



ANNO QUADRAGESIMO QUINTO

GEORGI II. REGIS.

Cap. 118.

An Act to alter, amend, and enlarge the Powers of an Act, passed in the Twentieth Year of His present Majesty, for the better Government and Regulation of the Poor in the Town and Parish of *Maidstone*, in the County of *Kent*. [12th July 1805.]

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Twentieth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled, *An Act for the better Government and Regulation of the Poor in the Town and Parish of Maidstone, in the County of Kent*: And whereas the Powers and Provisions of the said Act, in relation to the making of Rates, are found to be defective, and it is therefore expedient that the same should be amended and rendered more effectual, and further Powers granted: And whereas it will also tend to the better carrying into Execution the Purposes of the said Act, if the Trustees under the same were empowered to sell certain Almshouses and Poor Houses herein-after mentioned and described, heretofore used for the Accommodation of the Poor, and now in a ruinous and dangerous Condition, and erect other Almshouses in lieu thereof, and for the Purposes of the said Act, upon a Piece of Ground belonging to the said Trustees: 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 [Loc. & Per.] 26 B the

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Power to make Rates in respect of Houses of low Rents, and Parts of Houses and Lodgings, and separate Apartments.

the Authority of the same, That, from and after the passing of this Act, all Houses, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said Town and Parish of *Maidstone*, which are or shall hereafter be let at any Sum not exceeding the Rent of Twelve Pounds, and every Part of any House or Tenement which shall be underlet or let out in Lodgings, and all separate Apartments and Lodgings ready-furnished, which shall be let to and occupied by any Person or Persons other than the Owner or Owners, shall be rated and assessed towards raising the Money allowed to be raised for the Purposes of the said Act and this Act, according to the Value thereof, and the Rent and Consideration paid or agreed to be paid for the Use and Occupation thereof; and the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, or Lessor or Lessors thereof, and of every such House or Tenement whereof any Part shall be so underlet or let out, or in which any Lodgings or separate Apartments, whether ready-furnished or otherwise, shall be so let, shall for the Purposes of making and paying such Rates, be deemed and taken to be the Occupier or Occupiers thereof, and shall be rated to and pay such Rates and Assessments.

Goods &c. liable to be distrained for Rates, &c. in Arrear.

II. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Goods and Chattels of every Person renting or occupying any such last mentioned House, Tenement, or Hereditaments, or any Part or Parts thereof, or of any separate Apartments or Lodgings furnished or unfurnished therein, shall be liable at all Times to be distrained and sold for Payment of so much of the said Rates or Assessments, and all Arrears thereof, as accrued and become due from each of them respectively during the Time of the Occupancy only of such Person.

Tenants liable to pay Rates to deduct them out of their Rents.

III. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That every Occupier who shall pay any such Rates or Assessments, or upon whom the same shall be levied, may from Time to Time deduct the same from the Rent due and payable from him; her, or them, to the respective Landlord or Owner (unless there shall be some Agreement to the contrary between the Landlord and Tenant); and the Receipt for such Payment shall be a sufficient Discharge to such Tenant or Occupier, and to his, her, or their Landlord; for so much Money as he, she, or they shall pay in the Manner directed by this Act; but no such Tenant or Occupier of any such separate Apartment or Lodging shall, by the Payment of any such Rate or Assessment in Manner aforesaid, be deemed to acquire any Settlement by such Payment, but the Landlord or Owner shall be deemed and construed, to all Intents and Purposes, to have paid the same; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Power to sell old Almshouses, and to build others.

IV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Trustees and they are hereby empowered, at any Time after the passing of this Act, to sell in Fee Simple to any Person or Persons willing to become the Purchaser or Purchasers thereof, certain Almshouses and Poorhouses, directed to be possessed by and belong unto the said Trustees by virtue of the said recited Act; namely, all those Four Messuages, Tenements, or Cottages, with the Yards, Gardens, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate, lying, and being in or near a certain Street or Lane called *King Street* otherwise *East Lane*, in the Town of *Maidstone* aforesaid, and now in the several Tenures or Occupations of *Murtha Baker Widow*, *Henry Johnson*, *William Alexander*, and *Ann Seares Widow*, and

