



ANNO UNDECIMO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

Cap. x.

An Act for the better Regulation of the Affairs of the joint Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, in the County of *Middlesex*, and of the separate Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, in the same County. [8th April 1830.]

WHEREAS the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields* in the County of *Middlesex* is an ancient Parish, the Affairs whereof for a long Series of Years have been managed by a Select Vestry of such Parish: And whereas the Commissioners acting under the Authority of Letters Patent granted by King *George* the First and by King *George* the Second, and issued under the Powers of the several Acts passed for the building of new Churches in and about the Cities of *London* and *Westminster* and the Suburbs thereof, did, according to the Directions of the said Acts, set out, appoint, and declare a certain Portion of the said Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields* to be a new, separate, and distinct Parish for all Ecclesiastical Purposes, by the Name of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, and did also appoint the Rector, Churchwardens, and Thirty-six of the Inhabitants of the said new Parish to be the first Vestrymen of such Parish; since which Period the Affairs relating to the Church of the said new Parish have been managed by a Select Vestry of such Parish, constituted according to the Directions of the said Acts: And whereas, under the Powers of an Act passed

[*Local.*]

3 D

in

3 G. 2. c. 19. *An Act for providing a Maintenance for the Minister of the new Church near Bloomsbury Market in the County of Middlesex, and for making more effectual an Act passed in the Fourth Year of His late Majesty's Reign, for empowering the Commissioners for building the Fifty new Churches to direct the Parish Church of Saint Giles in the Fields in the said County to be rebuilt, instead of one of the said Fifty new Churches, the Churchwardens and Overseers of the said Parish of Saint Giles in the Fields and Saint George Bloomsbury have jointly made the Rates for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parishes; and by an Act passed in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the Third, intituled *An Act for better governing and employing the Poor, and making and collecting the Poor's Rates, within the Parishes of Saint Giles in the Fields and Saint George Bloomsbury, in the County of Middlesex, the Vestrymen of the Parishes of Saint Giles in the Fields and Saint George Bloomsbury, together with the Churchwardens and Overseers of such respective Parishes, have since the passing of such Act exercised the Power of making Rates for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parishes; and the said Vestrymen have, in pursuance of the Authority vested in them by the said Act, exercised the Powers of employing and managing the Poor in the Workhouse of the said Parishes, and of making Rules, Orders, and Regulations for applying the said Rates, and for the Maintenance, Employment, and Government of the Poor of the said Parishes, and have executed the several other Powers granted to them by such Act: And whereas some of the Provisions of the Acts herein-before recited have been found insufficient for the Purposes thereby intended, and Difficulties have occasionally arisen in the Management of some of the Affairs of the said Parishes; and it is expedient that more effectual Provision should be made for the Election and Regulation of the Vestrymen and Officers of the said Parishes, and for the making of Rates, and for the general Controul and Regulation of the Affairs of the said Parishes, and of all Matters connected therewith: 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 so much of the said recited Act passed in the Third Year of the Reign of King George the Second as enacts, "that from and after the Consecration of the said new Church the Lecturer or Afternoon Preacher for the said new Parish shall from Time to Time be chosen and elected by the Rector and Vestrymen of the same Parish, in the Vestry-room there, by the Majority of Votes of such Rector and Vestrymen present at the Time of such Election, and also so much of the said Act as enacts, that from and after the Twenty-fifth Day of March One thousand seven hundred and thirty-one, the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor and other Parish Officers for the said new Parish, shall be annually chosen and appointed at such Time and Times as such respective Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor and other Officers are annually chosen and appointed for the said Parish of Saint Giles in the Fields, and all Rates for the Relief of the Poor of both the said Parishes shall be made by the**

Overseers

So much of 3 Geo. 2. as relates to the Election of the Lecturer of the Parish of Bloomsbury, and to the making of Poor Rates, repealed.

Overseers of the Poor of both Parishes jointly, and when confirmed as the Law directs shall be levied and collected by the Overseers of the Poor of the said Parishes respectively upon the Inhabitants of each Parish, and the Monies so collected shall be accounted for by the said respective Overseers, and shall be applied and disposed of in such Manner as if this Act had not been made," shall be and the same is and are hereby respectively repealed.

II. And be it further enacted, That the said recited Act passed in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George the Third* shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

Recited Act
of 14 G. 3.
repealed.

III. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That all Rates and Assessments which before the passing of this Act shall have been duly and legally made, and all Fines and Penalties which shall have been incurred, and all Bonds, Contracts, and Agreements which shall have been given or entered into, under or by virtue of the said former Acts hereby repealed or either of them, or otherwise, on account of or in relation to the joint Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, or to the separate Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, and all other Monies due to the said Parishes or either of them, and which shall respectively remain uncollected or unpaid, or be in existence and unperformed, at the Time of the passing of this Act, shall and may be collected, recovered, and enforced by the Vestrymen acting in the Execution of this Act, in the same Manner and by the same Ways and Means as if such Rates and Assessments had been made, and as if such Fines and Penalties had been incurred, and as if such Bonds, Contracts, and Agreements had been entered into, under or by virtue of this Act; and all Treasurers, Collectors, and other Officers and Persons, who at the Time of the passing of this Act shall have in their Possession or under their Controul any Money, Books, Documents, Papers, Writings, or other Effects belonging to the Vestrymen or Persons acting in the Execution of the said former Acts or either of them, or to the Overseers of the Poor of the said joint Parishes, or otherwise belonging to the said Parishes or either of them, shall be liable to account for and to deliver up all such Money, Books, Documents, Papers, Writings, and Effects to the Vestrymen for executing this Act, in the same Manner, and subject to the same Process, Pains, and Penalties for Refusal or Neglect, as if such Treasurers, Collectors, Officers, or Persons had been appointed by the Vestrymen acting in the Execution of this Act; and all other Persons who at the Time of the passing of this Act shall owe any Money to the Vestrymen or other Persons acting in the Execution of the said former Acts or either of them, for or in respect of any Matter or Thing affecting or relating to any such Acts, or to the said Overseers or others, for or on account of the said Rates or Assessments for the Relief of the Poor of the said joint Parishes, or who shall owe any Money to the said Parishes or either of them, shall be liable to the Payment of such Money to the Vestrymen acting in the Execution of this Act, and in case of Refusal or Neglect to pay the same shall be subject to the Provisions of this Act for the Recovery thereof, as if such Money had become due under this Act.

Rates and
Monies due
under former
Acts may be
recovered by
Vestrymen
for executing
this Act.

IV. And

Conveyances,
&c. under
former Acts
declared
valid.

IV. And be it further enacted, That all Bonds, Mortgages, Assignments, Annuities, Grants or Conveyances, Leases and other Securities, made or granted to or by any Person or Persons, Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, or any other Person or Persons whomsoever, acting by virtue of or under the Authority of the said Acts, or either of them, hereby repealed, shall be as valid and effectual, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, as if such Acts had not been repealed.

Act made
liable to all
Debts created
under former
Acts.

V. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That this Act, and the several Rates hereby authorized to be raised, shall be and the same are hereby made respectively liable to the Payment of all Monies and Debts which at the Time of the passing this Act are or shall be due and owing from or by the Vestrymen or Persons acting under the said Act of the Fourteenth *George* the Third, or the Overseers of the Poor, or others, on account of the Maintenance of the Poor, or of any other Purpose, Matter, or Thing arising out of the Execution of the said former Acts or either of them, or otherwise on account of the said Parishes, or by the Churchwardens, as such, of either of the said Parishes, and of all Interest due and to grow due thereon, as fully and effectually, to all Intents and Purposes, as if such Monies had become due on the Credit of this Act.

Present
Officers to
continue in
Office, unless
removed by
Vestrymen.

VI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Clerks and Treasurers, (if appointed consistently with the Provisions of this Act in reference to the Offices of Clerk and Treasurer,) and all other Officers or Persons appointed under the said former Acts or either of them, hereby repealed, or in the Employment of the Vestrymen of the said Parishes or either of them at the Time of the passing of this Act, shall hold and enjoy their respective Offices and Employments until removed therefrom by the Vestrymen for executing this Act; and all such Officers and Persons shall have the same Powers, Privileges, and Advantages in the Execution of this Act, and they and their Sureties shall be liable to the same Penalties, Obligations, Restrictions, and Regulations, in every respect, as if they had been appointed or taken under or by virtue of this Act.

Vestrymen
of the Parish
of *St. Giles*
appointed.

VII. And be it enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, the Rector for the Time being of the Parish Church of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and the Churchwardens for such Parish, to be elected as herein-after directed, together with the Honourable Mr. Justice *Park*, *John Soane*, *William Beckett*, *Henry Meux*, *Lewis George Dive*, *William Harrison*, *Thomas Sumpter*, *Richard Latham*, *Nathaniel Saxson*, *Richard Woodhouse*, *John Shaw*, *William Oldnall Russell*, *Henry Combe*, *John Frederick Pike*, *James Parkinson*, *William Keene*, *William Taylor Copeland*, *Marmaduke Langdale*, *Joseph Moore* Doctor in Medicine, *Samuel Remnant*, *John Waddell*, *Richard Hilhouse*, *Joseph Holdsworth*, *William Hughes*, *George Robinson*, *William Henry Savage*, *Charles Ward*, *Yeeling Underwood*, *Andrew George Bachhoffner*, *Samuel Page*, *John Doyle*, *William Parker Egerton Cutler*, *Thomas George Hough*, *Charles Lucas*

Lucas Birch, and Richard Robinson, being at the Time of the passing of this Act Inhabitants and Vestrymen of the said Parish, together with Thomas Edwards Doctor of Laws, Niel Arnott Doctor of Medicine, William Thatcher, Thomas Waring, Thomas Lennard, and James Finden, being at the Time of the passing of this Act Inhabitants of the said Parish, and making in the whole Forty-five Persons, shall be and they are hereby declared to be the first Vestrymen of the Parish of Saint Giles in the Fields for the Purposes of this Act; and such Persons shall continue in Office and be the Vestrymen of the said Parish until the Tuesday next before the Twentieth Day of January in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, and until other Vestrymen shall be elected in their Stead, in pursuance of the Directions of this Act; any thing in an Act passed in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Queen Anne, intituled An Act for granting to Her Majesty several Duties upon Coals, for building Fifty new Churches in and about the Cities of London and Westminster and Suburbs thereof, and other Purposes therein mentioned, or in an Act passed in the Tenth Year of the Reign of Queen Anne, intituled An Act for enlarging the Time given to the Commissioners appointed by Her Majesty, pursuant to an Act for granting to Her Majesty several Duties on Coals, for building Fifty new Churches in and about the Cities of London and Westminster and Suburbs thereof, and other Purposes therein mentioned, and for giving the said Commissioners further Powers for better effecting the same, and for appointing Monies for rebuilding the Parish Church of Saint Mary Woolnoth in the City of London, or in the said Act passed in the Third Year of the Reign of King George the Second, to the contrary notwithstanding.

9 Anne, c. 22.

10 Anne, c. 11.

VIII. And be it enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, the Rector for the Time being of the Parish Church of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, and the Churchwardens for such Parish, to be elected as herein-after directed, together with the Right Honourable Lord *Tenterden*, *Francis Paul Stratford*, the Honourable Mr. Justice *Bosanquet*, *Augustus Warren*, *John Jortin*, *James Loch*, *William Rothery*, *Robert Ray*, *John Griffin*, *John Rawlinson*, *Samuel Mills*, *Thomas Day*, *John Baker*, *George Man Burrows* Doctor of Medicine, *William Groom*, *Thomas Gotobed*, *William Flower*, *Henry Ellis*, *Bury Hutchinson*, *Philip Hardwicke*, *William Lowe*, *James Taylor Coleridge*, *Henry Morrell*, *James Hall*, *John Meabry*, *Thomas Harris*, *Henry Langley*, *Luke Graves Hansard*, *Francis Keysell*, *Nicholas Winsland*, *John William Willis*, *James Hansard*, *James Donaldson*, *James Holmes*, *James Davies*, and *William Edwards Caldecott*, being at the Time of the passing of this Act Inhabitants and Vestrymen of the said Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, together with *Thomas Denman*, *William Tooke*, *Christopher Temple*, *John Herman Meryvale*, *William Matthew Thiselton*, and *Adolphus Pfiel*, being at the Time of the passing of this Act Inhabitants of the said Parish, and making in the whole Forty-five Persons, shall be and they are hereby declared to be the first Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury* for the Purposes of this Act; and such Persons shall continue in Office and be the Vestrymen of the said Parish until the Tuesday next before the Twentieth Day of January in the Year of

Vestrymen
of the Parish
of St. George
Bloomsbury
appointed.

[Local.]

3 E

our

our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, and until other Vestrymen shall be elected in their Stead, in pursuance of the Directions of this Act; any thing in the said Acts passed in the Ninth and Tenth Years of the Reign of Queen *Anne*, and in the Third Year of the Reign of King *George* the Second, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Inhabitants not to meet, except for the Purposes of this Act.

IX. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act no public or open Vestry shall be held within or for the said Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, or within or for the said Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, nor shall any Powers or Authorities be exercised by the Inhabitants of the said Parishes, separately or jointly, or any Portion of them, in Vestry assembled, save and except as herein-after provided; and that all Acts, Powers, and Authorities, which by the Common Law or Statute Law of this Realm may be done and exercised, or are required to be done and exercised, by the Inhabitants of a Parish in open Vestry or otherwise assembled, or by the Vestrymen of any Parish, shall, from and after the passing of this Act, be done and exercised within the said Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, separately or jointly, as the Case may be or require, by the Vestrymen of the said Parishes by this Act declared and constituted, and hereafter to be elected, save and except as hereinafter provided.

Qualification of Vestrymen.

X. And be it further enacted, That One Half at the least of the Persons to be elected Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and One Half at the least of the Persons to be elected Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, in the Execution of this Act, except the Rector and Churchwardens of the respective Parishes, and also except the several Persons herein-before expressly named as Vestrymen of the said separate Parishes, shall, at the Time of their Election and at the Time of their acting, be resident Householders within the Parish of which they shall be elected Vestrymen, and shall be rated towards the Relief of the Poor of the joint Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury* on an annual Assessment or Valuation of not less than Seventy-five Pounds; and the Remainder of such Persons shall, at the Time of their Election and at the Time of their acting, be resident Householders within the Parish of which they shall be elected Vestrymen, and shall be rated towards the Relief of the Poor of the said joint Parishes on an Annual Assessment or Valuation of not less than Fifty Pounds: Provided always, that not more than One Half of the Persons to be elected Vestrymen of either of the said Parishes, at any Election of Vestrymen, shall be Persons engaged in Retail Trade within the said Parishes or either of them.

