



ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO TERTIO

GEORGI III. REGIS.

Cap. 155.

An Act to enable the Company of Proprietors of the *South London Water Works* to raise a further Sum of Money, and to alter and amend the Powers of an Act passed in the Forty-fifth of His present Majesty, for making the said Water Works.

[22d June 1813.]

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Forty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for supplying the Inhabitants of the Parish of Saint Giles Camberwell, and Parts of the Parish of Saint Mary's Lambeth, and several other Parishes and Places in the County of Surrey, with Water*, whereby several Persons therein named, and their Successors, were made one Body Politic and Corporate, by the Name of *The Company of Proprietors of the South London Water Works*, for the making, completing, and maintaining certain Water Works, Reservoirs, and other Works thereby authorized to be made in certain Parishes, Townships, Hamlets, and Places, in the said Act mentioned: And whereas the said Company of Proprietors were by the said recited Act authorized to raise and contribute amongst themselves for the Purposes of the said Act, in such Proportions as they should think

[*Loc. & Per.*]

31 A

proper,

45G.3.c.119.

Extending
the Provisions
of former Act
to this Act.

proper, any Sum or Sums of Money not exceeding in the whole the Sum of Fifty thousand Pounds, with Power to contribute or raise any further or other Sums of Money for completing and perfecting the said Undertaking, not exceeding the Sum of Thirty thousand Pounds: And whereas in pursuance of the Powers and Authorities of the said recited Act, the said Sum of Fifty thousand Pounds hath been raised and contributed by the said Proprietors, and also the said further Sum of Thirty thousand Pounds: And whereas the said Company of Proprietors are proceeding in the Execution of the Water Works, Aqueducts, and other Works authorized to be made by the said recited Act: And whereas in order to enable the said Company of Proprietors to complete and perfect the same, it will be necessary and expedient that they should be authorized and empowered to raise a further Sum of Money; and that for these and other Purposes the Powers and Provisions of the said recited Act should be altered and enlarged: 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 all the Powers, Authorities, Provisions, Regulations, Privileges, Penalties, Forfeitures, Clauses, Restrictions, Matters, and Things whatsoever, contained in the said recited Act of the Forty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty (so far as the same are not expressly altered or repealed by this Act), shall extend and be construed to extend to operate and be in force with respect to the Monies allowed to be raised, and to the additional Shares to be made or created under this Act, and for the Protection of the said Company against any Damage, Injury, or Interruption, or improper Use of the Works supplied by the said Company, and to all other Cases, Matters, and Things whatsoever which may happen or arise in the Execution of this Act, as fully and effectually, to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same and every Part thereof were repeated and re-enacted in this Act, and were made Part thereof; and the said recited Act and this Act shall, as to all Matters and Things whatsoever, except as aforesaid, be construed as one Act.

Company
may raise a
Sum not
exceeding
80,000*l.* for
the Purposes
of this Act, in
addition to
the Monies
raised under
45 G. 3.

Capital to be
divided into
Shares of
100*l.* each.

II. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Company of Proprietors to raise and contribute amongst themselves, or by the Admission of new Subscribers, in addition to the Money which has already been raised by them under the Powers of the said recited Act, for the Purposes thereof, and in such Proportions as they shall think proper, any Sum or Sums of Money, not exceeding in the Whole the Sum of Eighty thousand Pounds, which said Sum of Money shall be laid out and applied in the first place in the discharging the Expences of obtaining and passing this Act, and for otherwise carrying the several Purposes of the recited Act and this Act into Execution; and which said Sum of Eighty thousand Pounds shall be divided into Shares of One hundred Pounds each; and that it shall and may be lawful to and for any Person or Persons, Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, possessed of any Share or Shares in the Capital of the said Company of Proprietors under the said recited Act, to accept and take any Number of such new or additional Shares so created by this Act, in proportion

