



ANNO SEXTO

GEORGIIV. REGIS.

Cap. clxxiv.

An Act for better assessing and collecting the Poor and other Parochial Rates within the Town and Parish of *Henley-upon-Thames* in the County of *Oxford*. [22d June 1825.]

WHEREAS the Poor within the Town and Parish of *Henley-upon-Thames* in the County of *Oxford* are very numerous, and are maintained and supported at a great Expence: And whereas the Laws and Statutes now in force within this Realm, for the assessing and collecting of Monies for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor, are found ineffectual in the said Town and Parish, and the Rates and Assessments are in many Cases evaded and rendered unproductive, by reason that divers Houses within the said Town and Parish are let to occasional Occupiers, and also let out in Parcels to Undertenants and to Lodgers, and in separate Apartments, both furnished and unfurnished, and others are let out at small yearly Rents: And whereas it would tend to the Equalization and Reduction of the Poor and other Parochial Rates within the said Town and Parish, and to the great Alleviation of many industrious Families who now pay the same, and of the Inhabitants of the said Town and Parish in general, if further and additional Powers were given for the assessing and collecting such Rates and Assessments: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this Act, the several Lessors, Landlords, or Owners of such Houses, Buildings, Tenements, and Hereditaments within the said Town and

Landlords of certain Houses may be rated instead of Occupiers.

[*Local.*]

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Parish,

Parish, the yearly Value whereof respectively shall not exceed Ten Pounds, nor be less than Three Pounds, or which shall be let or offered to be let to weekly or monthly Tenants, or which shall be let or offered to be let furnished, or in Lodgings, or in separate Apartments, or at Rents which shall become payable and to be collected at any shorter Period than quarterly, shall or may from Time to Time and at all Times hereafter be rated and assessed to and by any Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, to be made for the Relief of the Poor of the said Town and Parish (unless the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Town and Parish shall from Time to Time prefer and determine to rate the actual Occupier or Occupiers of such Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments respectively); and the Person or Persons so rated, whether the Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, or the Occupier or Occupiers, shall from Time to Time pay or cause to be paid all and every such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, in respect of such Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments respectively, and upon Nonpayment thereof such Rates or Assessments may be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Person or Persons respectively, where-soever they shall be found, or of the Goods and Chattels of the Person or Persons inhabiting the same Messuages or Hereditaments respectively.

Landlords,
&c. may com-
pound with
Overseers,
&c.

II. Provided always, That if the Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of any House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament, the yearly Value whereof shall not exceed Ten Pounds nor be less than Three Pounds, and which shall be let to One Tenant only, at a Rent which shall become payable and be collected only by quarterly Payments, shall be rated and assessed to every such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, then upon Request in Writing under the Hand or Hands of any such Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, and a true and full Statement in Writing of the Name of the actual Tenant or Occupier of every such Building, Tenement, or Hereditament, and such other Information relating thereto as the Churchwardens and Overseers from Time to Time shall direct or require; and it shall be lawful for the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the major Part of them shall and they are hereby required to compound with any such Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of such House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament, for Payment of the said Rates or Assessment for and in respect of any House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament, at such reduced yearly Rentals as the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the said Town and Parish, or the major Part of them, shall think reasonable, not being more than Two-thirds nor less than One-half of the Rack Rent or annual Value of such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments respectively; or shall remit to such Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, such Part of such Rate or Assessment as the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the major Part of them, shall think reasonable, not being less than One-third Part, nor more than One-half of such Rates or Assessments; and also, that it shall be lawful for the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Town and Parish