Penalty on Vestrymen acting not being duly qualified.

XI. And be it further enacted, That no Person (except the Rector and Churchwardens for the Time being of the said Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and the Rector and Churchwardens for the Time being of the said Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, and also except the Persons herein expressly named as Vestrymen of the said Parishes or either of them,) shall be capable of being or acting as a Vestryman in the Execution of this Act who shall not be duly qualified as herein-before

before mentioned, or who shall wholly neglect to act as such Vestryman for the Space of One Year; and no Person, except such Rectors and Churchwardens, or who shall be an Inspector, Supervisor, Assessor, Collector, or Receiver of Taxes acting in either of such Parishes or Districts, or a Licensed Victualler, or a Lodging-house Keeper, or who shall hold any Office or Place of Profit under or by virtue of this Act, or be concerned in or derive any Profit from any Contract under or by virtue of this Act, or supply any Goods for the Use of the said Parishes or either of them, or who shall compound for any Rate or Rates under this Act, or who shall be or become bankrupt or insolvent within the Meaning of any Act or Acts relating to Bankruptcy or Insolvency in force at the Time being, shall be capable of being or acting as a Vestryman in the Execution of this Act; and if any Person (except the Rectors and Churchwardens for the Time being of the said respective Parishes) being disqualified by any of the Causes aforesaid shall vote or act as a Vestryman in the Execution of this Act, or if any Person, except such Rectors and Churchwardens, and the Persons herein-before expressly named as Vestrymen of such respective Parishes, shall so vote or act without being duly qualified as aforesaid, he shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of One hundred Pounds, together with full Costs of Suit, to any Person who first after such Offence committed shall sue for the same, to be recovered in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, by Action of Debt or on the Case, or by Bill, Plaint, or Information, wherein no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, nor more than one Imparlance, shall be allowed; and every Person so sued, or against whom such Action shall be brought, shall prove that he was at the Time of acting qualified as aforesaid, or shall prove that he was within some of the Exceptions herein-before mentioned, or otherwise shall pay the said Penalty, without any other Proof on the Part of the Prosecutor or Plaintiff than that such Person hath acted as a Vestryman in the Execution of this Act: Provided nevertheless, that all Acts and Proceedings of any Person so acting as such Vestryman in the Execution of this Act, and not being qualified, or being disqualified as aforesaid, shall, notwithstanding such Conviction, be as valid and effectual as if such Person had been qualified according to the Directions of this Act; provided also, that no Justice of the Peace shall be disqualified from acting as such Justice, in any Case within his Jurisdiction, in the Execution of this Act, by reason only of being One of the Vestrymen for executing this Act.

XII. And be it further enacted, That on the *Tuesday* next before the Twenty-fifth Day of *December* One thousand eight hundred and thirty, or within Seven Days afterwards, Fourteen of the Vestrymen herein named of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and Fourteen of the Vestrymen herein named of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, (with the Exception of the Rectors and Churchwardens for the Time being of the said Parishes, who are hereby declared to be Vestrymen by virtue of and during their respective Offices,) shall be determined on by the Vestrymen of each such Parish respectively by Lot, or by accepting the Resignation of such

Annual
Election of
Vestrymen.

as

as shall tender to resign their Office, and such Fourteen Vestrymen shall go out of Office and cease to be Vestrymen on the Completion of the then next Election of Vestrymen, unless then re-elected, as herein-after provided; and on the *Tuesday* next before the Twenty-fifth Day of *December* One thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, or within Seven Days afterwards, Fourteen other of the Vestrymen herein named of each of the said Parishes shall be determined on as aforesaid, and they being so determined on as aforesaid shall go out of Office and cease to be Vestrymen as aforesaid, unless then re-elected, as herein-after provided; and on the *Tuesday* next before the Twenty-fifth Day of *December* One thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, or within Seven Days afterwards, the Remainder of the Vestrymen herein named of each of the said Parishes shall go out of Office and cease to be Vestrymen as aforesaid, unless then re-elected, as herein-after provided; and on *Tuesday* next before the Twentieth Day of *January* in every Year after the Year One thousand eight hundred and thirty-three, or on the Completion of the then Election of Vestrymen, the Places of so many of the Vestrymen of each Parish as shall from Time to Time have been elected into Office Three Years previously shall be declared and taken to be vacant; and on the *Tuesday* next before the Twentieth Day of *January* One thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, and on the same Day in every subsequent Year, the Inhabitants of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and the Inhabitants of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, respectively, being duly qualified as herein-after mentioned, shall and may severally meet in the Vestry-room of their Parish, or in any other Place within their Parish, not being the Church thereof, which the Vestrymen of each such Parish shall appoint; and such Inhabitants of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields* shall proceed to elect Fourteen Persons, being duly qualified Householders residing within the same Parish, to be for Three Years, and until others shall be elected in their Places, Fourteen of the Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and such Inhabitants of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury* shall proceed to elect Fourteen Persons, being duly qualified Householders residing within the same Parish, to be for Three Years, and until others shall be elected in their Places, Fourteen of the Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, in the Room of the Persons who by Lot or Rotation shall from Time to Time go out of Office and cease to be Vestrymen: Provided always, that every Vestryman who shall be determined on to go out of Office, or who shall by Rotation go out of Office, shall be capable of being re-elected.

Names, &c.
of proposed
Vestrymen
to be sent to
the Vestry
Clerk.

XIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no Person shall be eligible as a Vestryman of either of the said Parishes unless, Eight Days at the least before the Day of the Election of Vestrymen of such Parish, a Notice in Writing shall be delivered to the Vestry Clerk of such Parish, setting forth the Intention to propose such Person as such Vestryman, and the Name and Place of Abode of such Person, and his Qualification; and a List of all such Names, Places of Abode, and Qualifications shall be made by such Vestry Clerk; and a printed or written Copy of such List shall, on the *Sunday* next before

before the respective Days of Election, be affixed upon the Doors of the Church of the Parish for which such Persons are intended to be proposed as Vestrymen.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That at every Meeting of the Inhabitants to be held for the Purpose of electing Vestrymen of either of the said Parishes, the Majority of the Vestrymen present at such Meeting shall appoint Five fit and proper Persons to be Scrutineers; and at every such Meeting the Rector of such Parish shall, if present, be the Chairman of such Meeting; but if such Rector shall not be present, or being present shall decline to take the Chair, the senior Churchwarden for the Time being of such Parish shall be the Chairman; and in case of his Absence, or declining to take the Chair, the junior Churchwarden for the Time being shall be the Chairman; and in case he also shall be absent, or shall decline to take the Chair, the Vestrymen of such Parish shall, after the Expiration of Half an Hour after the Period specified for holding the Meeting, appoint a Chairman by Shew of Hands; and every such Election of Vestrymen shall commence at Nine of the Clock in the Forenoon, and shall be made by Ballot; and each Voter shall deliver to the Chairman a List of the Names of the Persons for whom such Voter is desirous to vote, such List not to contain a greater Number of Names than the Number of Persons to be elected Vestrymen, and to have written conspicuously thereon the Number of Votes which each such Voter is entitled to give, and no other Writing or Mark whatsoever; and such List, so soon as the Scrutineers, or the Majority of them present, shall be satisfied of the Right of the Person delivering such List to vote and to give the Number of Votes thereon written, shall be by such Chairman deposited in a Box to be provided for that Purpose; which Box shall be closed and the polling adjourned at Three of the Clock of each Day of Election; and such Box shall be finally closed and the Ballot ended at Three of the Clock on the Third Day of such Election, or sooner, if all the Persons nominated in the List of Persons proposed to be Vestrymen, or the Persons proposing them, shall agree thereto, or if, since the polling of the Person last polled, Half an Hour shall have elapsed during which no Person duly qualified shall have tendered his or her Vote; and the said Box shall be delivered to the Scrutineers, who, together with the Chairman, shall thereupon retire, and ascertain upon whom the Election has fallen; and the said Chairman and Scrutineers, or the Majority of them, shall forthwith certify the same in Writing under their Hands to the Vestry Clerk of such Parish; and the said Vestry Clerk is hereby required to give or cause to be given Notice thereof in Writing to each Person so elected, and to require him to give Attendance at the next Meeting of the Vestrymen of the Parish of which he shall have been so elected a Vestryman, or of the joint Vestry of the Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, which shall first happen after such Election: Provided also, that if at any Election of Vestrymen of either of the said Parishes any Doubt shall arise by reason of any Two or more Persons proposed for Vestrymen having the same Number of Votes, or if any other Doubt or Cause of Dispute shall arise relative to such Election, the Vestrymen of such Parish shall choose from such Persons having the

Mode of
electing
Vestrymen.

[*Local.*]

3 F

same

same Number of Votes so many Persons to be Vestrymen as shall be necessary to complete the Number of Vestrymen which the Inhabitants of such Parish ought to have elected, and shall determine all Matters of Dispute relating to or arising out of such Election of Vestrymen; and their Decision touching such Election, and the Matters relating thereto, shall be final and conclusive.

Qualification
of Voters for
Vestrymen.

XV. And be it further enacted, That no Person shall be entitled to attend or vote at any Meeting of the Inhabitants either of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields* or of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, for the Election of Vestrymen of such Parish, unless he shall be rated towards the Relief of the Poor of the Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury* on an annual Assessment or Valuation of Twenty-five Pounds; nor shall any Person be entitled to vote at any such Meeting on account of being rated for any Premises for any Rate or Rates of which he or she shall have compounded under this Act at the Time of such Election; nor shall any Person be entitled to attend or vote until he or she shall have paid all the Parochial Rates, Taxes, and Assessments due from him or her at the Time of such Meeting; and at every such Meeting every Inhabitant present who shall, by the last Rate which shall have been made for the Relief of the Poor of the Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, have been rated on an annual Assessment or Valuation amounting to Twenty-five Pounds, shall be entitled to One Vote; and every such Inhabitant who shall in such Rate have been rated on an annual Assessment or Valuation amounting to Twenty-five Pounds and upwards, shall be entitled to give One Vote in addition for every Thirty Pounds of annual Assessment or Valuation above the said first-mentioned Sum of Twenty-five Pounds in respect of which he shall have been rated in such Assessment or Valuation as aforesaid; so nevertheless that no Inhabitant shall be entitled to give more than Four Votes; and in every Case where Two or more of the Inhabitants present shall be jointly rated, each of them shall be entitled to vote according to the Proportion and Amount which shall be borne by him or her of the joint Assessment; and where only One of the Persons jointly rated shall attend, he or she shall be entitled to vote according to and in respect of the whole joint Assessment.

For filling up
of Vacancies.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That when and so often as a Vacancy shall occur in the Vestry either of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields* or of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, by any of the Vestrymen herein named or hereafter to be elected dying, resigning, or becoming disqualified or incompetent to act, or ceasing to be a Vestryman by any other Cause or Means than that of going out of Office by Lot or Rotation as aforesaid, the Inhabitants of such Parish respectively, on the next following annual Day of Election, shall, in addition to the Fourteen Vestrymen to be elected in the Place of those whose Term of Office shall then expire, or cease by Lot or Rotation, also elect and appoint, in the Manner herein prescribed for the Election of Vestrymen, some other duly qualified Person to be a Vestryman in the Place of every Vestryman occasioning such Vacancy as aforesaid; and every Person so elected

to fill up such Vacancy shall continue in Office so long only as the Person in whose Place he may be elected would have been entitled to continue had he remained in Office: Provided always, that at every Election of Vestrymen the Fourteen Candidates having the greatest Number of Votes in their Favour shall be taken and deemed to be elected in the Place of the Fourteen Vestrymen whose Term of Office shall have then expired, and the Persons who, next after such Fourteen Candidates as aforesaid, shall have the greatest Number of Votes in their Favour, shall be deemed and taken to be elected in place of such other Vestrymen whose Term of Office shall not have expired, but who shall have gone out of Office previously to the Expiration thereof otherwise than by Lot or Rotation; and in filling up every such Vacancy regard shall be had to the Majority of Votes, so that a Person having a less Number of Votes shall not be taken or deemed to be elected into a Vacancy wherein he will be entitled to remain in Office during a longer Time than a Person having a greater Number of Votes, but in all Cases the Person or Persons having the greater Number of Votes in his or their Favour shall be taken and deemed to be elected to fill up the Vacancy or Vacancies wherein he or they will be entitled to continue the longest Time in Office: Provided always, that the Number of the Vestrymen of each of the said Parishes, besides the Rector and Churchwardens of each Parish, shall never exceed Forty-two; and the Inhabitants of each of the said Parishes shall, at each annual Election, elect so many Persons, and no more, as shall be sufficient to complete the said Number of Forty-two Vestrymen.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That the Vestrymen of each of the said Parishes shall severally meet in the Vestry-room of their Parish, or at some other convenient Place within such Parish, on the *Tuesday* next after the passing of this Act, or within Twenty-one Days afterwards, between the Hours of Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon and Two of the Clock in the Afternoon, and shall then and there proceed in the Execution of the Powers vested in them by this Act; and in case no Vestrymen, or less than Thirteen Vestrymen, shall attend at either of the said Meetings, the same shall be deemed to be adjourned to the next Day, and so *toties quoties* until a sufficient Number of Vestrymen shall attend thereat to act in the Execution of this Act; and the said Vestrymen respectively may at such Meeting, and at all their several Meetings, from Time to Time adjourn themselves, and afterwards meet again, as they shall from Time to Time appoint, provided that no such Adjournment shall be made for a longer Space of Time than Three Calendar Months; and if at any such Meeting there shall not appear a sufficient Number of Vestrymen to act or adjourn, or if the Vestrymen appearing shall not adjourn such Meeting, the Vestry Clerk of the Parish in respect of which such Meeting shall have been proposed to be held shall and may, from Time to Time and as often as the Case shall happen, adjourn such Meeting to some other Day within Seven Days then next following, to be held at the same Place, and cause Notice of such Adjournment to be given at least One clear Day previous to the Day to which such Meeting shall be adjourned, by leaving such

Regulating
Meetings of
Vestrymen
of separate
Parishes.

such Notice at the usual Place of Abode of each of the Vestrymen of such Parish.