proportion to any original Share or Number of original Shares holden by such Person or Persons, Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate; as shall be assigned to them under or by virtue of any Resolution of the said Company of Proprietors, or their Board of Directors for the Time being; and such new or additional Shares, and the several Shares made and created by virtue of the said recited Act, shall to all Intents and Purposes be, and they are hereby declared to be consolidated, and to be One and the same Joint Stock and Property; and all Persons, Bodies Politic, Corporate, and Collegiate, their several and respective Successors, Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, who have severally subscribed for One or more Share or Shares, or such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be called for and demanded for the Purposes of the said Act and of this Act, and who shall severally subscribe for One or more Share or Shares, or such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be called for or demanded for the Purposes of the said recited Act and this Act, shall respectively be entitled to and receive the entire and net Distribution of an equal proportionate Part, according to the Money so by them respectively paid, of the Profits and Advantages that shall or may arise or accrue by the respective Rates and other Sums of Money to be raised, recovered, or received by the said Company of Proprietors, by the Authority of the said recited Act and this Act; and every Body Politic, Corporate, and Collegiate, and Person, having such Shares and Property as aforesaid, shall bear and pay a proportionable Sum towards carrying on the said Works respectively, in manner directed by the said recited Act and this Act.

III. And be it further enacted, That in case the said Company of Proprietors shall think it advisable to borrow the said Sum of Eighty thousand Pounds, or any Part thereof, at Interest, or shall deem it expedient to raise only a Part of the said Sum of Eighty thousand Pounds by way of Augmentation of their Capital Stock, and to borrow the Remainder thereof at Interest, then and in either of the said Cases it shall be lawful for the said Company of Proprietors to borrow and take up at Interest, on the Credit of the Rates and Duties by the said recited Act of the Forty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty and this Act granted to the said Company, any Sum or Sums of Money in addition to any Sum or Sums of Money already borrowed or taken up at Interest (if any), so as the whole to be raised under the Authority of this Act shall not exceed Eighty thousand Pounds; and in order to the raising of the said Sum of Eighty thousand Pounds or any Part thereof, the said Company of Proprietors shall and may, at the Costs and Charges of the said Company, convey, surrender, and assign over the Property of the said Undertaking, and the Sums of Money arising or to arise to the said Company of Proprietors by virtue of the said recited Act of the Forty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, or this Act, or any Part or Parts thereof respectively, as a Security for the Repayment of any such Sum or Sums of Money so to be borrowed, with Interest, to such Person or Persons as shall so advance the same, his, her, or their Trustee or Trustees, Nominee or Nominees, Executors or Administrators; and all such Assignments and Securities, and the Transfers thereof, shall or may be made and executed in the same Manner and Form, or in such other Form as the Nature of the

Power to
raise Money
by Mortgage.

Case

Case and Circumstances may require and admit of; and the same; and the Monies so to be borrowed, and the Interest thereof, and the Persons lending the same or entitled thereto, shall be subject to all the same or the like Provisions relative to Preference or Priority, Memorials, Entry with the Clerk to the said Company, Payment of Interest, Proprietorship, Notice of Payment, and all other Provisions, Regulations, and Directions whatsoever, in all respects and to all Intents and Purposes, as are in and by the said recited Act of the Forty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty prescribed and directed concerning the Assignments and Securities, and the Transfers of the Assignments and Securities to be made and given for the Monies thereby authorized to be borrowed, and concerning such last-mentioned Monies and the Interests thereof, and the Persons lending such Money or entitled thereto.

Proprietors of Shares under this Act to be entitled to the same Powers, Privileges, and Advantages as those under the Act of 45 G. 3.

IV. And be it further enacted, That each and every Proprietor of each and every Share which shall or may be created by virtue of this Act, shall be entitled to such and the same Powers, Privileges, and Advantages, and shall be subject to such and the same Rules, Regulations, Restrictions, Penalties, and Forfeitures, as if the Share or Shares so holden by him, her, or them, were Part of the Shares already created by virtue of the said recited Act of the Forty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, and now vested in the several and respective Proprietors of the said Undertaking; and the Admission of all and every Person and Persons to any such new Share or Shares, by any Order or Resolution of the said Company of Proprietors, or their Directors for the Time being, shall be and be deemed to be a good and effectual Title to such Person or Persons, and his, her, or their respective Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, on his, her, or their paying to the said Company of Proprietors, or their Treasurer or Treasurers, or Chief Clerk for the Time being, the Purchase Money or Price agreed to be paid for such Shares respectively.