Parish, or the major Part of them, if they shall think proper, to compound with any Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of any Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or other Hereditaments in the said Town and Parish which shall be let or offered to be let to weekly or monthly Tenants, or which shall be let or offered to be let furnished, or in Lodgings, or in separate Apartments, or at Rents which shall become payable or to be collected at any shorter Period than quarterly, for Payment of the said Rates for or in respect of any such Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, at such reduced yearly Rentals as the Churchwardens or Overseers of the Poor of the said Town and Parish shall think reasonable, not being less than One-half of the Rack Rent or annual Value of such Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments respectively, or to remit to the Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of any such Tenement respectively last mentioned, such Part of such Rate or Assessment as the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Town and Parish shall think proper, not being more than One-half of the Rates or Assessments to which such Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners shall be rated or assessed in respect of such last-mentioned Messuages or Hereditaments respectively, or otherwise to collect from such Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, the Whole of such Rates or Assessments, as they shall think proper; and the said Churchwardens or Overseers may vary, discontinue, or renew either or any of such Compositions as they shall from Time to Time deem expedient: Provided always, that no such Landlord or Owner shall be charged with or liable to pay for any increased Rent reserved and made payable to him for or on account of such Landlord or Owner having agreed to pay the Rates heretofore chargeable upon the several Occupiers of such Premises respectively.

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

Not to affect
Leases or
Agreements.

IV. And be it further enacted, That in case, at any Time or Times hereafter, any Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, Occupier or Occupiers of any Messuages or Hereditaments situate in the said Town and Parish, for and in respect whereof he or they shall be rated or assessed to any Rate or Assessment made or to be made by virtue of this Act, shall refuse or neglect to pay the Money rated and assessed upon him or them respectively, or which he or they may be liable to pay by virtue of this Act, and all Arrears thereafter due, then it shall be lawful for any One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Oxford*, and he is hereby authorized and directed, by Writing under his Hand, on Complaint made by the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or One of them, or other Person

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levying
Rates.

Person appointed by them, to summon all and every Person and Persons who shall have refused and neglected as aforesaid, to appear at the Time and Place to be mentioned in such Summons, before any Two Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Oxford*, who shall be then and there present; and it shall be lawful for any Person appointed to collect and receive such Rates or Assessments, or for any of the Constables or Beadles of the said Town and Parish, or for any other Person, to serve all and every such Summons and Summonses upon all and every the Person and Persons so 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 or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, or at or on the Premises for or in respect whereof the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments mentioned in such Summons shall remain due and owing; and if any Person or Persons so summoned shall refuse or neglect to attend at the Time and Place mentioned in such Summons, or if he or they shall attend, and shall not shew good and sufficient Cause to such Justice or Justices as may be then and there present, either that he or they is or are not chargeable with such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or that he or they is or are, on account of his or their Poverty or Indigence, unable to pay the same, then and in every such Case, every such Person or Persons shall pay the Rate or Rates in respect of which such Summons was issued, and also the Costs and Charges of such Summons; and in all Cases where any Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or any of them, shall not be paid upon the Return of such Summons, it shall be lawful for the Justice who shall have signed or issued such Summons or Summonses, or who shall have directed such Summons or Summonses to be signed and issued as aforesaid, or for any other Justice of the Peace for the said County of *Oxford*, and he is hereby authorized and required, upon Oath made before him of the due Service of such Summons or Summonses by the Person who shall have served the same, to grant a Warrant under his Hand and Seal, authorizing and directing any such Person appointed to collect such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments as aforesaid, or any Constable or Beadle of the said Town and Parish or other District, or any other Constable or other Person, to levy such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and all Arrears thereof, and the said Costs and Charges of the Summons (if the same shall not have been paid before), and the Costs and Charges of every such Warrant, and also the reasonable Costs, Charges, and Expences of executing the same, by Distress of the Goods and Chattels of the Person or Persons so neglecting or refusing, which shall be found either within the said Parish or elsewhere; and if, within Four Days next after any such Distress shall be made pursuant to the Directions of this Act, the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, with all Arrears due thereon, together with all the said Charges of the said Summons, and the said Charges for the said Warrant, and the said Charges and Expences of executing the said Warrant, and of making such Distress, and of keeping such Goods and Chattels, shall not be paid, then the said Person appointed
to

to collect as aforesaid, or the Constable or Beadle, or other Person authorized by the said Warrant, shall cause the said Goods and Chattels to be appraised by One or more Appraiser or Appraisers, and to be sold either on the Premises where the same shall be distrained, or elsewhere, or such Part or Parts thereof as in his or their Judgment shall be sufficient to pay the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, together with all Arrears due thereon, and the said Costs, Charges, and Expences of the said Summons, Warrant, Distress, Removal, and keeping Possession of such Goods and Chattels so distrained, and the reasonable Costs and Charges and Expences of appraising and selling the same (the Amount of all such Costs, Charges, and Expences relating to the Recovery of the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, being, in case of Dispute, settled by any Two Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Oxford*), and shall return the Overplus, if any, to the Owner or Owners of such Goods or Chattels respectively, upon Demand thereof made by him or them.