Meetings on
Emergencies.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That if it shall on any Emergency be thought necessary that a Meeting of the Vestrymen of either of the said Parishes should be held, it shall be lawful for the Rector of such respective Parish, or in case of the Absence or Refusal of such Rector, then for any Seven or more of the said Vestrymen, or for their Vestry Clerk, by an Order in Writing signed by the Rector of such Parish, or, in case of the Absence or Refusal of such Rector, then by any Seven or more of the Vestrymen, although not assembled at a Meeting under this Act, to appoint such Meeting, by Notice in Writing, mentioning the Time, Place, and Object of such Meeting, such Time not being less than One clear Day after the Day of giving the Notice of such Meeting; and the said Vestrymen shall thereupon meet accordingly; and all Orders and Proceedings of the said Vestrymen at such Meeting, relating to the particular Subject on which such Meeting shall have been called, shall be as valid as they would have been in case such Vestrymen had met in pursuance of Adjournment; and such Meeting may be adjourned to and be held at such Time and Place as the said Vestrymen shall think proper, in the same Manner as any other Meeting may be adjourned under this Act.

Proceedings
to be had at
Meetings of
Vestrymen
of separate
Parishes.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That all Orders and Proceedings of the Vestrymen of each of the said Parishes in the Execution of this Act shall respectively be made and taken at a Meeting or Meetings to be held in pursuance hereof, and not otherwise (except in Cases hereby otherwise particularly provided for); and no Order or Proceeding shall be made or taken at any such Meeting unless the Majority of the Vestrymen present thereat shall concur therein; and all Orders and Proceedings which are hereby directed to be made or taken by or before the Vestrymen of either of the said Parishes, and all the Powers and Authorities hereby vested in them generally, shall and may be made, taken, or exercised by the Majority of the Vestrymen who shall be present at the respective Meetings of such Vestrymen, the whole Number of Vestrymen present at every such Meeting not being less than Thirteen (except in Cases where any other Number is by this Act named for any particular Purpose); and all Orders or Proceedings so made or taken by or before such Thirteen Vestrymen (or other Number, as herein-before mentioned) as the Case may require, shall have the same Force and Effect, and be as binding and conclusive on all Persons, and to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same had been made or taken by or before all such Vestrymen; and at every such Meeting the Rector of the Parish in respect of which such Meeting shall be held, if present, may act as Chairman; and if he shall not be present, or shall decline to act as Chairman, the Vestrymen present shall and may appoint a Chairman; and the Chairman, in case of an equal Number of Votes upon any Question (including such Chairman's Vote), shall have the casting or decisive Vote; and no Order or Proceeding at any Meeting of the Vestrymen of either of the said Parishes, once made or taken, shall be revoked or altered at any subsequent Meeting, unless Notice of the Intention to propose
the

the Revocation or Alteration thereof shall have been given at a previous Meeting held pursuant to the Directions of this Act, and shall have been entered in the Book of the Proceedings of such Vestrymen, nor unless such Revocation or Alteration shall be resolved upon by at least as great a Number of Vestrymen as were present when such Order or Proceeding was made or taken.

XX. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Vestrymen of each of the said Parishes from Time to Time to nominate and appoint, out of their own Body, a Committee or Committees, who shall have full Power and Authority to make and enter into Contracts or Agreements, subject to the Provision herein-after mentioned, on behalf of such Vestrymen, and to employ any Agents, Workmen, or Servants, and to do and execute all other Matters and Things whatsoever, in or relating to the Execution of this Act, which such Vestrymen themselves are by this Act authorized to do or execute, or such of them as such Vestrymen shall think proper to intrust to the Care and Management of any such Committee or Committees, save and except the making of Rates; and it shall be lawful for such Vestrymen, by any Order or Resolution for that Purpose, to dissolve any such Committee or Committees, or to remove or displace any of the Members thereof, and to appoint others in their Stead; and all such Committees shall have full Authority to meet from Time to Time, and to adjourn from Place to Place, as they shall think proper, and as Occasion shall require, for effecting any of the Purposes aforesaid; and all Powers and Authorities hereby vested, or which shall by such Vestrymen be vested, in any such Committee, within the Intent and Meaning of this Act, shall and may be exercised by the major Part of the Members present at the respective Meetings of such Committee; and all Questions shall be decided thereat by the Majority of Votes: Provided always, that no Committee shall enter into any Contract whereby a greater Expence than Fifty Pounds will be incurred, without a special Order from the Vestrymen appointing such Committee.

Vestrymen
may appoint
Committees.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That no Vestryman or Committee Man of either of the said Parishes shall be entitled to receive any Money out of the Rates by this Act authorized to be made, for or on account of any Cost, Charge, or Trouble to which any such Vestryman or Committee Man may be put in the Execution of the Duty of his Office, as such, except as herein-after provided.

Vestrymen
and Commit-
tee Men to
pay their
own Ex-
pences.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That regular Entries shall be made in some Book or Books to be provided for that Purpose, of the Names of the Vestrymen who shall attend at each of the Meetings of the Vestrymen of either of the said Parishes, and of all their Orders and Proceedings; and such Entries shall be read as the first Business of the next succeeding Meeting of such Vestrymen respectively, and the Chairman of every such Meeting at which the same shall be read shall subscribe his Name to the same; 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 Suits, Actions, and Proceedings relating to any thing done in pursuance of this Act; and every such Book shall, at reasonable Times, to be determined upon

Minutes of
Proceedings
of Vestry-
men to be
kept.

[Local,]

3 G

and

and appointed by the Vestrymen of such Parish, be open to the Inspection of the Inhabitants of such Parish respectively who shall be rated in the Church Rate of that Parish, without Fee or Reward; and if the Clerk or Person having the Custody thereof shall not permit such Persons as aforesaid, or any of them, so to inspect such Book or Books, such Clerk or Person shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds for every such Offence.

Accounts of separate Parishes to be kept, and to be open to Inspection.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That the Vestrymen of each of the said separate Parishes shall and they are hereby required to cause a Book or Books to be provided and kept, and true and regular Accounts to be entered therein of all Sums of Money received and expended for or on account of each such Parish under the Authority of this Act, and of the several Articles, Matters, and Things, and for the several Purposes, for which such Sums of Money shall have been expended; which Book or Books shall, at reasonable Times, to be determined upon and appointed by such Vestrymen, be open to the Inspection of all Persons rated in the Church Rate of such Parish respectively, without Fee or Reward; and such Persons may take Copies of or Extracts from the said Book or Books, or any Part or Parts thereof, without paying any thing for the same; and if the Clerk or Person having the Custody thereof shall not permit such Persons as aforesaid, or any of them, to inspect the said Books of Accounts, or to take such Copies or Extracts as aforesaid, such Clerk or other Person shall forfeit and pay a Sum not exceeding Five Pounds for every such Offence.

Vestrymen may appoint Officers.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That the Vestrymen of each of the said Parishes may from Time to Time elect and appoint such and so many Treasurers, Collectors, Officers, Agents, and Servants as they shall think proper, and shall take such Security from the Treasurers, Collectors, or other Receivers of Money to be appointed or continued under this Act, for the faithful Execution of their respective Offices, as such Vestrymen shall think proper, which Securities may be taken either in the Name of their Vestry Clerk or in the Names of any Five or more of such Vestrymen; and such Vestrymen may also from Time to Time suspend or remove any of the Persons so continued, elected, or appointed, and elect and appoint others in the Place of those suspended or removed; and such Vestrymen shall order such Salaries and Allowances as they shall think proper to be paid, out of the Money to be raised by such respective Vestrymen under the Powers of this Act, to such Persons so continued, elected, and appointed: Provided always, that no Person shall be capable of being so continued, elected, or appointed, or being so appointed, shall be capable of continuing such Officer, or of holding any Office or Employment of Profit under such Vestrymen, who shall sell any Wine, Cider, Beer, Ale, or Spirituous Liquors by Retail, or who shall furnish, or be a Partner with any Person who shall furnish, any Article necessary for the Sustenance or Use of the Poor of the said joint Parishes.

Offices of Clerk and Treasurer

XXV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the Vestrymen of either of the said Parishes to continue

or to appoint the Person who has been or who may be appointed their Clerk in the Execution of this Act, or the Partner of any such Clerk, or the Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of any such Clerk or of his Partner, the Treasurer of either such Parish for the Purposes of this Act, or to continue or appoint the Person who has been or who may be appointed Treasurer, or the Partner of any such Treasurer, or the Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of any such Treasurer or his Partner, the Clerk of either of such Parishes for the Purposes of this Act; and if any Person shall accept both the Offices of Clerk and Treasurer of either of such Parishes for the Purposes of this Act, or if any Person, being the Partner of such Clerk, or the Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of such Clerk or of his Partner, shall accept the Office of Treasurer, or shall act as Deputy of the Treasurer, or in any Manner officiate for the Treasurer, of either of such Parishes, in the Execution of this Act, or being the Partner of such Treasurer, or the Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of such Treasurer or of his Partner, shall accept the Office of Clerk, or shall act as Deputy of the Clerk, or in any Manner officiate for the Clerk, of either such Parish, in the Execution of this Act, or if any such Treasurer shall hold any Place of Profit or Trust under this Act other than that of Treasurer, every Person so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of One hundred Pounds to any Person who shall sue for the same, to be recovered, 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, Wager of Law, nor more than one Impar lance, shall be allowed.

not to be held by the same Person.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That every Officer and Person so continued or appointed by the Vestrymen of either of the said Parishes shall, at such Times and in such Manner as the Vestrymen thereof shall direct, deliver to such Vestrymen respectively, 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 her Charge by virtue of this Act; which Accounts shall shew the Money received and also the Money expended by such Officer or Person by virtue or for the Purposes of this Act, and the Objects of such Expenditure, together with proper Vouchers for such Payments; and every such Officer and Person shall pay over all such Money as shall remain due from him or her to the Treasurer for the Time being of such Vestrymen, or to such other Persons as they shall appoint to receive the same; and if any such Officer or Person shall refuse or wilfully neglect to render such Accounts, or to produce and deliver up the Vouchers relating to the same, or to make Payment as aforesaid, or to deliver, within Fourteen Days after being thereunto required by such Vestrymen, all Books, Papers, and Writings in his or her Custody or Power relating to the Execution of this Act, or to give Satisfaction to such Vestrymen, or to such other Person or Persons as aforesaid, respecting the same, then and in every such Case, upon Complaint made by such Vestrymen, or by such Person or Persons as they shall appoint for that Purpose, of any such Refusal or wilful Neglect as aforesaid, to any Justice of the Peace, such Justice is hereby authorized and required to issue a Summons under his Hand and

Officers to account.

and

and Seal, for the Officer or Person charged with such Refusal or wilful Neglect to appear before him, or some other Justice of the Peace; and upon such Officer or Person appearing, or when so summoned not appearing without some reasonable Excuse, or not being found, it shall be lawful for such Justice to hear and determine the Matter in a summary Way; and if upon the Confession of the Party, or by the Testimony of any credible Witness upon Oath or Affirmation, it shall appear to such Justice that any Money remains due from such Officer or Person, such Justice is hereby authorized and required, upon Nonpayment thereof, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal to cause such Money to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Officer or Person; and if sufficient Goods and Chattels of such Officer or Person shall not be found to answer and satisfy the said Money, and the Charges of such Distress and Sale, or if it shall appear to such Justice that such Officer or Person has refused or wilfully neglected to render such Accounts, or to produce the Vouchers relating thereto, or that any Books, Papers, or Writings relating to the Execution of this Act remain in his or her Custody or Power, and that he or she refuses or wilfully neglects to deliver or to give Satisfaction respecting the same as aforesaid, then and in every such Case such Justice is hereby required to commit such Offender to any Common Gaol or House of Correction, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until he or she shall have paid such Money as aforesaid, or have compounded with such Vestrymen for such Money, and have paid such Composition in such Manner as they shall appoint, which Composition such Vestrymen are hereby empowered to make and receive, or until he or she shall have rendered such Accounts, and have produced the Vouchers relating thereto, or until he or she shall have delivered up such Books, Papers, and Writings, or have given Satisfaction in respect thereof, to such Vestrymen, or to such other Person or Persons as aforesaid; but no such Offender shall be detained in Prison by virtue of this Act for any longer Space of Time than Six Calendar Months, for Want of sufficient Distress only: Provided always, that no Prosecution or Commitment under the Provisions of this Act of any such Officer or Person as aforesaid shall invalidate, release, or discharge any Security or Securities whatsoever which may be given or executed by any Person or Persons as Security or Securities for any such Person as aforesaid, to any of the Vestrymen of either of the said Parishes, or to their respective Clerks, for the faithful Discharge of the Duties of his or her Office, or for the Payment of any Money received or to be received by him or her.

Vestrymen
may sue and
be sued in
the Name of
their Clerk,
&c.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That the Vestrymen of each of the said Parishes may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in the Name of their Clerk, Treasurer, or Collector for the Time being, or in the Name of any Vestryman of the Parish in relation to which any Cause of Action may arise; and all Actions or Proceedings which may be necessary to be brought or instituted for or in respect of any Matter or Thing arising out of this Act, and relating to either of the said Parishes, may be brought or instituted in the Name of their Clerk, Treasurer, or Collector for the Time being, or in the Name of any such Vestryman; and no Action or Proceedings which
may

may be so brought or instituted by or against such Vestrymen shall abate or be discontinued by the Death, Suspension, Resignation, or Removal of any such Clerk, Treasurer, or Collector, or by the Death of any such Vestryman, or by any Act or Default of any such Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, or Vestryman, done or suffered without the Direction or Consent of such Vestrymen, but such Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, or Vestryman as aforesaid shall be deemed Plaintiff or Defendant in any such Action or Proceeding, as the Case may be, except in Cases of Actions prosecuted between such Vestrymen and their Clerk, Treasurer, or Collector for the Time being: Provided always, that in all Cases where the Clerk, Treasurer, or Collector for the Time being, or any Vestryman as aforesaid, shall be the Plaintiff or Defendant on the Record in any Action or Proceeding in which in effect the Vestrymen of either of the said respective Parishes shall be suing or sued, pleading or impleaded, in the Name of such Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, or of such Vestryman as aforesaid, such Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, or such Vestryman may and shall, if not otherwise interested or objectionable, be a good and competent Witness in any such Action or Proceeding, either for or against the said Vestrymen; and all Affidavits of Debt or Service which may be necessary to be made in reference to any such Action or Proceeding may be lawfully made by such Clerk, Treasurer, or Collector, or such Vestryman, (as the Case may be,) notwithstanding he shall be nominal Plaintiff or Defendant on the Record as aforesaid: Provided also, that every such Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, or Vestryman, in whose Name any Action or Proceeding shall be instituted or defended as aforesaid, shall be indemnified and reimbursed, out of the Money to be received by the Vestrymen of the Parish in relation to which the Matter shall have arisen, under the Powers of this Act, all such Damages, Costs, and Expences as he shall incur or become chargeable with by reason of his being so made Plaintiff or Defendant, and shall not be personally answerable or liable for the same, unless such Action or Proceeding shall arise in consequence of his own wilful Neglect or Default, or shall have been instituted or defended without the Order or Direction of such Vestrymen.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Collector of any of the Church Rates by this Act authorized to be made shall at any Time retain more than the Sum of One hundred Pounds of the Money collected by him on account of such Rates for any longer Space of Time than Four Days, he shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds for every Day during which he shall be guilty of such Offence.