Repealing Restrictions as to holding Shares.

V. And be it further enacted, That so much of the said recited Act of the Forty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty as declares that no Body Politic, Corporate, Collegiate, or Person contributing thereto or becoming a Proprietor of the said Undertaking, shall become a Proprietor of more than Five Shares in the whole therein, shall be and the same is hereby repealed, and declared to be null and void to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

Conveyances in the Form prescribed by 45 G. 3. declared valid.

VI. And be it further enacted, That all Conveyances and Assurances taken or to be taken by the said Company of Proprietors, of any Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, for the Purposes of the said recited Act of the Forty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty and this Act, according to the Form or to the Effect prescribed by the said recited Act of the Forty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, shall be good, valid, and effectual in the Law, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

VII. And

VII. And be it further enacted, That whenever the said Company of Proprietors, or the Directors or Agents thereof, shall deem it necessary to lay down Pipes in or under any Road, Street, or Highway, in any of the Parishes of *Saint Mary Magdalen Bermondsey*, or *Saint Mary Rotherhithe*, in the County of *Surrey*, or in the Parishes of *Saint Paul Deptford*, or *Saint Nicholas Deptford*, in the County of *Kent* (not being any Parts of the Roads called, distinguished, or comprised by or under the Names of the *Surrey New Roads* or the *Surrey and Sussex Roads*), such Pipes shall be laid at the Depth of Twelve Inches at the least in or under the Foot Paths of the said Roads, Streets, and Highways, or on the Sides of the said Roads, Streets, and Highways, as near the Foot Paths as may be, unless such Pipes shall be Service Pipes to convey Water across the said Roads, Streets, or Highways from the Main Pipes into any House or Premises, or in case where the Consent of the Trustees, Commissioners, or Surveyors of the Roads, Streets, or Highways shall be previously obtained for otherwise placing down such Pipes; and in case any Pipe or Pipes shall be laid down contrary to the Directions herein-before mentioned, then the Surveyor or Surveyors of the said Roads, Streets, or Highways respectively, shall give Notice thereof in Writing to the said Company of Proprietors, or their Agent or Agents, to take up and remove the same; and in case they neglect or refuse so to do for the Space of Twelve Hours after Notice to take up and remove the same, then it shall be lawful to and for the Surveyor or Surveyors of the said Roads, Streets, or Highways respectively, as the Case may require, to cause the same to be removed and taken away, and the Charges and Expences to be incurred thereby, together with the further Sum of Five Pounds by way of Fine or Penalty, shall be paid by the said Company of Proprietors, their Treasurer, Clerk, or Agent, to the Treasurer or Treasurers to the said Trustees or Commissioners, or to the Surveyor or Surveyors of Highways, as the Case may require; and in case the said Company of Proprietors, or their Treasurer, Clerk, or Agent, shall not pay what shall be so laid out or incurred, together with the said Sum of Five Pounds, within Ten Days next after Notice thereof shall be left at the Office of the said Company, or at the Dwelling House or last Place of Abode of the Treasurer, Clerk, or Agent thereof, (which Notice shall be in Writing, signed by the Surveyor or Surveyors to the said Trustees or Commissioners of the Highways respectively, and annexed to or written under a Bill containing an Account of such Charges and Expences,) it shall be lawful to and for the Trustees and Commissioners of the said Roads or Streets, or any Five or more of them respectively, in the Name of their respective Treasurer or Clerk, and to and for the said Surveyor or Surveyors of the Highways aforesaid, in their own Name or Names, and they are hereby respectively authorized and empowered to bring or cause to be brought any Action or Actions against the said Company of Proprietors, for the Recovery of, and therein to recover such Sum or Sums of Money as shall or may be so laid out and expended or incurred, together with the said Sum of Five Pounds by way of Fine or Penalty, and full Costs of Suit, in which Action or Actions no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance, shall be allowed.