V. And be it further enacted, That every Warrant of Distress for Nonpayment of any Rates or Assessments authorized and directed to be issued by virtue of this Act, shall or may be to the Effect following :

Form of
Warrant of
Distress.

Oxfordshire } ' To
to wit. } ' One of the Collectors
' of the Rates for the Relief of the Poor of the Parish
' of *Henley-upon-Thames* in the County of *Oxford*, and
' to all Constables, Beadles, and Peace Officers in the
' County aforesaid :

' **WHEREAS** the under-mentioned Person [*or Persons, if more*
' *than One*], now or late a Lessor, Landlord, Owner, or Occu-
' pier [*or Lessors, Landlords, Owners, or Occupiers, if more than*
' *One*] of the Tenement [*or Tenements, if more than One Person*
' *be included in the Warrant*] or other Hereditaments within the
' said Parish, was and is, or were and are [*as the Case may be*] rated
' and assessed, or is or are [*as the Case may be*] liable to the Pay-
' ment of the Sum or Sums of Money set opposite to his, her, or
' their respective Name or Names [*as the Case may be*] hereunder
' written, by virtue of a Rate or Rates, duly made under and by
' virtue of a certain Act passed in the Sixth Year of the Reign of
' His Majesty King *George* the Fourth, intituled [*here set forth the*
' *Title of this Act*]: And whereas the said Person or Persons has
' or have [*as the Case may be*] refused or neglected to pay the Sum
' or the several Sums of Money set at and opposite his, her, or their
' Name or Names [*as the Case may be*] hereunder written, due from
' him, her, or them, by virtue of such Rate or Rates [*as the Case*
' *may be*]; and the said Sum or several Sums of Money is or are
' [*as the Case may be*] still remaining due and unpaid, as appeareth
' upon Oath to me, One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for
' the said County; and the said Person or several Persons [*as the*
' *Case may be*] having been summoned to appear to answer the
' Premises, as also appeareth to me the said Justice upon Oath, and
' neither he, she, or they, nor either of them [*as the Case may be*],
' having shewn any sufficient Cause why such Sum or Sums of
' Money [*as the Case may be*] should not be paid by him, her, or
' them

[*Local.*]

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‘ them respectively [*as the Case may be*], as also appeareth to me
 ‘ upon Oath: Now, these are therefore in His Majesty’s Name to
 ‘ will and require you, or either of you, forthwith to levy the said
 ‘ Sum or several Sums of Money [*as the Case may be*] due from the
 ‘ said Person or Persons [*as the Case may be*], and hereunder set
 ‘ opposite to his, her, or their Name or Names respectively [*as the*
 ‘ *Case may be*], and also the Sum or several Sums of Money
 ‘ [*inserting the Amount of the Costs and Charges for the Summons and*
 ‘ *for the Warrant, or for either of them, as the Case may be*] for the
 ‘ Costs and Charges of the said Summons and of these Presents,
 ‘ by Distress and Sale of his, her, or their respective Goods and
 ‘ Chattels [*as the Case may be*], such Goods and Chattels being kept
 ‘ for the Space of Four Days before the same are sold, rendering
 ‘ to him, her, or them respectively [*as the Case may be*] the Over-
 ‘ plus, if any, on Demand, and the reasonable Charges of such
 ‘ Distress, and of any Removal or keeping Possession, Appraisement
 ‘ or Sale thereof, being first deducted; and if no sufficient Distress
 ‘ can be had or taken, then that you certify the same to me, to the
 ‘ end that such Proceedings may be had therein as to the Law
 ‘ doth appertain: And I do hereby strictly charge and command
 ‘ all and singular the Constables and other His Majesty’s Peace
 ‘ Officers for the said County to be aiding and assisting in all Things
 ‘ relating to the Premises. Given under my Hand and Seal this
 ‘ Day of _____ in the Year of our
 ‘ Lord