Collectors not to retain more than 100*l.* for Four Days.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Officer or Person employed by the Vestrymen of either of the said Parishes in the Execution of this Act shall demand or accept any Fee or Emolument (other than such Salary or Allowance as shall be prescribed by such Vestrymen) for doing any thing under the Authority of this Act, or for forbearing to do any thing directed by such Vestrymen under the Authority of this Act, or on any other Account whatsoever relative to his Employment or Duty, or shall in anywise be concerned or

Penalty on Officers improperly claiming or accepting Fees.

[*Local.*]

3 H

interested

interested in any Contract made by or with the said Vestrymen for any of the Purposes of this Act, such Person shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds for every such Offence.

Present
Churchwar-
dens to go
out of Office.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That from and after the *Tuesday* next after the passing of this Act, the Churchwardens of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and the Churchwardens of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, in Office at the Time of the passing this Act, shall cease to be Churchwardens of such respective Parishes; and the Vestrymen of each of the said Parishes shall forthwith elect Two fit and proper Persons, being Inhabitants of the Parish in respect of which they shall be so elected, to be Churchwardens of such Parish for so long a Time as the Churchwardens in Office at the Time of the passing of this Act would have held the Office of Churchwarden in case this Act had not been passed, and until others shall be appointed in their Place, in manner herein-after mentioned.

Vestrymen
to appoint
Churchwar-
dens and
Sidesmen
annually.

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen of each of the said Parishes, and they are hereby respectively required, to meet annually in *Easter Week*, or within Fourteen Days after, and severally to elect Two substantial Householdors within their Parish (not being Vestrymen) to be Churchwardens of such Parish, and also Two substantial Householdors within their Parish (not being Vestrymen) to be Sidesmen of such Parish, to assist the Churchwardens in the Execution of their Office, for the Year then next ensuing, and until others shall be appointed in their Room; and in case of the Death or Removal from the Parish for which he shall have been elected, of any such Churchwarden or Sidesman, before the Expiration of the Term of his Office, some other Person, qualified as aforesaid, shall be in like Manner elected in his Place; and the respective Churchwardens to be appointed by virtue of this Act shall, when duly sworn, (in addition to the Powers vested in and Duties imposed upon them by this Act,) have and be invested with all the Powers and Authorities, and shall be liable to perform all the Duties, which Churchwardens appointed by the Course of Common or Ecclesiastical Law are invested with or are liable to, so far as the same are not inconsistent with or are not varied or altered by this Act; and the Churchwardens of the said respective Parishes shall, after their Appointment and during their Continuance in Office, be and they are hereby declared to be Vestrymen of the Parish of which they shall be elected Churchwardens, by virtue of such their Office.

Sidesmen
may act as
Church-
wardens.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That the Sidesmen for the Time being of each of the said Parishes, elected as aforesaid, shall, by and with the Consent of the Churchwardens or either of them of such Parish, to be signified in Writing signed by every such Churchwarden, perform and execute all such Matters and Things as are directed by Law to be done or as are usually performed and executed by Churchwardens, in as full and ample a Manner as such Churchwardens could or might have performed and executed the same; and all Matters and Things so performed and executed by such Sidesmen shall be valid in Law: Provided nevertheless, that nothing herein contained shall authorize any such Sidesman to act as a

Vestryman of either of the said Parishes, unless he shall be duly elected as such Vestryman, in the Manner herein-before mentioned with respect to the Election of Vestrymen.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen of each of the said respective Parishes from Time to Time to elect fit and proper Persons to execute the Office of Sexton, Organist, and all other Offices and Services relating to the respective Churches thereof, except the Parish Clerk, who shall from Time to Time be appointed by the Rector of each Parish respectively, when and so often as the said Offices or either of them shall have become vacant by the Death or Removal of the present or of any future Officers or Servants; and from Time to Time afterwards to remove any Officer or Servant who shall have been so elected, and to appoint others in their Room, or in the Room of such of them as shall die, or decline to act, or become incompetent to act; and also from Time to Time to fix the Remuneration or Profits of such Sextons, Organists, and other Officers and Servants, but without Prejudice to the Rights of the present Sexton or Organist, or other Officer or Servant of either of the said Parishes.

The Vestrymen to appoint Sexton, Organist, &c.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and also for the Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, and they are hereby respectively authorized and required, as often as Occasion shall require, severally to make One or more Rate or Rates for any Purpose to which Church Rates are or shall by Law be applicable, upon all and every the Lands, Houses, Tenements, Buildings, and Hereditaments within their Parish, such Rate or Rates to be made on and according to the latest Assessment or Valuation made and adopted for the Rate for the Relief of the Poor, to become due and payable in such Proportions, and at such Time or Times, as the Persons making the same shall direct; and every such Rate shall be entered in some Book or Books to be provided for that Purpose, and shall be signed by the Vestrymen present at the Meeting at which such Rate shall be made, or by any Seven or more of them, and when so entered and signed shall be published in Church after Morning Prayers, and shall thereupon have the Force and Effect of a Church Rate, and shall be recoverable from the same Persons within such Parish as are by this Act made liable to the Payment of the Rate for the Relief of the Poor, and by the Means provided by this Act for the Recovery of such Rates.

Vestrymen to make a Church Rates.

XXXV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act no Church Rate shall be made or raised within either of the said Parishes, unless by the express Direction of the Ordinary, without the Consent of the Vestrymen of such Parish, nor by any other Ways or Means than are directed by this Act.

No Church Rate to be made, except under this Act.

XXXVI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and also for the Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, severally to let the

Pews to be let by Vestrymen.

the Pews or Seats within the Parish Church of their respective Parishes, (save and except such Pews or Seats as the Rector for the Time being of each such Parish has been accustomed to let or dispose of, and such as now are selected and appropriated for the gratuitous Use and Occupation of the Rectors, Curates, or Ministers, and Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, for the Time being,) for any Period not exceeding One Year, to such Persons only as shall be Inhabitants within such Parish; but in the event of there being more Room in the Parish Church of either of such Parishes than shall be necessary to accommodate the inhabitant Householders, then such Vestrymen may let such of the Seats or Pews as shall not be occupied, for any Period not exceeding One Year, to Persons not being inhabitant Householders of such Parish; and the Monies arising from letting Pews and Seats shall be applied in aid of the Church Rates, according to the Provisions of this Act.

Vestrymen to make Orders, &c. for repairing, &c. the Church.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and also for the Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury* respectively, from Time to Time to apply and dispose of the Money that shall be raised or received by or on account of any Church Rate or Burial Fees or Pew Rents, on account of each such Parish, as to them shall appear necessary or expedient; and also to make Rules, Orders, and Regulations for the repairing, upholding, or ornamenting of their respective Parish Churches, subject nevertheless to the Consent and Approbation of the Ordinary; and from Time to Time to repeal or alter such Rules, Orders, and Regulations, or any of them, as they shall think proper, and to make others instead thereof: Provided always, that such Rules, Orders, and Regulations be not repugnant to the Laws of this Realm, nor to any Directions in this Act contained.

Vestrymen to make Rules, &c.

XXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen of each of the said Parishes severally, from Time to Time at any of their Meetings, to make such Rules and Orders as to them shall seem right, for regulating the Elections of their respective Officers and Servants, and for the good Government of such Vestrymen, Officers, and of all other Persons employed under such respective Vestrymen in the Execution of this Act, and from Time to Time to alter or to repeal any such Rules and Orders, and to make others, and to impose such reasonable Fines and Penalties upon all Persons offending against the same as to them shall seem expedient, not exceeding the Sum of Five Pounds for any one Offence; such Fines and Penalties to be levied and recovered by such Ways and Means as are herein-after mentioned with respect to Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures for Offences against this Act: Provided always, that Copies of all such Rules and Orders shall be fairly written or printed, and shall be signed by the Vestry Clerk of such Parish, and shall be given to or left with every Person made liable to any of the Fines or Forfeitures therein contained; and such Rules and Orders shall be binding upon and be observed by all Parties, and shall be sufficient in all Courts of Law or Equity to justify all Persons who shall act under the same, provided that such Rules and Orders be not repugnant

nant to the Laws of that Part of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* called *England*, or to any Directions in this Act contained; and all Fines and Penalties imposed by Authority of such Rules and Orders shall be subject to appeal in manner herein-after mentioned.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Inhabitants of the said Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and also the Inhabitants of the said Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, being lawfully qualified to elect Vestrymen of such respective Parishes as herein-before mentioned, at each and every of their Meetings for electing Vestrymen of such Parishes, to elect by Ballot, in the Manner herein-before directed with respect to the Election of such Vestrymen, Six Persons, not Vestrymen of either of the said Parishes, being resident Householders within the Parish by the Inhabitants whereof they shall be elected Auditors, Three at the least of whom shall be rated and charged towards the Rate for the Relief of the Poor of the joint Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury* on an annual Assessment or Valuation of not less than Seventy-five Pounds, and the Remainder shall be rated and charged towards the Rate for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parishes on an annual Assessment or Valuation of not less than Fifty Pounds, to be Auditors of the Accounts of the Vestrymen of the Parish for which such Auditors shall be elected; and such Auditors so elected shall continue in Office for the Term of One Year, when they shall retire from Office, and their Places be supplied in manner herein-before directed.

Inhabitants to elect Auditors for the separate Parishes of Saint Giles and Saint George.

XL. And be it further enacted, That the Auditors for the Time being of each of the said Parishes shall be summoned by the Vestry Clerk of such Parish to meet together at some convenient Place within such Parish within Twenty-eight Days after the Twenty-fifth of *December*, and within Twenty-eight Days after the Twenty-fourth of *June*, in each and every Year, to examine the Accounts of all Money received and expended on account of any Rate or Rates made and levied and of all other Money received and expended by the Vestrymen of such Parish, in relation to such Parish, under the Authority of this Act; and at every such Meeting of Auditors as aforesaid (which Meeting the said Auditors are hereby empowered to adjourn from Time to Time) all Accounts of such Money for the Half Year preceding such Meeting, together with the proper Vouchers for the several Items charged in the said Accounts, shall be submitted to the Auditors present at such Meeting, who shall examine into and audit the same; and when and so soon as any such Account shall have been examined into and allowed by such Auditors, or by the Majority of them present at such Meeting, the same shall be stated in Writing; and the Allowance of such Auditors, and the Date thereof, shall be signified by some Memorandum in Writing upon such Account, signed by such Auditors or by any Four of them; and every such Account, so allowed and signed, shall be left in the Hands of the Vestry Clerk of the Parish to which such Account shall have Reference, for the Inspection of all Persons interested therein; and the said Auditors may order the said Account

Regulating Meetings of Auditors of the separate Parishes.

or any Part thereof to be printed, for the Information of such Persons interested therein as may apply for the same: Provided always, that the Expence of printing such Account as aforesaid shall be paid out of the Money to be received by such Vestrymen under this Act: Provided also, that in case the major Part of the Auditors present at any such Meeting shall think that any Money has been paid for any Purpose to which no Part of such Money ought to be applied, such Auditors shall specify upon every such Account every such Sum as shall to them appear to be improperly charged, and the Grounds of their Objection to such Sum; and the said Auditors are hereby required to signify upon such Account their having examined the same, and to specify the Date of their Examination, in Writing under their Hands; and it shall be lawful for any Person interested in the Application of such Money to appeal to the General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, which shall first occur after the Date of such Examination, against the said Sums so objected to, or any of them; and if it shall appear to the Justices at the said General or Quarter Sessions that any such Sum or Sums objected to by the said Auditors, and appealed against as aforesaid, shall have been charged in the said Accounts for any Purpose other than that to which such Sum is legally applicable, such Justices may inflict such Penalty, not exceeding Ten Pounds, as to them shall appear proper, on every Person who to them shall appear to have offended in the Premises: Provided always, that the Payment of such Fine shall not preclude any Person from proceeding by Indictment, or other lawful Means, against any of the said Vestrymen who shall unlawfully expend any Money raised under this Act.

Vestry Clerk and Officers of separate Parishes to attend Auditors of such Parishes.

XLI. And be it further enacted, That the respective Vestry Clerks, Collectors, and all other Officers, Churchwardens, Vestrymen, and Persons concerned in the Accounts of the Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* or *Saint George Bloomsbury* respectively, upon being summoned for that Purpose by any Writing signed by the Auditors of such respective Parish, or by any Two of them, or by the Vestry Clerk of such respective Parish, shall attend such Auditors at any of their Meetings, and shall take with them all Books of Accounts, Writings, Papers, and Documents required, or which may concern or relate to the said Accounts, and give such Information as to the Particulars of such Accounts as they may be enabled to give: Provided always, that no such Person shall be required to attend at any such Meetings of Auditors, unless Notice for that Purpose shall have been delivered to him, or left at his last or usual Place of Abode, Two clear Days previous to the Day of such Meeting.

Vestrymen of the Two separate Parishes to be the Vestrymen of the joint Vestry of Saint Giles and Saint George.

XLII. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act the Vestrymen for the Time being of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, together with the Vestrymen for the Time being of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, shall be and they are hereby constituted and declared the Vestrymen of the joint Vestry of the Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*; any thing in the said Acts passed in the Ninth and Tenth Years of the Reign of Queen *Anne*, and in the Third Year of the Reign of King *George* the Second, to the contrary notwithstanding.