Regulations
for laying
Pipes in the
Lower Dept-
ford Road.

Requiring
the Parts of
the Lower
Deptford
Road opened
for laying
down Pipes
to be made
good without
Delay.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That whenever any Part of the said Roads, Streets, or Highways in the Parishes before mentioned, (not being any Parts of the Roads called, distinguished, or comprised by or under the Names of the *Surrey* New Roads or the *Surrey* and *Sussex* Roads,) shall be opened for the Purpose of laying down, repairing, or amending any Pipe or Plug, such Pipe or Plug shall be laid down, and the Ground filled and rammed in, and the Road, Streets, or Highways repaired and made in good Condition without Delay, and the Part or Parts of the said Roads or Highways so opened shall be secured in the mean time so as to prevent any Damage or Inconvenience happening to Passengers, Cattle, or Carriages; and until the same shall be so filled and rammed in, the said Company of Proprietors, or their Officers or Servants, shall in every such Case, at the Expence of the said Company of Proprietors, cause Two or more Lanthorns, with Lamp or Candle constantly burning, to be kept and placed at the Ground so opened, from One Hour after Sun-set to One Hour before Sunrise, such Lanthorns to be placed at each End of the Opening of the Ground; and the same shall at the like Expence also be attended during such Time by One or more Person or Persons, to the Intent that Warning may be given in the Night-time to Passengers of the Ground not being safely passable.

Penalties for
Neglect re-
specting the
Lower Dept-
ford Road.

IX. And be it enacted, That in case any Delay shall happen in laying down, repairing, or amending any Pipe or Plug, or in filling in or ramming down the Ground so to be opened, or in making good such Road, Street, or Highway before mentioned, or the said Roads, Streets, or Highways shall not be so secured as aforesaid, or the Openings thereof shall not be so lighted and attended, or if it shall at any Time happen, that by the bursting, breaking, or leaking of any Pipe or Plug, or for the Purpose of cleaning or cleansing any Pipe or Plug, or otherwise, the Water from or through the same shall overflow any Part or Parts of the said Roads, Streets, or Highways, without being stopped or prevented by the said Company of Proprietors, or the Agents, Officers, or Workmen thereof, within the Space of Twelve Hours next after the same shall happen, between the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* and the Twenty-ninth Day of *September*, and within the Space of Twenty-four Hours between the Twenty-ninth Day of *September* and the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* in any Year, after Notice in Writing shall have been given or left at the Office of the said Company of Proprietors, or served on their Agent or Agents, then and in each and every of the said Cases the said Company shall forfeit a Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings nor less than Ten Shillings, for every Hour the said Ground shall remain without being filled and rammed in, or the Part or Parts of the said Roads, Streets, or Highways shall not be repaired and made in good Condition, or secured, lighted, or attended as aforesaid, or the Water shall overflow the said Roads, Streets, or Highways, without being stopped or prevented within the Time before mentioned; and such Forfeiture shall belong and be paid to any Person or Persons who shall make Complaint thereof before any Justice or Justices of the Peace acting for the County whereon the Matter of the said Complaint shall arise, and may be levied and recovered by Distress and Sale

Sale of any of the Goods and Chattels of the said Company of Proprietors, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any Justice of the Peace acting for such County, together with the Costs and Charges of the Summons, Warrant, Hearing, Conviction, Distress, and Sale, or other Proceedings in the Matter thereof; and if no Goods and Chattels can be found in the County wherein the Matter of the Complaint shall arise, then such Forfeiture, Costs, and Charges shall and may be recovered by Distress and Sale of any Goods or Chattels belonging to the said Company in any other County, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any Justice of the Peace acting for the County wherein such Goods and Chattels may be.