		£	s.	d.
‘ A, B. - - - - -	-			
‘ C. D. - - - - -	-			
‘ E. F. for a House offered to be let in separate ‘ Tenements - - - - -	}			
‘ G. H. - - - - -	-			
‘ J. K. for a House offered to be let ready furnished -	-			

Recovery of Rates in case of Removal.

VI. And be it further enacted, That in case, at any Time or Times hereafter, any Person or Persons who hath or have been rated and assessed to, or who is or are liable to the Payment of any Rates or Assessments which shall have been made upon him, her, or them in respect of any House, Tenement, or Hereditament, shall quit his, her, or their Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments within the said Town and Parish, for or in respect whereof he, she, or they shall have been so rated or assessed, before he, she, or they shall have paid any such Rates or Assessments, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful for any Person or Persons appointed to collect or receive any such Rates or Assessments (Oath being made by him or them, that he or they doth or do suspect that such Person or Persons hath or have removed his, her, or their Goods and Chattels) by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any of His Majesty’s Justices of the Peace, acting within the Jurisdiction in which such Person or Persons so assessed shall have resided, and which Warrant such Justice or Justices is and are hereby authorized and required to grant.

Goods, &c. of Occupiers liable to be distrained.

VII. And be it further enacted, That the Goods and Chattels of each and every Person or Persons renting or occupying any separate

separate Apartment of or in any House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament, and the Goods and Chattels in every House, Tenement, or Hereditament let ready-furnished, although the Person or Persons occupying any such Houses, Tenements, and Hereditaments, or separate Part or Apartments, be not rated or assessed under or by virtue of this Act, shall be liable to be distrained and sold by virtue of any Warrant under the Hands and Seals of Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, which they are by this Act authorized and directed to grant, for any Rates or Assessments which have accrued or become due in respect of such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments during the Term of the Occupancy by any Person or Persons of any such House or Tenement or Hereditament, or separate Part or Apartments thereof, and for the Costs and Charges and Expences of such Warrant, and of any Appraisement, Possession, Removal, or Sale of such Goods and Chattels, or attendant thereon, but no such Person or Persons shall be required or compellable to pay any greater Sum for or towards the Discharge of the said Rates or Assessments, or any of them, than the Amount of the Rent actually due and payable by such Person or Persons to the Lessor or Lessors, Owner or Owners of such House, Tenement, or Hereditament, or other Person or Persons rated or assessed as the Occupier or Occupiers of the Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments so entirely or partly occupied by such Person or Persons; and each and every Person or Persons who shall pay any such Rates or Assessments as ought to have been paid by the Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of any such Tenement or Hereditament, or upon whose Goods or Chattels the same shall be levied in pursuance of this Act, may deduct the same from and out of the Rent due and payable, or to become due and payable to his or their Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, so letting out the same House, Tenement, or Hereditament, or separate Part or Apartment, to him or them, unless there shall be some Agreement to the contrary between the Landlord and Tenant; and the Receipt and Receipts for such Payment or Payments shall be a sufficient Discharge to every such Person or Persons for so much as he or they shall have so paid, or which shall have been so levied on his or their Goods and Chattels in pursuance of this Act, and shall be repaid by such Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, or be allowed by him, her, or them in Part or full Payment (as the Case may be) for the Rent due or to become due to him, her, or them from such Person or Persons as aforesaid, for or in respect of such Houses, Buildings, Tenements, Hereditaments, or separate Part or Apartments thereof respectively.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That in case any Person shall remove out of or from, or quit the Possession of any House, Building, Tenement, Ground, or Hereditament within the said Town and Parish before the Rate or Assessment charged thereon by virtue of this Act shall be paid, or if any Person shall enter into the Occupation of any House, Building, Tenement, Ground, or Hereditament out of or from which any other Person shall have so removed before Payment of any such Rate or Assessment,