XLIII. And be it further enacted, That the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry shall meet together in the Vestry Room of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, or at some other convenient Place within the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, or of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, on the *Tuesday* next after the passing of this Act, or within Twenty-one Days afterwards, between the Hours of Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon and Two of the Clock in the Afternoon, and shall then and there proceed in the Execution of the Powers vested in them by this Act; and in case no such Vestrymen, or less than Seven such Vestrymen, shall attend at such Meeting, the same shall be deemed to be adjourned to the next Day, and so *toties quoties* until a sufficient Number of Vestrymen shall attend at such Meeting to act in the Execution of this Act; and the said Vestrymen may at such Meeting, and at all their several Meetings, from Time to Time adjourn themselves, and afterwards meet again, as they shall from Time to Time appoint, provided that no such Adjournment shall be made for a longer Space of Time than Three Calendar Months; and if at any such Meeting there shall not appear a sufficient Number of Vestrymen to act or adjourn, or if the Vestrymen appearing shall not adjourn such Meeting, the Vestry Clerk to the said joint Vestry shall and may from Time to Time (and as often as any such Case shall happen) adjourn such Meeting to some other Day, within Seven Days then next following, to be held at the same Place, and cause Notice of such Adjournment to be given at least One clear Day previous to the Day to which such Meeting shall be adjourned, by leaving such Notice at the usual Place of Abode of each of the Vestrymen of such joint Vestry.

Regulating Meetings of Vestrymen of the joint Vestry.

XLIV. And be it further enacted, That all Orders and Proceedings of the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry in the Execution of this Act shall be made and taken at a Meeting or Meetings to be held in pursuance hereof, and not otherwise (except in Cases hereby otherwise particularly provided for); and no such Order or Proceeding shall be made or taken unless the Majority of the Vestrymen present at the respective Meetings shall concur therein; and all Orders and Proceedings which are hereby directed to be made or taken by or before the said Vestrymen, and all the Powers and Authorities hereby vested in them generally, shall and may be made, taken, and exercised by the Majority of the Vestrymen who shall be present at such Meeting, the whole Number of Vestrymen present at any such Meeting not being less than Thirteen (except in Cases where any other Number is by this Act named for any particular Purpose); and all Orders and Proceedings so made or taken by or before such Thirteen Vestrymen or other Number as herein-before mentioned, as the Case may require, shall have the same Force and Effect, and be as binding and conclusive on all Persons, and to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same had been made or taken by or before all the said Vestrymen; and at every such Meeting the Rector of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, if present, may act as Chairman; and if he shall not be present, or shall decline to act as Chairman, then the Rector of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, if present, may act as Chairman; and if he shall not be present, or shall decline to act as Chairman, the Vestrymen present shall and may appoint a Chairman; and the

Proceedings to be had at Meetings of joint Vestry.

Chairman,

Chairman, in case of an equal Number of Votes upon any Question (including such Chairman's Vote), shall have the casting or decisive Vote; and no Order or Proceeding at any Meeting of the said Vestrymen, once made or taken, shall be revoked or altered at any subsequent Meeting, unless Notice of the Intention to propose the Revocation or Alteration thereof shall have been given at a previous Meeting held pursuant to the Directions of this Act, and shall have been entered in the Book of the Proceedings of the said Vestrymen; nor unless such Revocation or Alteration shall be resolved upon by at least as great a Number of Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry as were present when such Order or Proceeding was made or taken.

Meetings of
joint Vestry
on Emer-
gencies.

XLV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if it shall on any Emergency be thought necessary that a Meeting of the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry should be held, it shall be lawful for the Rector of either of the said Parishes, or in case of the Absence or Refusal of such Rector, then for any Seven or more of the said Vestrymen, or for the Vestry Clerk of the said Parishes, by an Order in Writing signed by either of the said Rectors, or, in case of the Absence or Refusal of the said Rectors, then by any Seven or more of the said Vestrymen, although not assembled at a Meeting under this Act, to appoint such Meeting, by Notice in Writing mentioning the Time, Place, and Object of such Meeting, such Time not being less than One clear Day after the Day of giving the Notice of such Meeting; and the said Vestrymen shall thereupon meet accordingly, and all Orders and Proceedings of the said Vestrymen at such Meeting, relating to the particular Subject on which such Meeting shall have been called, shall be as valid as they would have been in case such Vestrymen had met in pursuance of Adjournment; and such Meeting may be adjourned to and be held at such Time and Place as the said Vestrymen shall think proper, in the same Manner as any other Meeting may be adjourned under this Act.

Vestrymen of
joint Vestry
may appoint
Committees.

XLVI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry from Time to Time to nominate and appoint out of their own Body a Committee or Committees, who shall have full Power and Authority to make and enter into Contracts or Agreements, subject to the Provision herein-after mentioned, on behalf of the said Vestrymen, and to employ any Agents, Workmen, or Servants, and to do and execute all other Matters and Things whatsoever, in or relating to the Execution of this Act, which the said Vestrymen themselves are by this Act authorized to do or execute, or such of them as the said Vestrymen shall think proper to intrust to the Care and Management of any such Committee or Committees, save and except the making of Rates; and it shall be lawful for the said Vestrymen, by any Order or Resolution for that Purpose, to dissolve any such Committee or Committees, or to remove or displace any of the Members thereof, and to appoint others in their Stead; and all such Committees shall have full Authority to meet from Time to Time, and adjourn from Place to Place, as they shall think proper and as Occasion shall require, for effecting any of the Purposes aforesaid; and all Powers and Authorities hereby vested or which shall
by

by the said Vestrymen be vested in any such Committee, within the Intent and Meaning of this Act, shall and may be exercised by the major Part of the Members present at the respective Meetings of such Committee; and all Questions shall be decided thereat by the Majority of Votes: Provided always, that no such Committee shall enter into any Contract whereby a greater Expence than Fifty Pounds will be incurred, without the special Order of the said Vestrymen.

XLVII. And be it further enacted, That no Vestryman or Committee Man of the said joint Vestry shall be entitled to receive any Money out of the Rates by this Act authorized to be made, for or on account of any Cost, Charge, or Trouble to which any such Vestryman or Committee Man may be put in the Execution of the Duty of his Office as such, except Charges for Coach Hire incurred in going to or from any of the Establishments for the Maintenance of the Infant, Lunatic, or Refractory Poor of the said Parishes, and except also as herein-after provided.

Vestrymen and Committee Men of joint Vestry to pay their own Expences.

XLVIII. And be it further enacted, That regular Entries shall be made in some Book or Books to be provided for that Purpose, of the Names of the Vestrymen who shall attend at each of the Meetings of the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, and of all their Orders and Proceedings; and such Entries shall be read as the first Business of the next succeeding Meeting of the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, and the Chairman of every such Meeting at which the same shall be read shall subscribe his Name to the same; 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 Suits, Actions, and Proceedings relating to any thing done in pursuance of this Act; and every such Book shall, at reasonable Times, to be determined upon and appointed by the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, be open to the Inspection of all Persons rated for the Purposes of this Act, without Fee or Reward; and if the Clerk or Person having the Custody thereof shall not permit such Persons as aforesaid, or any of them, so to inspect such Book or Books, such Clerk or Person shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds for every such Offence.

Minutes of Proceedings to be kept.

XLIX. And be it further enacted, That the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry shall and they are hereby required to cause a Book or Books to be provided and kept, and true and regular Accounts to be entered therein, of all Sums of Money received and expended for or on account of the said Parishes jointly under the Authority of this Act, and of the several Articles, Matters, and Things, and for the several Purposes, for which such Sums of Money shall have been expended; which Book or Books shall, at reasonable Times, to be determined upon and appointed by the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, be open to the Inspection of all Persons paying the Rates by this Act granted, without Fee or Reward; and such Persons may take Copies of or Extracts from the said Book or Books, or any Part or Parts thereof, without paying any thing for the same; and if the Clerk or Person having the Custody thereof shall

Accounts of joint Vestry to be kept, and to be open to Inspection.

[*Local.*]

3 K

not

not permit the Persons herein-before mentioned so to inspect the said Books of Accounts, or to take such Copies or Extracts as aforesaid, such Clerk or other Person shall forfeit and pay a Sum not exceeding Five Pounds for every such Offence.

Justices
present at
Meetings
may adminis-
ter Oaths.

L. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Justice of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, present at any such Meeting, to administer an Oath to any Person, for the more certain Information of the said Vestrymen in any Matter or Business then depending; and if any Person shall, upon his or her Examination upon Oath before the said Vestrymen, wilfully and corruptly give false Evidence, every Person so offending, and being thereof duly convicted, shall be liable to such Pains and Penalties as by any Law in being Persons convicted of wilful and corrupt Perjury are or shall be liable to.

Vestrymen of
joint Vestry
may appoint
certain Offi-
cers.

LI. And be it further enacted, That the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry may from Time to Time elect and appoint such and so many Treasurers, Bankers, Chaplains of the Workhouse, Clerks, Governors, Matrons of the Workhouse and Matrons of the Infant Establishment, Paymasters, Collectors of the Rates for the Relief of the Poor, Assistant Overseers, and Beadles, together with such and so many other Officers, Agents, Servants, and Persons, as they shall think proper; and shall take such Security of the Treasurers, Collectors, or other Receivers of Money to be continued or appointed under this Act, for the faithful Execution of their respective Offices, as such Vestrymen shall think proper; which Securities may be taken either in the Name of the Vestry Clerk of the said joint Vestry or in the Names of any Five or more of the said Vestrymen; and the said Vestrymen may also from Time to Time suspend or remove any of the Persons so continued, elected, or appointed, and appoint others in the Place of those suspended or removed; and such Vestrymen shall order such Salaries and Allowances to be paid out of the Money to be raised for the Relief of the Poor, to such Persons so continued, elected, or appointed as aforesaid, as they shall think proper; and the several Assistant Overseers of the Poor who shall be appointed under the Authority of this Act are hereby empowered to execute all such of the Duties of the Office of Overseer of the Poor as shall be directed by the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, in like Manner and as fully to all Intents and Purposes as the same may be executed by Law by any Overseer of the Poor: Provided always, that no Appointment of any Chaplain to the Workhouse shall be valid, unless approved of by the Rectors of the said Parishes, and such Chaplain be licensed by the Bishop of the Diocese; and provided also, that no Person shall be capable of being continued or appointed such Officer, or of holding any Office or Employment of Profit under the said Vestrymen, who shall sell any Wine, Cider, Beer, Ale, or Spirituous Liquors by Retail, or who shall furnish, or be a Partner with any Person who shall furnish, any Articles necessary for the Sustenance or Use of the Poor of the said joint Parishes.

LII. Pro-

LII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry to continue to appoint the Person who has been or may be appointed their Clerk in the Execution of this Act, or the Partner of any such Clerk, or the Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of any such Clerk or of his Partner, the Treasurer of the said Parishes for the Purposes of this Act, or to continue or appoint the Person who has been or who may be appointed Treasurer, or the Partner of any such Treasurer, or the Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of any such Treasurer or of his Partner, the Clerk of the said Parishes for the Purposes of this Act; and if any Person shall accept both the Offices of Clerk and Treasurer of such Parishes for the Purposes of this Act, or if any Person being the Partner of such Clerk, or the Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of such Clerk or of his Partner, shall accept the Office of Treasurer, or shall act as Deputy of the Treasurer, or in any Manner officiate for the Treasurer of such Parishes in the Execution of this Act, or being the Partner of such Treasurer, or the Clerk or other Person in the Service or Employ of such Treasurer or of his Partner, shall accept the Office of Clerk, or shall act as Deputy of the Clerk, or in any Manner officiate for the Clerk of such Parishes in the Execution of this Act, or if any such Treasurer shall hold any Place of Profit or Trust under this Act other than that of Treasurer, every Person so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of One hundred Pounds to any Person who shall sue for the same, to be recovered, 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, Wager of Law, nor more than one Imparlance, shall be allowed.

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

LIII. And be it further enacted, That every such Officer and other Person so continued or appointed by the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry shall, at such Times and in such Manner as the said Vestrymen shall direct, deliver to the said Vestrymen, or to such Persons as they shall appoint, true and perfect Accounts in Writing of all Matters and Things committed to his or her Charge by virtue of this Act, which Accounts shall shew the Money received and also the Money expended by such Officer or Person by virtue or for the Purposes of this Act, and the Objects of such Expenditure, together with proper Vouchers for such Payments; and every such Officer and Person shall pay over all such Money as shall remain due from him or her to the Treasurer for the Time being to the said Vestrymen, or to such other Person or Persons as they shall appoint to receive the same; and if any such Officer or Person shall refuse or wilfully neglect to render such Accounts, or to produce and deliver up the Vouchers relating to the same, or to make Payment as aforesaid, or to deliver, within Fourteen Days after being thereunto required by such Vestrymen, all Books, Papers, and Writings in his Custody or Power relating to the Execution of this Act, or to give Satisfaction to the said Vestrymen, or to such other Person or Persons aforesaid, respecting the same, then and in every such Case, upon Complaint made by the said Vestrymen, or by such Persons as they shall appoint for that Purpose, of any such Refusal or wilful Neglect as aforesaid, to any Justice

Officers to account to Vestrymen.

Justice of the Peace, such Justice is hereby authorized and required to issue a Summons under his Hand and Seal for the Officer or Person charged with such Refusal or wilful Neglect to appear before him or some other Justice of the Peace; and upon such Officer or Person appearing, or when so summoned not appearing without some reasonable Excuse, or not being found, it shall be lawful for such Justice to hear and determine the Matter in a summary Way; and if upon the Confession of the Party, or by the Testimony of any credible Witness upon Oath or Affirmation, it shall appear to such Justice that any Money remains due from such Officer or Person, such Justice is hereby authorized and required, upon Nonpayment thereof, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal to cause such Money to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Officer or Person; and if sufficient Goods and Chattels of such Officer or Person shall not be found to answer and satisfy the said Money and the Charges of such Distress and Sale, or if it shall appear to such Justice that such Officer or Person has refused or wilfully neglected to render such Accounts, or to produce the Vouchers relating thereto, or that any Books, Papers, or Writings relating to the Execution of this Act remain in his or her Custody or Power, and that he or she refuses or wilfully neglects to deliver or give Satisfaction respecting the same as aforesaid, then and in every such Case such Justice is hereby required to commit such Offender to any Common Gaol or House of Correction, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until he or she shall have paid such Money as aforesaid, or have compounded with the said Vestrymen for such Money, and have paid such Composition in such Manner as they shall appoint (which Composition the said Vestrymen are hereby empowered to make and receive), or until he or she shall have rendered such Accounts, and have produced the Vouchers relating thereto, or until he or she shall have delivered up such Books, Papers, and Writings, or have given Satisfaction in respect thereof, to the said Vestrymen, or to such other Person or Persons as aforesaid; but no such Offender shall be detained in Prison by virtue of this Act for any longer Space of Time than Six Calendar Months, for Want of sufficient Distress only: Provided always, that no Prosecution or Commitment under the Provisions of this Act, of any such Officer or Person as aforesaid, shall invalidate, release, or discharge any Security or Securities whatsoever which may be given or executed by any Person or Persons as Surety or Sureties for any such Person as aforesaid, to the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, or their Clerk, for the faithful Discharge of the Duties of his or her Office, or for the Payment of any Money received or to be received by him or her.