X. And be it further enacted, That the said Company of Proprietors, or the Directors, Officers, Agents, or Workmen thereof, shall not, at any Time or Times from and after the passing of this Act, cut into or alter the Course or Direction of or intermeddle with any Sewer, River, Brook, Stream, Creek, Drain, or Watercourse, or the Banks or Walls thereof, within the Jurisdiction or under the Cognizance of the Commissioners of Sewers for the Limits extending from *East Mouldsey* in the County of *Surrey* to *Ravensborne* in the County of *Kent*, without having first obtained the Licence and Consent in Writing of the said Commissioners, or any Six or more of them; any thing in this or the before-recited Act passed in the Forty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty contained to the contrary notwithstanding; save and except as to so much or such Part of a certain Brook, Sewer, or Watercourse called *Vauxhall Creek* as extends from the River *Thames*, through the said Creek and the Canal and Works of the said Company, to the Extent of their Property at or near *Montfort Place*, near *Kennington Green*, in the Parish of *Saint Mary Lambeth* in the County of *Surrey*; nor shall any thing in this or the said recited Act contained extend or be deemed or construed to extend to prejudice, diminish, or take away any of the Rights, Powers, or Authorities in or of the Commissioners of Sewers for the Limits aforesaid, but that all such Rights, Powers, and Authorities shall be as good, valid, and effectual as if this and the said recited Act had not been made: Provided always, that nothing in this Act contained shall authorise or empower the said Commissioners of Sewers to prostrate, overthrow, or destroy any Reservoir, Feeder, or other Work now made by the said Company of Proprietors in *Vauxhall Creek* aforesaid, or in the said Sewer or Watercourse leading therefrom, as before mentioned; and also that nothing in this or the said recited Act contained shall authorize or empower the said Company to stop, injure, or prejudice the Drainage of the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the Limits aforesaid, by or through the said Creek, Sewers, or Watercourses, or either of them, in the same Manner as such Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments are now and have been in Time past accustomed to be drained.

Saving the Rights of the Commissioners of Sewers for Surrey and Kent.

XI. And be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the said Company of Proprietors at any Time hereafter to sell or dispose of any of the Rights, Privileges, Powers, or Authorities vested in them by this

Powers vested in the Company shall not be alienable.

this Act, of supplying the said Parishes or Places with Water, or any of such Parishes, or any Part of any of them, to any other Water Company now existing, or which may hereafter be established for the supplying of Water, or to any Person or Persons whomsoever, but only to take and demand such Sum as shall be reasonable for the Water supplied under the Provisions of this Act.

Requiring
the Company
to make Fire
Plugs in every
Street, &c.

XII. And be it further enacted, That the said Company of Proprietors shall and they are hereby required, upon the carrying into and laying down any Main Pipe in any Square, Street, Passage, or Place for the supplying the same with Water, to fix and place, or cause to be fixed and placed, at the Time of laying down such Main Pipe, One or more proper and sufficient Fire Plug or Fire Plugs in each Square, Street, Passage, or Place supplied with Water from such Main or Mains, for the supplying of Water for the extinguishing of Fires; and when and so soon as any such Fire Plugs shall be finished, the said Company of Proprietors shall immediately deliver a Key or Keys of such Fire Plug or Fire Plugs at each and every House or Place in the Parish in which such Fire Plug shall be, wherein any Engine shall be kept for the extinguishing of Fires.

Mains to be
kept full of
Water during
Night.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That the Mains belonging to the said Company of Proprietors already laid down, or that may hereafter be laid down, shall always be charged with Water during Night, to be used in case of Accidents by Fire; and that a Fire Plug shall be fixed to all such Mains and Pipes wherever it shall be judged necessary, by the Vestryman of any Parish, or by the Commissioners of Pavements, or their respective Surveyor or Surveyors for the Time being; and that no Pipes except Main Pipes shall be laid down more than Six Days previous to Water being ready to be driven through such Pipes, nor shall any Ground be filled in until Water has been so driven through for the Trial of such Pipes.

