costs and Charges  
‘ [*if any given*], or [*if to be imprisoned, then*] do adjudge the said *A. B.* to  
‘ be committed to the [*naming the Gaol*] for the Space of [*insert the Time* ;  
‘ *and if the Commitment be for Nonpayment of a Penalty, then add, unless the*  
‘ said Sum of shall be sooner paid.] Given under my  
‘ [*or our*] Hand and Seal [*or Hands and Seals*] the Day and Year first  
‘ above written.’

Convictions,  
&c. not to be  
quashed for  
Want of  
Form, nor be  
removable by  
Certiorari.

LXXXVI. And be it further enacted, That no Order, Judgment, Conviction, or other Proceedings touching or concerning any of the Matters aforesaid, or touching or concerning 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, shall be vacated or quashed for Want of Form only, or be removed or removable by Certiorari, or any other Writ or Process whatsoever, into any of His Majesty’s Courts of Record at *Westminster* ; any Law or Statute to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Appeal.

LXXXVII. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where any Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, or any Person or Persons, shall think themselves, himself, or herself aggrieved by any Rate or Assessment, or by any Order, Conviction, or other Matter or Thing which shall be made, had, or done in pursuance of the said recited Acts hereby repealed, or of this Act, it shall and may be lawful for such Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Person or Persons, to appeal to the Justices of the

the Peace of the City, Borough, or Town Corporate in which the same shall be made, had, or done, if the same shall be made, had, or done in a City, Borough, or Town Corporate in which General Quarter Sessions of the Peace are usually held, otherwise to the Justices of the Peace for the County, Riding, or Division in which the same shall be made, had, or done, at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace which shall be holden in and for such City, Borough, Town Corporate, County, Riding, or Division next after Demand made of any such Rate or Assessment, or next after any such Order, Conviction, Matter, or Thing being made, had, done, or committed (as the Case may be), such Appellant or Appellants first giving or causing to be given Fourteen Days Notice at the least in Writing of his, her, or their Intention to bring such Appeal, and of the Matter thereof, as well to the said Corporation (by leaving such Notice, addressed to them, with the Master of the said Hospital or Workhouse for the Time being) or their Clerk, and to the said Directors and Commissioners respectively, or to their respective Clerks, and to such other Person or Persons as shall be intended to be affected by such Appeal, as also (in the Case of every Appeal against any Conviction or other Proceeding had, made, or done by or before any Justice or Justices of the Peace, Mayor, or other Head Officer or Officers,) to the Justice or Justices of the Peace, Mayor, or other Head Officer or Officers by or before whom such Conviction or Proceedings shall have been had, made, or done; and further, within Four Days next after giving or causing to be given such Notice as aforesaid, entering into a Recognizance before such Justice or Justices, Mayor, or other Head Officer or Officers, or before some Justice of the Peace of the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, with Two sufficient Sureties, in such reasonable Sum or Sums of Money as such Justice or Justices, Mayor, or other Head Officer or Officers shall direct, conditioned to try such Appeal, and to abide such Order as shall thereupon be made, and to pay such Costs as shall be awarded by such Justices at such Quarter Sessions as aforesaid; and it shall be lawful for the said Justices, and they are hereby authorized to summon before them at such Quarter Sessions, or at some Adjournment thereof, the Witnesses on the Parts both of the Appellant or Appellants, and of the Respondent or Respondents; and upon due Proof of such Notice as before directed having been given, and of the entering into such Recognizance as herein-before is mentioned, at such Quarter Sessions or Adjournment thereof, to hear and finally determine the Causes and Matters of every such Appeal in a summary Way, and to award such Restitution, Damages, and Costs to the Appellant or Appellants, or Respondent or Respondents, not exceeding the Amount of the Rate or Rates, Sum and Sums of Money, Charges, and Expences which shall have been actually recovered and received by any Person or Persons in pursuance of this Act, together with such reasonable Costs, Charges, and Expences of prosecuting or defending such Appeal, as the said Justices shall think proper; which Determination of the said Justices at such Quarter Sessions, or Adjournment thereof as aforesaid, shall be final, binding, and conclusive to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever: Provided always, that in case there shall not be Time to give the said Fourteen Days Notice before the holding of such next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace as aforesaid, then such Appeal shall and may be made to and heard and determined at the next General Quarter Sessions following the said Four-

[*Local.*]

8 Q

teen

teen Days Notice of such Appeal, such Recognizance having been previously given and entered into as aforesaid.