Vestrymen
may sue and
be sued in
the Name of
their Clerk,
&c.

LIV. And be it further enacted, That the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry may plead and be impleaded, sue and be sued, in the Name of their Clerk, Treasurer, or Collector for the Time being, or in the Name of any of the said Vestrymen; and all Actions or Proceedings which may be necessary to be brought or instituted for or in respect of any Matter or Thing arising out of this Act, and relating to the said Parishes, may be brought or instituted in the Name of their Clerk, Treasurer, or Collector for the Time being, or in the Name of any of the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry; and no

Action or Proceeding which may be so brought or instituted by or against the said Vestrymen shall abate or be discontinued by the Death, Suspension, or Removal of any such Clerk, Treasurer, or Collector, or by the Death of any such Vestryman, or by any Act or Default of any such Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, or Vestryman, done or suffered without the Direction or Consent of the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, but such Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, or Vestryman as aforesaid, shall be deemed Plaintiff or Defendant in any such Action or Proceeding, as the Case may be, except in Cases of Actions prosecuted between the said Vestrymen and their Clerk, Treasurer, or Collector for the Time being: Provided always, that in all Cases where the Clerk, Treasurer, or Collector for the Time being, or any Vestryman as aforesaid, shall be the Plaintiff or Defendant on the Record in any Action or Proceeding in which in effect the Vestrymen of the said Parishes shall be suing or be sued, pleading or impleaded, in the Name of such Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, or of such Vestryman as aforesaid, such Clerk, Treasurer, or Collector, or such Vestryman, may and shall, if not otherwise interested or objectionable, be a good and competent Witness in any such Action or Proceeding, either for or against the said Vestrymen; and all Affidavits of Debt or Service which may be necessary to be made in reference to any such Action or Proceeding may be lawfully made by such Clerk, Treasurer, or Collector, or such Vestryman, (as the Case may be,) notwithstanding he shall be nominal Plaintiff or Defendant on the Record as aforesaid: Provided also, that every such Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, or Vestryman, in whose Name any Action or Proceeding shall be instituted or defended as aforesaid, shall be indemnified and reimbursed, out of the Money to be raised by the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry under the Powers of this Act, all such Damages, Costs, and Expences as he shall incur or become chargeable with by reason of his being so made Plaintiff or Defendant, and shall not be personally answerable or liable for the same, unless such Action or Proceeding shall arise in consequence of his own wilful Neglect or Default, or shall have been instituted or defended without the Order or Direction of the said Vestrymen.

LV. And be it further enacted, That if any Collector of the Rates for the Relief of the Poor, by this Act authorized to be made, shall at any Time retain more than the Sum of One hundred Pounds of the Money collected by him on account of such Rates for any longer Space of Time than Four Days, he shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds for every Day during which he shall be guilty of such Offence.

Collectors
not to retain
more than
100*l.* for
Four Days.

LVI. And be it further enacted, That all Benefactions, Gifts, and Donations of Sums of Money whatsoever, now payable or which shall hereafter become payable for or to the Use of the Poor of the Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, jointly, and not being directed or liable to be applied exclusively for the Support of the Poor of either of the separate Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* or *Saint George Bloomsbury*, or of any private or particular Poor or Charity, and not being by the Donor particularly appropriated, shall from Time to Time be paid into the Hands of the

All Gifts, &c.
to be paid to
Treasurer.

[*Local.*]

3 L

Treasurer

Treasurer or Treasurers of the said joint Vestry, or of such other Person or Persons as shall be appointed by the said Vestrymen to receive the same, and shall be applied in aid of the Almshouse Fund of such Parishes; and such Appropriation shall be taken and deemed to be an Appropriation for the Use of the Poor, within the Intention of the Donor or Benefactor.

Penalty on Officers improperly demanding or accepting Fees.

LVII. And be it further enacted, That if any Officer or Person employed by the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, or by the Directors of the Poor, in the Execution of this Act, shall demand or accept any Fee or Emolument (other than such Salary or Allowance as shall be prescribed by the said Vestrymen) for doing any thing under the Authority of this Act, or for forbearing to do any thing directed by the said Vestrymen, or by the said Directors, under the Authority of this Act, or on any other Account whatsoever relative to his or her Employment or Duty, or shall in anywise be concerned or interested in any Contract made by or with the said Vestrymen, or by or with the said Directors, for any of the Purposes of this Act, such Person shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds for every such Offence.

Vestrymen to appoint Overseers of the Poor.

LVIII. And be it further enacted, That the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry shall annually, on the Twenty-fifth Day of *March*, or within Fourteen Days after, nominate and choose Two or more inhabitant Householders from each of the said Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, to be Overseers of the Poor of the said Parishes respectively; upon which Nomination and Choice taking place, or at any Time afterwards, it shall be lawful for any Two Justices for the said County of *Middlesex*, and they are hereby required, to appoint and confirm as Overseers of the Poor of the said Parishes respectively the Persons who shall be so nominated and chosen; and when and so soon as such Confirmation shall have taken place, such Persons shall be Overseers of the Poor of the respective Parishes, together with the Churchwardens of the said respective Parishes, and shall continue until others shall be appointed in their Place, and shall and may, together with the Churchwardens of the said respective Parishes, execute all and every the Powers and Duties belonging to the Office of Overseer of the Poor, except the Power of making Rates for the Relief of the Poor, or for any other Purposes, and except the Powers by this Act given to the said Vestrymen, or to the Directors of the Poor, to be appointed in manner hereinafter mentioned; and all Notices directed by any Act of Parliament, or otherwise, to be given or made to the Overseers of the Poor for any Purpose, may be given and made to such Overseers, or to any Churchwarden of either of the said Parishes, or to the Vestry Clerk or Clerks of the said joint Vestry: Provided always, that whenever an Assistant Overseer or Overseers shall have been nominated and appointed as herein-before authorized, neither the Churchwardens nor the said Overseers shall interfere or intermeddle in or with the Care, Management, relieving, Employment, or Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parishes, in any Case, except under the Orders of the said Vestrymen or of the Directors of the Poor; and all such Overseers and Assistant Overseers as aforesaid shall severally and

and respectively, in the Execution of the Duties of their Office, act in all Things under the Controul and Directions of the said Vestrymen or of the Directors of the Poor.

LIX. And whereas, by the several Laws now in force, Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, in the Execution of the Duties of their Office, incur Expences, for the Payment and Reimbursement of which they may by Law levy special and distinct Rates, or may apply Money raised by them for the Relief of the Poor; be it therefore enacted, That the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry shall and they are hereby required to pay and reimburse to the said Churchwardens and Overseers acting under the Authority of this Act, out of the Rates to be raised for the Relief of the Poor by virtue of this Act, all Sums for the Payment and Reimbursement of which the said Churchwardens and Overseers might lawfully have raised any special and distinct Rate, or might have applied any Money raised by them for the Relief of the Poor: Provided always, that from and after the passing of this Act it shall not be lawful for the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or either of them, to levy any Rate or Rates within the said Parishes, or either of them, for any Purpose whatsoever.

Vestrymen to reimburse the Churchwardens and Overseers, out of the Poor's Rate, any Money expended by them in the Execution of their Office.

LX. And be it further enacted, That the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry may, as often as they shall think proper, appoint some Person or Persons properly qualified to survey the several Lands, Houses, Tenements, Buildings, and Hereditaments within the said Parishes, and to ascertain the annual Value thereof, and to assess the same fairly and equally, and to report such annual Value and Assessment to the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, for their Assistance and Guidance in assessing and rating such Lands, Houses, Tenements, Buildings, and Hereditaments; and the said Vestrymen may from Time to Time, out of the Money to be raised for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parishes under the Powers of this Act, make such Remuneration to the Person or Persons so appointed to survey, value, and assess as they shall think reasonable.

Vestrymen may appoint Surveyors.

LXI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry from Time to Time to make such Rules and Orders as to them shall seem right for the Election and good Government of the Directors of the Poor, and of all Officers, Servants, and other Persons employed under the said Vestrymen or under the said Directors in the Execution of this Act; and from Time to Time to alter or to repeal any such Rules and Orders, and to make others; and to impose such reasonable Fines and Penalties upon all Persons offending against the same, as to them shall seem expedient, not exceeding the Sum of Five Pounds for any One Offence; such Fines and Penalties to be levied and recovered by such Ways and Means as are herein-after mentioned with respect to Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures for Offences against this Act: Provided always, that Copies of such Rules and Orders shall be fairly written or printed, and shall be signed by the Vestry Clerk, and shall be given to or be left with every Person made liable to any of the Fines or Forfeitures therein contained; and such Rules and Orders shall be binding upon

Vestrymen to make Rules, &c. for the good Government of the several Persons employed by them.

and

and be observed by all Parties, and shall be sufficient in all Courts of Law or Equity to justify all Persons who shall act under the same, provided that such Rules and Orders be not repugnant to the Laws of that Part of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* called *England*, or to any Directions in this Act contained; and all Fines and Penalties imposed by Authority of such Rules and Orders shall be subject to appeal in manner herein-after mentioned.

Vestrymen
of the joint
Vestry to
appoint Di-
rectors of the
Poor.

LXII. And be it further enacted, That the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry shall, at their first Meeting to be held under this Act, or at some other Meeting to be held within Twenty-one Days next after the passing of this Act, nominate and elect Twelve Persons, being at the Time of the passing of this Act Vestrymen of the said Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and Twelve Persons, being at the Time of the passing of this Act Vestrymen of the said Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*; and the Persons so nominated and elected shall be the Directors of the Poor of the Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, and shall continue in Office until other Directors shall be elected in their Room in manner herein-after mentioned.

Annual
Election of
Directors.

LXIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry and they are hereby required, on the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* in each and every Year, or within One Calendar Month after, to elect Twelve Persons, being Vestrymen of the said Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and Twelve Persons, being Vestrymen of the said Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, to be Directors of the Poor of the said Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury* for One Year, or until another annual Election of Directors shall take place: Provided always, that every Director who shall go out of Office on any annual Day of Election as aforesaid may immediately or at every or any future Election be re-elected.

Vestrymen
to fill up
Vacancies
among the
Directors.

LXIV. And be it further enacted, That when and so often as any Director shall cease to be a Vestryman he shall thereupon become disqualified and incompetent to act as a Director; and that when and so often as any of the said Directors shall die, or shall become disqualified or incompetent to act as a Director by any other Cause than that of going out of Office, the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry shall meet together in the Vestry Room of either of the said respective Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, or other convenient Place, of which Meeting and of the Objects thereof Ten Days Notice shall be given in manner herein-before directed with respect to Special Meetings; and the Vestrymen so assembled, or any Thirteen or more of them, shall elect and appoint some other Vestryman of that separate Parish of which the Person so dying or going out of Office was a Vestryman, to be a Director in the Place of every Director occasioning such Vacancy; and every Vestryman so elected to fill up such Vacancy shall continue in Office so long only as the Person in whose Place he may be elected would have been entitled to continue had he lived or remained in Office.

LXV. Pro-

LXV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Rector and Churchwardens for the Time being of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and the Rector and Churchwardens for the Time being of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, shall be and they are hereby respectively declared to be Directors of the Poor of the said Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, by virtue of their respective Offices ; but nothing herein contained shall extend to authorize any Sidesman to act as a Director of the Poor of such Parishes, unless he shall be duly elected as such Director, in the Manner herein-before mentioned with respect to the Election of the Directors of the Poor of such Parish.

The Rectors and Churchwardens to be Directors of the Poor.

LXVI. And be it further enacted, That the Directors of the Poor of the Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury* shall meet at some Place within either of the said Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury* on the first *Tuesday* next after the Election of such Directors, or at some convenient Time to be appointed by the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, and afterwards on the first *Tuesday* in every Month, or oftener as Occasion shall require, and shall put into execution the several Powers and Authorities vested in them by virtue of this Act.

Regulating Meetings of Directors.

LXVII. And be it further enacted, That if it shall on any Emergency be thought necessary that a Meeting of the Directors of the Poor should be held, it shall be lawful for any Five or more of the said Directors, or for the Vestry Clerk of the joint Vestry of the said Parishes, by an Order in Writing signed by any Five or more of the Directors, although not assembled at a Meeting, to appoint such Meeting, by Notice in Writing, mentioning the Time, Place, and Object of such Meeting, such Time not being less than One clear Day after the Day of giving the Notice of such Meeting ; and the said Directors shall thereupon meet accordingly ; and all Orders and Proceedings of the said Directors at such Meeting, relating to the particular Subject on which such Meeting shall have been called, shall be as valid as they would have been in case such Directors had met in pursuance of Adjournment ; and such Meeting may be adjourned, and be held at such Time and Place as the said Directors shall think proper, in the same Manner as any other Meeting may be adjourned under this Act.

Meetings of Directors on Emergencies.

LXVIII. And be it further enacted, That all Orders and Proceedings of the said Directors in the Execution of this Act shall be made and taken at a Meeting or Meetings to be held in pursuance hereof, and not otherwise (except in Cases hereby otherwise particularly provided for) ; and no Order or Proceeding shall be made or taken unless the Majority of the Directors present at the respective Meetings shall concur therein ; and all Orders and Proceedings which are hereby directed to be made or taken by or before the said Directors, and all the Powers and Authorities hereby vested in them generally, shall and may be made, taken, and exercised by the Majority of the Directors who shall be present at such respective Meetings, the whole Number of Directors present at any such Meeting not being less than Five (except in Cases where any other Number is by this

Proceedings of Directors to be had at Meetings.