Requiring
the Company
to deliver
Keysof Pipes,
&c. to certain
Fire Offices.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That in case the several or any Insurance Companies established in the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, or either of them shall be desirous of and apply to the said Company of Proprietors of the *South London Water Works* for a Key or Keys of the Mains, Plugs, or Services belonging to the said Water Works, in order that such Key or Keys may be kept by the said Company or Companies so applying, or the Fire Men or other their Men, Officers, or Servants, to the end that thereby in case of Fire the Supply of Water from the said Works may the more easily and readily be obtained, the said Company of Proprietors of the *South London Water Works* shall be bound and obliged to furnish such Key or Keys to such Company or Companies so applying, in order to their being so kept; and in case the said Company of Proprietors of the *South London Water Works* shall refuse such Key or Keys to any Company so applying, they shall forfeit to such Company to whom such Refusal shall be made, the Sum of Fifty Pounds *per Annum*, which Penalty shall and may from Time to Time be recovered by Action, Plaint, or Suit, in any Court in *Westminster Hall*.

XV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in the said recited Act of the Forty-fifth Year of His present Majesty's Reign or in this present Act contained, shall extend or be construed to extend to give to or invest the said Company of Proprietors with any Power which may at all prejudice, lessen, or interfere with any Rights, Powers, Privileges, or Authorities heretofore granted or belonging to the Commercial Dock Company, as established by an Act passed in the Fiftieth Year of His present Majesty's Reign, intituled *An Act for maintaining and improving the Docks and Warehouses called The Commercial Docks, and for making and maintaining other Docks and Warehouses to communicate therewith, all in the Parish of Saint Mary Rotherhithe, in the County of Surrey*, and since extended by another Act, made and passed in the Fifty-first Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act to amend and render more effectual an Act of His present Majesty, for maintaining and improving the Docks and Warehouses called The Commercial Docks, in the Parish of Saint Mary Rotherhithe, in the County of Surrey, and for extending the Powers of the said Act*, or to enable the said Company of Proprietors of *The South London Water Works* to enter into or upon, or use or interfere with the Docks, Ground, or Premises of the said *Commercial Dock Company*, situated in the Parish of *Saint Mary Rotherhithe*, or to purchase or enter upon all or any of the Hereditaments and Premises which the said Commercial Dock Company are by either of the said Acts authorized to purchase, without the Consent of the Board of Directors of the said Company.

Saving the Rights of the Commercial Dock Company.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That no Pipe or Pipes shall be laid down by the said Company of Proprietors, their Servants or Agents, under any Parts of the Roads called or distinguished by or under the Name of the *Surrey and Sussex Roads*, and mentioned and comprised in an Act passed in the Forty-second Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for repealing an Act passed in the Twenty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty King George the Third, for more effectually repairing the Roads leading from the Stone's End Blackman Street, in the Borough of Southwark, in the County of Surrey, to Highgate, in the County of Sussex, and several other Roads therein mentioned, and for granting other Powers for those Purposes*; and also, in another Act passed in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for making, widening, and keeping in repair certain Roads in the several Parishes of Lambeth, Newington, Saint George Southwark, Bermondsey, and Christ Church, in the County of Surrey, and for watching and lighting the said Roads*; and also in another Act passed in the Forty-seventh Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for enlarging the Powers of an Act of the Twenty-sixth Year of His present Majesty, for making and keeping in repair certain Roads in the Parishes of Lambeth, Newington, Saint George Southwark, Bermondsey, and Christ Church, in the County of Surrey, and for watching and lighting the said Roads*, which shall prevent the draining of the Water off the said Roads, and in no Case of less Depth than Twelve Inches, measured from the Upper Side of such Pipe or Pipes, below the Surface of the Ground to be opened for laying down such Pipe or Pipes.

To prevent the laying of Pipes which shall prevent the draining the Water off the Surrey and Sussex Roads.

[Loc. & Per.]

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XVII. And

Public Act.

XVII. 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.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN,
Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1826.