Justices may  
amend Rates  
on Appeal.

LXXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That in Cases of Appeal to the Justices of the Peace at any Quarter Sessions to be holden for the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, against or relating to any Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments made under or by virtue of this Act, the said Justices upon hearing such Appeal, where they shall see just Cause of Relief, shall and are hereby empowered to correct, alter, and amend such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments in such Manner only as shall be necessary for giving Relief to the Person or Persons so appealing, without quashing or wholly setting aside the same Rate or Rates respectively: Provided always, that if the Court shall think it proper and necessary for giving such Relief to Persons appealing, that the Rate should be wholly quashed, then and in such Case the Court may wholly quash the same.

Justices em-  
powered to  
act as such,  
although  
they may be  
Members of  
the Corpo-  
ration, and  
may admini-  
ster Oaths  
under the  
Act.

LXXXIX. And be it further enacted, That all Justices of the Peace for the said City and County of the City of *Bristol* may act as Justices in any Cause or Matter concerning this Act, notwithstanding their being Members of the Corporation hereby constituted, or Directors of the said *Bristol Dock Company*, or Commissioners, and notwithstanding they shall be respectively assessed towards the Rates hereby authorized to be made, except where they shall be directly personally interested; and that in all Cases where any Justice or Justices of the Peace is or are authorized by this Act to examine any Person or Persons on Oath or Affirmation, it shall be lawful for such Justice or Justices, and he and they is and are hereby required to administer such Oath, or to take such Affirmation; and that in all Cases where any Parties, Witnesses, or other Persons are to be heard or examined by or in the Presence of such Justices, in any Cause, Matter, or Thing relating to this Act, it shall be lawful for such Justice or Justices to administer an Oath, or to take the Affirmation of such Parties, Witnesses, or Persons.

Limitation  
of Actions.

XC. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Action or Suit shall be brought against any Person or Persons for any thing done under colour of or in pursuance of this Act, except it be brought within Three Calendar Months next after the Fact shall have been committed out of which the Cause of such Action shall have arisen; and every such Action shall be laid and brought in the County where the Cause of Action shall have arisen, and not elsewhere: Provided also, that no Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall recover in any Action for any Irregularity, Trespass, or other Proceeding, unless Notice in Writing shall have been given to the Person or Persons against whom the same is intended to be brought, or left at his, her, or their last or usual Place of Abode, Twenty-one Days before such Action shall be commenced, 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 shall be made by or on behalf of the Party or Parties who shall have committed or caused to be committed the said Fact before such Action 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,

Action, by Leave of the Court where such Action shall depend, to pay into Court such Sum of Money as he, she, or they shall think fit, whereupon such Proceeding 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 : Provided also, that the Defendant or Defendants in all and every such Action or Actions may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the special Matter in Evidence at any Trial to be had thereupon, and that the same was done in pursuance of and by Authority of this Act ; and if upon the Trial of such Action or Actions it shall appear to have been so done, or that such Action or Actions shall have been brought before the Expiration of Twenty-one Days next after such Notice shall have been given as aforesaid, or after a sufficient Satisfaction made, tendered, or paid into Court as aforesaid, or after the Time limited for bringing the same as aforesaid, then and in such Case the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants ; and if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall become nonsuited, or discontinue his, her, or their Action or Actions, or if a Verdict shall be found against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, or if upon Demurrer Judgment shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, then and in every such Case the Defendant or Defendants shall and may recover Treble Costs, and have the like Remedy for the same as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have for Costs of Suit in other Cases of Law. General Issue.  
Treble Costs.

XCI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained shall in any Manner abridge, infringe, or lessen all or any of the Rights, Franchises, Immunities, Powers, or Authorities of the Mayor, Burgesses, and Commonalty of the said City and County of the City of *Bristol*, or of the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City, as Justices of the Peace within the same City and County, or any of the accustomed Rights and Privileges of the said City. Saving Rights of Corporation.

XCII. 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. Public Act.

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LONDON : Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN,  
Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1828.