Act named for any particular Purpose); and all Orders and Proceedings made or taken by or before such Five Directors (or other Number as herein-before mentioned, as the Case may require,) shall have the same Force and Effect, and be as binding and conclusive on all Persons, and to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same had been made or taken by or before all the said Directors; and at every such Meeting the Rector of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, if present, may act as Chairman; and if he shall not be present, or shall decline to act as Chairman, then the Rector of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, if present, may act as Chairman; and if he shall not be present, or shall decline to act as Chairman, the Directors present shall and may appoint a Chairman; and the Chairman, in case of an equal Number of Votes upon any Question (including such Chairman's Vote), shall have the casting or decisive Vote.

Proceedings
of Directors
to be entered
in a Book.

LXIX. And be it further enacted, That all Acts, Orders, and Proceedings of the said Directors at their respective Meetings or Committees shall be entered in a Book or Books to be kept for that Purpose, and shall be signed by the Chairman, in like Manner as is herein-before directed with respect to the Proceedings of the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry; and all such Acts, Orders, and Proceedings of the said Directors, so signed, shall be deemed Originals, and shall be allowed to be read in Evidence in all Courts whatsoever, and in all Cases Criminal as well as Civil; and every such Book shall, at reasonable Times, to be determined upon and appointed by the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, be open to the Inspection of the Vestrymen and Directors, and of all Persons rated for the Purposes of this Act, without Fee or Reward; and if the Clerk or Person having the Custody thereof shall not permit such Persons to peruse and inspect such Book or Books, such Clerk or Person shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds for every such Offence.

Directors
may appoint
Committees.

LXX. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Directors, out of their own Body, from Time to Time to elect One or more Committee or Committees, (no such Committee to consist of less than Three Directors,) for any special or limited Purpose which the said Directors are by this Act authorized to do or execute, or such of them as the said Directors shall think proper to intrust to the Care and Management of any such Committee or Committees; and it shall be lawful for the said Directors, by any Order or Resolution for that Purpose, to dissolve any such Committee or Committees, or to remove or displace any of the Members, and to appoint others in their Stead; and all such Committees shall have full Authority to meet from Time to Time, and to adjourn from Place to Place, as they shall think proper and as Occasion shall require; and all Powers and Authorities hereby vested or which shall by the said Directors be vested in any such Committee, within the Intent and Meaning of this Act, shall and may be exercised by the major Part of the Members present at the respective Meetings of such Committee; and all Questions shall be decided thereat by the Majority of Votes.

LXXI. And

LXXI. And be it further enacted, That the Property of and in all and every the Goods, Chattels, Furniture, and Provisions, Clothes, Linen, and Wearing Apparel, Tools, Utensils, Materials, and Things whatsoever, furnished or provided for the Use of the Poor of the said Parishes, and for carrying into execution the several other Purposes of this Act relating to such Poor, (except when the same shall be otherwise regulated by Contracts with the said Directors,) shall be and the same is hereby vested in the said Directors; and such Goods, Chattels, Furniture, Provisions, Clothes, Linen, and Wearing Apparel, Tools, Utensils, Materials, and Things, so vested in the said Directors, may be sold and disposed of from Time to Time as they shall think proper, and the Money arising by such Sale or Sales shall be applied in aid of the Rates for the Relief of the Poor of such Parishes; and the said Directors are hereby empowered to bring any Action, or to prefer any Bill of Indictment, as the Case may require, against any Person who shall steal or carry away all or any Part of any of the Articles or Effects so vested in the said Directors; and in all such Actions or Bills of Indictment it shall be sufficient to state generally that the Article or Articles, Thing or Things, for or on account of which any such Action shall be brought, or any such Bill of Indictment shall be preferred, is or are the Property of the "Directors of the Poor of the Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury* in the County of *Middlesex*," without particularly stating the Name or Names of all or any of the said Directors; and every such Action or Bill of Indictment shall be brought or prosecuted in the Name of the Vestry Clerk of the said Parishes, or of any of the Vestrymen of the said Parishes, in manner herein-before directed with respect to Actions or Proceedings brought or instituted by the said Vestrymen.

Goods, &c.
vested in
Directors.

LXXII. And be it further enacted, That the Directors for the Time being of the Poor of the Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury* shall and may exercise all the Powers and Authorities relating to the Relief, Maintenance, and Employment of the Poor of the said Parishes, which Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor or Guardians of the Parish Poor Children are or shall be by Law authorized to exercise.

Powers and
Duties of the
Directors of
the Poor.

LXXIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the several Laws relating to the Overseers of the Poor, and for the Relief, Maintenance, and Employment of the Poor, shall continue in force within the said Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, except where the same are altered or are inconsistent with this Act.

Poor Laws
to continue
in force,
except where
altered by
this Act.

LXXIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Directors from Time to Time to contract or agree for making such Alterations and Repairs in the Workhouse or Infirmary, or Infant Establishment, or other Buildings provided for the joint Use of the said Parishes, as the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry shall direct, and for providing such Furniture, Goods, Chattels, Provisions, Clothing, Utensils, and Materials as may be proper for clothing, maintaining, and employing the Poor of the said Parishes to be received into the said

Directors
may con-
tract.

said Workhouse or Infirmary, or Infant Establishment, or other Building, or for the lodging, maintaining, clothing, and employing such Poor out of the said Workhouse, Infirmary, or Infant Establishment, and also for the Performance of all or any other Work, Matter, or Thing to be done or provided by such Directors, relating to such Poor, or otherwise, under the Authority of this Act; and every such Contract shall specify the several Works to be done and the Prices to be paid for the same, and the Period within which such Works are to be completed, and the Penalties to be suffered in case of Non-performance thereof, and shall be signed by any Five or more of the said Directors, or by the Vestry Clerk of the said joint Vestry, and shall also be signed by the Person, or be sealed with the Seal of the Body, contracting to perform such Works respectively; and every such Contract shall be entered in a Book to be kept for that Purpose by the said Vestry Clerk: Provided always, that Notice of the Intention of entering into every such Contract, and of the Time when and the Place where the same is intended to be considered, shall be given, Ten Days at least before the Day of meeting for entering into the same, by Advertisement in Two or more of the daily Newspapers published within the County of *Middlesex*; and the said Directors shall, if they think fit, take Security from every such Contractor for the due Performance of his or her Contract; and in case the same shall not be duly performed according to the true Intent and Meaning of such Contract, the said Directors may bring any Action at Law or Suit in Equity against the Person or Company so neglecting to perform such Contract, or for any Injury sustained on account of the Nonperformance thereof; and upon proving the signing the said Contract, or the affixing the Common Seal thereto, (as the Case may be,) and the Nonperformance thereof, the said Directors shall recover such Penalty or Damage as may be awarded, with full Costs of Suit: Provided also, that it shall be lawful for the said Directors, with the Consent of the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, to compound and agree with any Party against whom the said Directors shall bring any Action or Suit, for or on account of any Breach or Nonperformance, or for any Injury sustained on account of the Nonperformance thereof, for such Sum or Amends as they shall think proper, together with the Costs and Expences occasioned by such Breach or Nonperformance: Provided also, that it shall be lawful for the said Directors to direct the Expences of preparing, engrossing, and executing any such Contract as aforesaid to be paid out of any Monies raised by the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry under this Act.

No Director or Churchwarden to be interested in Contracts.

LXXV. And be it further enacted, That no Vestryman, Director of the Poor of the said Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, nor any Churchwarden or Overseer of either of the said Parishes, shall hold or enjoy any Office or Place of Profit under this Act, or be concerned or interested, directly or indirectly, in any Contract entered into under the Powers of this Act, under the Pain of forfeiting and paying the Sum of Five hundred Pounds, together with full Costs of Suit, to any Person who shall sue for the same, to be recovered in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record, by Action of Debt or on the Case, or by Bill, Plaint, or Information, wherein

wherein no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, nor more than one Imparlance, shall be allowed; and one Moiety of such Penalty, when recovered, shall be paid to the Party who shall sue for the same, and the other Moiety shall be paid to the Vestry Clerk of the said joint Vestry, and shall be applied in aid of the Poor's Rate of the said Parishes; and every Person convicted of such Offence shall immediately cease to be, and shall be thenceforth absolutely disqualified from ever again acting as a Vestryman, Director, or Churchwarden for the said Parishes or either of them.

LXXVI. And be it further enacted, That all Bonds and Securities to be given for indemnifying the said joint Parishes from any Charge which may arise from any Bastard Child or Children, or for any Purpose, or in anywise relating to the Relief, Maintenance, or Employment of the Poor, or for any other Purpose connected with or relating to such Poor, may be made to any Three of the said Directors, any Law, Statute, or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding; and such Directors shall and may and they are hereby authorized to sue on such Bonds and Securities, for the Purpose of recovering the Penalties thereon, in the Name of the Vestry Clerk for the Time being of the said joint Vestry.

Bonds for Indemnity against Bastards, &c. to be made to Directors.

LXXVII. And be it further enacted, That all Assistant Overseers, Constables, Beadles, and other Parish Officers of the said joint Vestry shall from Time to Time and at all Times hereafter, in the Execution of their respective Offices, aid and assist the said Directors to the best of their Power, and shall at all Times obey their Orders and Directions in all Matters relating to the Relief, Maintenance, and Employment of the Poor; and in case any such Assistant Overseer, Constable, Beadle, or other Officer shall neglect or refuse to obey any such Order or Direction, he shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, to be levied and applied as Penalties and Forfeitures are herein-after directed to be levied and applied.

Assistant Overseers, Constables, &c. to aid and obey Directors.

LXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That the said Directors shall and they are hereby empowered, by any Order in Writing under the Hands of any Four or more of them, and countersigned by the Vestry Clerk of the said joint Vestry, to direct the Treasurer, Banker, or Paymaster of such Parishes from Time to Time to pay such Sums of Money out of the several Monies received by virtue of this Act, and paid to or received by such Treasurer, Banker, or Paymaster, to such Person or Persons and in such Manner as they the said Directors shall think proper, for the Purposes of the Relief, Maintenance, and Employment of the Poor of the said Parishes; and upon the Receipt of every such Order such Treasurer, Banker, or Paymaster is hereby authorized and required to pay from Time to Time the Sums of Money expressed in such Order; which Sums so paid shall be allowed to such Treasurer, Banker, or Paymaster in his Accounts.

Directors of the Poor may order Money to be paid by Treasurer, Banker, or Paymaster.

LXXIX. Provided always, That it shall be lawful for the said Directors to subscribe annually or otherwise to any Hospital or Charitable Institution, and to pay the Amount of such Subscription out
 [Local.] 3 N of

Directors may subscribe to Hospitals.

of the Monies to be raised for the Relief of the Poor under this Act; and such Directors may send any of the said poor Persons who may happen to be afflicted with any particular Complaint or Disorder to any such Hospital or Charitable Institution, or to any other House or Place of Reception which the said Directors shall think proper, for the Benefit of such poor Persons.

Directors
may employ
the Poor.

LXXX. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Directors to cause any Person received into the Workhouse of the said Parishes to be employed in any Work, Trade, or Manufacture, or otherwise, as they shall think proper, during the Time he or she shall continue in such Workhouse (any Law or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding); and out of the Profits arising from any Work which may be performed by such Persons such Gratuities or Rewards may be distributed to the industrious and skilful, according to the Quantity and Perfection of their Work, as to the said Directors shall appear proper; and the Remainder of such Profits shall be applied by the said Directors in aid of the Rate for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parishes.

Directors
may bind
Parish poor
Children.

LXXXI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Directors from Time to Time, by Writing under the Hands and Seals of any Three or more of them, to bind and put forth, or concur in binding and putting forth, assigning, or transferring any poor Child of the said Parishes as Apprentice to be taught any Art, Trade, Mystery, or Occupation, or any Handicraft, Business, or Manufacture, or to be employed in the Sea Service, or in Farming, Household Work, or Husbandry, in the same Manner, to all Intents and Purposes, and with the like Powers and Authorities, as Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor are by Law authorized or empowered to do; and any such Writing shall be mutually binding as an Indenture between the Master or Mistress and Apprentice, and shall in all respects be in force and effect, according to the Laws concerning the apprenticing of poor Children whose Parents are not able to provide for them.

A Director
or Assistant
Overseer
may attend
to answer
any Sum-
mons from a
Magistrate.

LXXXII. And be it further enacted, That on any Summons being issued by any of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex* residing in or near to either of the said Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, to shew Cause why any poor Person belonging to or lodging in either of the said Parishes should not be relieved, such Summons shall be deemed and taken to be duly obeyed if attended by One or more of the Directors of the Poor, or of the Assistant Overseers; and if the Person or Persons so obeying such Summons shall not shew sufficient Cause to the contrary to the Justice before whom he or they shall appear in pursuance of such Summons, then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for such Justice to order, by Writing under his Hand, Relief to be given to any such poor Person, in such and the like Manner as Justices are enabled to order Relief from the Parish Rates to Persons requiring the same, by such Director or Assistant Overseer, until the next Meeting of the Directors of the Poor, either by an Allowance of Food or Money, or by furnishing Medical Assistance, or by Ad-
mission

mission into the Workhouse, unless the same be as full as is consistent with Health; and all Sums paid and expended, and all Charges reasonably incurred, in the Relief of any such poor Person, by such Director or Assistant Overseer, pursuant to the Order of such Justice, shall, on the Production of an Order for Payment of the Amount of such Expences or Charges, under the Hand of such Justice, be forthwith repaid and reimbursed to such Director or Assistant Overseer, by the Treasurer of the Rates for the Relief of the Poor, or other Person, out of the Money to be raised by virtue of this Act for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parishes.

LXXXIII. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases relating to the Poor, or to the Management, Maintenance, Relief, or Employment of them, where any Justice of the Peace is empowered by the Laws in being to proceed on the Complaint of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of any Parish, it shall be lawful for all such Justices of the Peace, and they are hereby respectively required, to proceed on the Complaint of any of the said Directors, or of any of the said Assistant Overseers, or of such Person or Persons as shall have been duly appointed by any Writing under the Hands of Seven or more of the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, or by the said Directors of the Poor, in such and the like Manner, to all Intents and Purposes, as if such Complaint had been made by such Churchwardens and Overseers.