For appor-
tioning Rates.

or

or which at the Time of rating or assessing the same shall be empty or unoccupied, then the Person so removing out of or from, or quitting the Possession, and the Person entering into the Occupation of any such House, Building, Tenement, Ground, or Hereditament, shall be respectively liable to the Payment of every Rate or Assessment, in proportion to the Time such Person or Persons possessed or occupied the same respectively, in like Manner as if the Person or Persons so removing or quitting as aforesaid had remained in the Possession and Occupation of such House, Building, Tenement, Ground, or Hereditament, or the Person or Persons so entering into the Occupation thereof had been originally rated or assessed, which Proportion (in case of Dispute) shall be ascertained by Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Oxford*.

Who shall be deemed the Landlord.

IX. And be it further enacted, That to prevent Dispute touching the Designation of the Lessor or Landlord or Owners of any Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments intended to be made liable to be rated and assessed by any Rates or Assessments to be made by virtue of this Act, the Person or Persons legally authorized and empowered to receive and collect, or receiving and collecting the Rents of any Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments from the Tenants or respective Occupiers thereof, or any of them, may be deemed or taken to be the Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of such Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, and shall be liable to be rated and assessed, and shall be compellable to pay the Rates and Assessments in respect of such Houses, Buildings, or Hereditaments, in all Cases in which either Lessors, Landlords, or Owners are made liable to be rated and assessed, and to the Payment of Rates and Assessments by virtue of this Act, unless the real Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners thereof, shall be declared by himself, herself, or themselves to be real Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners thereof, or shall be distinctly and certainly known by the Churchwardens and Overseers of the said Town and Parish of *Henley-upon-Thames*.

Appeal.

X. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by any Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments which shall be made in pursuance of this Act, or by any Penalty imposed, or by any Conviction or other Matter or Thing done or directed to be done in pursuance of this Act, such Person or Persons may appeal to any Quarter or General Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the County of *Oxford* (as the Case may be) within Fourteen Days next after the Cause of Complaint or Grievance shall have arisen, first giving or causing to be given Ten Days Notice at the least in Writing of his, her, or their Intention to bring such Appeal, and of the Matter thereof, to the Person or Persons appealed against, or leaving such Notice for him or them at his or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, and within Two Days next after such Notice entering into a Recognizance before One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County, with Two sufficient Sureties in the Sum of Forty Pounds,

Pounds, conditioned to try such Appeal, and to abide the Order of and pay such Costs as shall be awarded by the Justices at such Quarter or General Sessions of the Peace for the said County, upon due Proof of such Notice having been given as aforesaid, and of the entering into such Recognizance, shall hear and determine the Causes and Matters of such Appeal in a summary Way, and award such Costs to the Parties appealing or appealed against, as they the said Justices shall think proper; and the said Justices may then and there, if they see Cause, mitigate any Forfeiture or Fine, and award such further Satisfaction to be made to the Party injured as they shall judge proper, and the Determination of such Justices at their Quarter or General Sessions shall be final, binding, and conclusive.

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

Proceedings
not to be
quashed for
Want of
Form.

XII. And in order the better to enable the Churchwardens and Overseers of the said Town and Parish of *Henley* to collect and levy the Rates and Assessments to be made by virtue of this Act; be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Inhabitants of the said Parish, at a Public Vestry to be convened and held for that Purpose, to nominate and elect One or more Person or Persons to be a Collector or Collectors of the Poor's Rate, and other Parochial Rates to be made, collected, and levied in the said Parish by virtue of this Act, (every such Person being a resident Householder in the said Parish), and to make such Allowance by way of Salary or Poundage to such Collector or Collectors (not exceeding Sixpence in the Pound on the Monies actually collected) as to the said Vestry shall seem proper and expedient; and it shall be lawful for any Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, and they are hereby empowered, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to appoint any Person or Persons who shall be so nominated and elected to be such Collector or Collectors as aforesaid, and to order and direct such Allowance to be made to him or them out of the said Rates or Assessments so by him or them to be collected as shall be made and agreed to by the said Vestry, and such Appointment shall remain and continue in force until the Death or Resignation of such Collector or Collectors, or until the same shall be revoked by any subsequent Vestry of the Inhabitants of the said Parish; and every Collector and Collectors, so to be appointed as aforesaid, shall have full Power and Authority to demand, collect, and receive all Rates and Assessments to be made by virtue of this Act.