and abutting to the said Street towards the South, to a Messuage or Tenement and Garden of Doctor *Francis Smith* and others towards the North and West, and to a Messuage or Tenement and Garden of *Samuel Jones* towards the East; and also all those Two Messuages, Tenements, or Cottages, with the Garden and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate, lying, and being in *Week Street*, in the Town of *Maidstone* aforesaid, and now in the Tenure or Occupation of *Robert Smith* and *Robert Bewley*, abutting to the said Street there towards the East, to a common Footpath or Highway towards the West, to a Malthouse and Lands of *Stephen Page Seager* Esquire, towards the North, and to a Messuage or Tenement and Garden of *John Wilson* and others towards the South; and also all those Three Messuages, Tenements, or Cottages, with the Gardens and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate, lying, and being in the Borough of *Westree*, in the Town of *Maidstone* aforesaid, and now in the Tenure or Occupation of *Ann Medhurst* Widow, *Dorothy Bran* Widow, *Rebecca Gilbert*, and *Mary Honess* Widow, abutting to the Street there towards the East, to Lands of the Earl of *Romney* towards the West and North, and to a Messuage or Tenement of *William Rayfield* towards the South; and also all that Messuage, Tenement, or Cottage, situate, lying, and being in or near a certain Street called *The High Street*, in the Town of *Maidstone* aforesaid, and now in the Tenure or Occupation of *Susannah Hall* Widow; and also all that Scite, or Piece or Parcel of Land or Ground whereon a Messuage or Tenement formerly stood, which said Messuage or Tenement, and Piece or Parcel of Land abut to the said Street towards the South, to a Messuage or Tenement of *Charles Beaumont* towards the North, to a Messuage or Tenement of *William Goodwin* Esquire, towards the East, and to a Footpath used in common with other Tenements towards the West; and heretofore and now are for the Accommodation of poor and indigent, and old and infirm Persons, unable to maintain themselves, of the said Town and Parish of *Maidstone*, and now in a ruinous and dangerous State and Condition, and to apply the Money arising from such Sale, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, in the building and erecting a like Number of Alms-houses or Poorhouses as shall be so sold as aforesaid, on a certain Piece of Ground situate in or near *Stone Street*, in the Town of *Maidstone* aforesaid, belonging to the said Trustees; or if the said Piece of Ground shall be found inconvenient, then any other Piece of Ground belonging to the said Trustees, within the said Town and Parish of *Maidstone*, that may in the Judgement of such Trustees be deemed fit and convenient for that Purpose; and such new Alms or Poorhouses shall, when completed, be used for the Accommodation of poor and indigent, and old and infirm Persons, unable to maintain themselves, in like Manner as such old Houses have been heretofore used; and such new Alms or Poorhouses shall, when so completed, be vested in and be the Property of the said Trustees, in Trust for the Purposes of the said Act and this Act.

V. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Surplus shall remain of any such Monies after the Building of such new Alms or Poorhouses and completing the same, then and in such Case such Surplus shall be laid out in the Three *per Centum* Consolidated Bank Annuities, in the Names of the said Trustees, by the Name and Style of "The Trustees of the Poor of the Town and Parish of *Maidstone*," and the Dividends arising from such Stock shall go and be applied to such and the like Purposes, and be disposed and accounted for upon the like Trusts,

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Trusts, and in like Manner, as the Produce of the Estates now belonging to the said Trustees, are to be disposed of, applied, and accounted for; and a Receipt, signed by any Three or more of the said Trustees for the Time being, shall be a full and sufficient Discharge to the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, for Payment of the Dividends annually to arise from such Stock so to be purchased as aforesaid; and the said Governor and Company of the Bank of *England* are hereby required to pay such Dividends accordingly on the Production to them of the said Receipt.

Powers and Provisions of former Act to apply to this Act.

VI. And be it further enacted, That all Powers, Provisions, Clauses, Penalties, Forfeitures, Matters, and Things in the said recited Act contained (save and except such Parts thereof as relate to any Exemption from any Stamp Duties) shall be in full force as to this Act, and to the making, allowing, paying, levying, collecting, receiving, and applying of any Rates, or as to any other Matters and Things in this Act contained, and shall be used and exercised by the said Trustees in as full and ample a Manner as if the same were severally repeated and re-enacted in this Act; and this Act and the said recited Act shall be construed together as one Act, as if the Provisions in the said Act contained had been re-enacted in this Act.

Publick Act.

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

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