Collector
may be
appointed.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That all and every such Collector and Collectors so to be appointed shall, under his or their Hand or Hands, and at such Time or Times, and in such Manner

Collector to
account and
pay over
Balances.

[*Local.*]

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as the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them, or the Select Vestry of the said Town and Parish shall direct, deliver to the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or Select Vestry, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint, true and perfect Accounts in Writing of all Matters and Things committed to his or their Charge by virtue of this Act, and also of all Monies which shall have been from Time to Time collected and received by him or them for or on account of any Rate or Assessment, Rates or Assessments, made in pursuance and by virtue of this Act or otherwise, and of all Payments and Disbursements made thereout or on account thereof, and to whom made, together with proper Vouchers for such Payments, and shall pay all such Monies as shall remain due from him or them to the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint to receive the same; and if any such Collector or Collectors shall refuse or neglect to make and render any such Account, or to produce and deliver up the Vouchers relating to the same, or to pay over the Money remaining in his or their Hand or Hands as aforesaid, or shall refuse or wilfully neglect to deliver to the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or Select Vestry, within Seven Days after being thereunto required, in Writing under the Hands of the said Churchwardens and Overseers, given to or left at the last or usual Place of Abode of such Collector or Collectors, all Rates, Books, Papers, and Writing in his or their Custody or Power relating to his or their Office of Collector, or to give Satisfaction to the said Churchwardens and Overseers or Select Vestry respecting the same, then and in every such Case, upon Complaint made by the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the major Part of them, or by any Five of the said Select Vestrymen, or by such Person or Persons as they shall appoint, of any such Refusal or wilful Neglect as aforesaid, to any Justice of the Peace for the said Town of *Henley-upon-Thames*, or the said County of *Oxford*, such Justice may and he is hereby authorized and required to summon the Person or Persons so neglecting or refusing to appear before him at a Time and Place to be appointed by such Summons, and upon his or their appearing, or having been so summoned and not appearing without some sufficient or reasonable Excuse, or not being found, it shall and may be lawful for the said Justice to hear and determine the Matter in a summary Way; and if upon Confession of the Party, or by the Testimony of any credible Witness or Witnesses upon Oath (which Oath such Justice is hereby empowered to administer), it shall appear to such Justice that any Monies which have been collected or received by such Collector or Collectors under or by virtue of this Act shall remain due from him or them, such Justice may and he is hereby authorized and required, upon Nonpayment thereof, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to cause such Monies to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Collector or Collectors, and each and every of them; and if no Goods or Chattels of such Collector or Collectors shall be found sufficient to answer and satisfy the said Money, and the Charges and Expences of distraining and selling the said Goods and Chattels, or if it shall appear to such Justice that such Collector or Collectors shall have refused or neglected to render and give such Accounts, or to produce the Vouchers relating thereto, or that any Rates, Books, Papers, or
Writings

Writings relating to the Collection of the said Rates and Assessments, or in anywise respecting or appertaining to the said Office of Collector, remain in his or their Hands, Custody, or Power, and that he or they has or have refused or wilfully neglected to deliver or give Satisfaction respecting the same as aforesaid, then and in each and every such Case such Justice shall and he is hereby required to commit such Offender or Offenders to the Common Gaol or House of Correction for the County, City, or Place where such Offender shall be or reside, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until he or they shall give and make a true and perfect Account as aforesaid, or until he shall have paid such Monies as aforesaid, or compounded with the said Churchwardens and Overseers for such Money, and shall have paid such Composition in such Manner as they shall appoint (which Composition the said Churchwardens and Overseers are hereby empowered to make and receive with the Consent and Approbation of the Select Vestry of the said Parish), and until he or they shall deliver up all such Rates, Books, Papers, and Writings, or give full Satisfaction in respect thereof to the said Churchwardens and Overseers, but no such Collector shall be detained or kept in Prison for want of sufficient Distress by virtue of this Act for any longer Space of Time than Three Calendar Months: Provided nevertheless, that no such Commitment of any Collector or Collectors as aforesaid shall acquit, release, or discharge any Surety or Sureties, or vacate, impeach, or make void any Bond or Security that shall or may have been taken by or given to the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, for the due and faithful Execution of the Office of any such Collector or Collectors in manner herein-before mentioned, nor prevent, abate, or defeat any Action, Suit, or Process commenced or to be brought for the Recovery of any Money so received by such Collector or Collectors, and not accounted for as aforesaid.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Inhabitants of the said Town and Parish in Vestry assembled, upon the Nomination and Election of such Collector or Collectors, to require and take Security for the due and faithful Execution of his or their Office, and for duly accounting for all Monies which, as such Collector or Collectors, he or they shall or may receive, and for the punctual Payment thereof to the said Churchwardens and Overseers within Seven Days from the Receipt thereof, or to whom they shall direct, and which Security shall be by Bond with sufficient Sureties, and in such Penalty as the said Inhabitants in Vestry assembled shall think fit and direct; and every such Bond shall be made to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Town and Parish, and may, on any Breach of the Condition thereof, be put in Suit by and in the Names of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor for the Time being, by the Direction of the Vestry or Select Vestry of the said Parish, for the Benefit of the said Parish; and no such Action or other Proceedings on the said Bond shall cease, abate, or be discontinued, defeated, or impeded by the Death of the Churchwardens and Overseers named in such Action or Proceeding, or by the Deaths or Death of any or either of them, or by their Removal, or the Removal of any of them, or the Expiration of their respective Offices.

Vestry may require Security to be taken of Collector.

XV. And

Limitation
of Actions.

General
Issue.

Treble Costs.

Expences of
the Act how
to be paid.

Act not to
affect the
Rights of the
Mayor, &c.
of the Town.

Public Act.

XV. And be it further enacted, That no Action or Suit shall be commenced against any Person or Persons for any Thing done in pursuance or under colour of this Act, but within Three Calendar Months after the Fact committed for which such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall be so brought; and every such Action shall be laid and brought in the County where the Cause of Action shall have arisen, and not elsewhere; and that the said Defendant or Defendants in such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, and every of them, may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the special Matter in Evidence at any Trial or Trials which shall be had thereupon, and that the Matter or Thing for or on which such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits shall be brought, was done in pursuance and by the Authority of this Act; and if the said Matter or Thing shall appear to have been so done, or if it shall appear that such Action or Suit was brought before Twenty-one Days Notice thereof was given as before directed, or that sufficient Satisfaction was made or tendered, or paid into Court as aforesaid, or if any such Action or Suit shall not be commenced within the Time before for that Purpose limited, or shall be laid in any other County, City, or Place than as aforesaid, then the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants therein; and if a Verdict shall be found for such Defendant or Defendants, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs in such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall become nonsuited, or suffer a Discontinuance of such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, or if upon a Demurrer or Demurrers in such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, Judgment shall be given for the Defendant or Defendants therein, then and in either of the Cases aforesaid such Defendant or Defendants shall have Treble Costs, and shall have Remedy and Remedies for recovering the same, as any Defendant or Defendants may have for the Recovery of his, her, or their Costs in other Cases by Law.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That all Costs, Charges, and Expences of passing this Act, and all other Charges and Expences incident to or attending the obtaining thereof, shall be borne, paid, and defrayed out of the Rates to be made for the Relief of the Poor of the said Town and Parish of *Henley-on-Thames*.

XVII. 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, Aldermen, Bridgemen, and Burgesses of the said Town, or the Mayor and Aldermen of the said Town as Justices of the Peace within the same Town, or any of the accustomed Rights and Privileges of the same Town.

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

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