Justices to proceed on Complaint of Directors of Poor.

LXXXIV. And be it further enacted, That the Auditors for the Time being of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and the Auditors for the Time being of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, shall be and they are hereby constituted the Auditors of the Accounts of the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry; and all such Auditors shall be summoned by the Vestry Clerk of the said joint Vestry to meet together at some convenient Place within the said Parishes within Twenty-eight Days after each Quarter Day in each and every Year, to examine the Accounts of all Money raised and expended on account of any Rate or Rates made and levied for the Relief of the Poor, and of all other Money raised and expended by the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry and Directors of the Poor in relation to the said Parishes, under the Authority of this Act; and at every such Meeting of Auditors as aforesaid (which Meeting the said Auditors are hereby empowered to adjourn from Time to Time) all Accounts of such Money for the Quarter preceding such Meeting, together with the proper Vouchers for the several Items charged in the said Accounts, shall be submitted to the Auditors present at such Meeting, who shall examine into and audit the same; and when and so soon as any such Account shall have been examined into and allowed by such Auditors, or by the Majority of them present at such Meeting, the same shall be stated in Writing; and the Allowance and Date of such Allowance of such Auditors shall be signified by some Memorandum or Writing upon such Account, signed by such Auditors, or by any Seven of them; and every such Account, so allowed and signed, shall be left in the Hands of the Vestry Clerk of the said Parishes, for the Inspection of all Persons interested therein; and the said Auditors may order the said Account, or any Part thereof, to be printed,

Auditors of separate Parishes to be Auditors of joint Parishes.

printed, for the Information of all such Persons interested therein as may apply for the same: Provided always, that the Expence of printing such Accounts as aforesaid shall be paid out of the Money to be received by the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry under this Act; provided also, that in case the major Part of the Auditors present at any such Meeting shall think that any Money has been paid for any Purposes to which no Part of such Money ought to be applied, such Auditors shall specify upon such Account every such Sum as to them shall appear to be so improperly charged, and the Grounds of their Objection to such Sum; and the said Auditors are hereby required to signify their having examined the said Account, and to specify the Date of their Examination, in Writing under their Hands; and it shall be lawful for any Person interested in the Application of such Money to appeal to the General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex* which shall first occur after the Date of such Examination, against the said Sums so objected to, or any of them; and if it shall appear to the Justices at the said General or Quarter Sessions that any such Sum or Sums objected to by the said Auditors, and appealed against as aforesaid, shall have been charged in the said Accounts for any Purpose other than that to which such Money is legally applicable, such Justices may inflict such Penalty, not exceeding Ten Pounds, as to them shall appear proper, on every Person who to them shall appear to have offended in the Premises: Provided always, that the Payment of such Fine shall not preclude any Person from proceeding by Indictment, or other lawful Means, against any of the said Vestrymen who shall unlawfully expend any Money raised under this Act.

Directors,
Churchwardens,
Vestry Clerk, and
other Officers
to attend
Auditors
of joint
Parishes.

LXXXV. And be it further enacted, That the Vestry Clerk, the Churchwardens and Overseers, Directors of the Poor, Collectors, Assistant Overseers, and all other Officers and Persons concerned in the Accounts of the said joint Parishes, upon being summoned for that Purpose by any Writing signed by the said Auditors or by any Three or more of them, or by the Vestry Clerk of the said Parishes, shall attend such Auditors at any of their Meetings, and shall take with them all Books of Accounts, Writings, Papers, and Documents required, or which may concern or relate to the said Accounts, and give such Information as to the Particulars of such Accounts as he or they may be enabled to give: Provided always, that no Person shall be required to attend at any such Meeting of Auditors, unless Notice for that Purpose shall have been delivered to him or them, or left at his or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, Two clear Days at the least previous to the Day of such Meeting.

Vestrymen
of the joint
Vestry to
make Poor's
Rates.

LXXXVI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, and they are hereby required, from Time to Time as often as Occasion shall require, to make One or more Rate or Rates (to become due and payable in such Proportions and at such Time or Times as the Persons making the same shall direct) for defraying the Expences of relieving, maintaining, employing, and managing the Poor of the said Parishes jointly, and all other Expences connected therewith or relating thereto, upon the several Tenants or Occupiers of all Lands, Houses, Buildings, Tenements,

ments, and Hereditaments within the said Parishes or either of them; and every such Rate shall be entered in some Book or Books to be provided for that Purpose, and shall be signed by the Vestrymen present at the Meeting at which such Rate shall be made, or by any Thirteen or more of them, and shall be allowed and confirmed by Two or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*; and Notice of such Allowance and Confirmation, signed by the Vestry Clerk of the said joint Parishes, shall be given, after Morning Prayers, on the *Sunday* next after such Rate shall have been allowed and confirmed, in the Churches of the respective Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, or in the Church of some adjoining Parish, in case the said Churches of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, or either of them, shall be closed.

LXXXVII. Provided always, and be it futher enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act no Rate for the Relief of the Poor shall be made or raised within the said Parishes without the Consent of the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, or by any other Ways or Means than are directed by this Act; and all Monies arising by or from the Rates to be made by virtue of this Act for the Relief of the Poor shall be and are hereby vested in the Vestrymen of the joint Vestry of the said Parishes, for the joint Use of the Two Parishes; and such Monies, together with all Arrears due at the Time of passing of this Act upon any former Rates, shall be applied and disposed of by the said Vestrymen, in the first place, in Payment of all the Costs, Charges, and Expences attending the collecting, receiving, and managing the said Rates and Monies respectively, and in the Payment of such Taxes, Costs, Charges, and Expences, other than the Relief of the Poor, to which such Rates are or shall be by Law applicable, and the Overplus shall be applied by the Directors of the Poor in defraying the Expences attending the Relief, Maintenance, and Employment of the Poor of the said Parishes, and all other Expences connected therewith or relating thereto.

No Poor Rate to be made except under this Act.

LXXXVIII. And be it further enacted, That all Rates made by Authority of this Act shall be paid by the Tenant or Occupier rated for the several Lands, Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, to the Collectors or Persons appointed by virtue of this Act to receive the same; and if any such Tenant or Occupier, or any other Person made liable to pay any such Rates, shall refuse or neglect to pay his or her Proportion of any such Rate for the Space of Seven Days after Demand thereof made at the Dwelling House or usual Place of Abode of such Tenant or Occupier or other such Person hereby made liable to pay such Rates, or after Demand made on the Premises on account of which such Persons shall be charged, it shall be lawful for any of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace and he is hereby required to summon by Writing under his Hand, or by Warrant or Precept under his Hand and Seal to authorize and require the Vestry Clerk of the joint Vestry, or of either of the said separate Vestries, by Writing under the Hand of such Vestry Clerk, to summon all Persons who shall have refused or neglected to pay as aforesaid, upon Oath being made before such Justice by the Collector or other Person

Recovery of Rates from Persons refusing to pay.

[*Local.*]

3 O

appointed

appointed by virtue of this Act to receive the same, of his having lawfully demanded Payment of such Rate, and of the Neglect or Refusal of such Person to pay the same, to appear before such Justice or before any other Justice of the Peace at a Time and Place to be mentioned in such Summons; and if any Person so summoned shall refuse or neglect to attend at the Time and Place mentioned in such Summons, or if he or she shall attend and shall not satisfactorily prove to such Justice that he or she is not liable to the Payment of such Rate, such Person shall pay the said Rate, and shall also pay the reasonable Costs and Charges of such Summons; and in Cases where any such Rate shall not be paid at or before the Time mentioned in such Summons for the Appearance of the Person summoned, it shall be lawful for the Justice who shall have issued, or have authorized and required to be issued, such Summons as aforesaid, or for any other Justice of the said County, and he is hereby required, upon Oath made before him of the due Service of such Summons, to grant a Warrant under his Hand and Seal, authorizing and directing the said Collector or other Person appointed to collect such Rate, or any Constable, Headborough, or Beadle of the said Parishes, or either of them respectively, or any other Person to be named in such Warrant, to levy such Rate, and all Arrears, and the Costs and Expences of the Summons, and Service thereof, (if the same shall not have been before paid,) and the Costs and Expences of such Warrant, and of executing the same, by Distress of the Goods and Chattels of the Party so neglecting or refusing which shall be found within the said Parishes or elsewhere; and if within Five Days next after such Distress shall be made the said Rate and all Arrears, together with the before-mentioned Costs, Charges, and Expences, and also the Charges and Expences of making such Distress, and keeping such Goods and Chattels, shall not be paid, the said Collectors or other Person appointed to receive such Rate, or the Constable, Headborough, or Beadle, or other Person authorized by such Warrant, shall cause such Goods to be appraised by some Appraiser, and to be sold, or such Part thereof as shall be sufficient in his Judgment to pay the said Rate, together with all Arrears due, and the said Costs, Charges, and Expences, and also the Costs and Expences of appraising, removing, keeping Possession of and selling the same, returning the Overplus (if any) to the Owner of such Goods and Chattels, upon Demand thereof made by him for that Purpose; which Costs, Charges, and Expences, in case of Dispute, shall be settled by any Justice of the Peace.

In default of Distress, &c. Persons may be committed to Prison.

LXXXIX. And be it further enacted, That in case no sufficient Goods or Chattels of any Person so neglecting or refusing to pay can be found to be distrained by virtue of any such Warrant, or in case any such Goods or Chattels shall be concealed, secured, or removed with an Intention to elude the Payment or recovering of such Rate, so that the Amount thereof cannot be distrained for or recovered, then and in every such Case, upon Information thereof given to any Justice of the Peace, it shall be lawful for such Justice and he is hereby required to issue a Warrant under his Hand and Seal for the Apprehension of such Person, and to commit him or her to some Common Gaol or House of Correction, there to be kept in the same

Manner as Persons confined for Debt, and without Bail or Mainprize, for any Time not exceeding Three Calendar Months, unless such Rate, and all Arrears thereof, and all such Costs, Charges, and Expences, or so much thereof as shall remain unsatisfied by any such Distress or otherwise, shall be sooner paid.

XC. And be it further enacted, That in case any Person who shall be rated in or towards any Rates made by virtue of this Act shall quit the Lands, Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments on account of which any Rate shall have been so made, before he or she shall have paid such Rate, and shall afterwards refuse or neglect to pay the same when demanded of such Person, or at his or her then Place of Abode, by the Collector or other Person authorized as aforesaid to receive the same, it shall be lawful for any Justice of the Peace and he is hereby required to grant a Warrant of Distress under his Hand and Seal (on Oath or Affirmation being made before him by such Collector or other Person as aforesaid of such Person having been so rated, and of his or her having quitted the Premises as aforesaid, and of the said Rate having been demanded of or from or at the Place of Abode of such Person,) authorizing and directing the said Collector or other Person as aforesaid, or the Constables, Headboroughs, or Beadles, or other Persons to be named in such Warrant, to distrain the Goods and Chattels of the Person so refusing or neglecting to pay, and to sell the same, rendering the Overplus (if any), after having retained the Amount of the Rate then due, and all the reasonable Costs and Expences attending such Warrant, Distress, and Sale, upon Demand, to the Owner of such Goods and Chattels; and on Deficiency of such Distress it shall be lawful for such Justice to cause such Defaulter to be apprehended and brought before him, and to commit such Defaulter to some Common Gaol or House of Correction, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for any Time not exceeding Three Months, or until Payment of such Rates as aforesaid, together with all Costs and Expences attending the Recovery thereof; such Costs and Expences, in case of Dispute, to be ascertained and determined by the said Justice.

For Recovery
of Rates from
Persons quit-
ting Premises.

XCI. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where any Person shall quit the Possession of any Lands, Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, the Tenant or Occupier whereof shall be rated or be liable to be rated by virtue of this Act, such Person shall be liable to pay such Rate in proportion to the Time such Person shall have occupied the same; and in all Cases where any Person shall come into Possession of any Lands, Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments rated or liable to be rated as aforesaid, which any other Person shall have quitted as aforesaid, or which at the Time of making any such Rate were unoccupied, the Person coming into the same shall be liable to pay such Rate (although his or her Name may not be inserted in such Rate) in proportion to the Time that he or she shall occupy the same, and which said Proportions, in case of Dispute, shall be settled by the Vestrymen by whom such Rate was made.

Persons re-
moving from
and others
entering into
Premises to
pay Propor-
tions of Rate.

XCII. And

Rates of small Houses, or those let in separate Apartments or ready furnished, to be paid by the Landlord, &c.

XCII. And be it further enacted, That the several Lessors, Landlords, and Owners of all Lands, Houses, Tenements, Buildings, or Hereditaments within the said Parishes, or either of them, the yearly Assessment or Valuation whereof respectively shall be less than Thirty Pounds, or which, whatever the yearly Assessment or Valuation may be, shall be let to weekly or monthly Tenants, or which shall be let or underlet to Two or more Families or Occupiers, or let in Lodgings or in separate Apartments, or at Rents which shall become payable or be collected at any Period shorter than quarterly, shall and may from Time to Time and at all Times hereafter be rated towards all Rates to be made by Authority of this Act, for or in respect of such Lands, Houses, Buildings, Tenements, and Hereditaments respectively, instead of the actual Occupiers thereof; and the Persons so rated, whether the Lessors, Landlords, or Owners or the Occupiers thereof, shall from Time to Time pay such Rates in respect of such Lands, Houses, Tenements, Buildings, or Hereditaments respectively: Provided always, that it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, and likewise for the Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and likewise for the Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, to compound with any such Lessor, Landlord, or Owner, not being the actual Occupier of such Lands, Houses, Tenements, Buildings, or Hereditaments, for Payment of any Rate so made or charged by such Vestrymen respectively upon such Lessor, Landlord, Owner, or other Persons, in respect or on account of such Land, House, Tenement, Building, or Hereditament, at such reduced Assessment or Valuation, not being less than Two Thirds of the Rack Rent or full annual Value thereof, as such Vestrymen respectively shall think reasonable, and to vary, discontinue, or renew such Composition from Time to Time as they shall think proper.

Defining who shall be deemed Owners, &c.

XCIII. And be it further enacted, That to prevent any Dispute touching the Designation of Lessors, Landlord, or Owner of Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments intended to be made liable to the Payment of any Rate by virtue of this Act, the Person or Persons authorized to receive or collect, or the Person or Persons applying for, or receiving, or collecting, the Rents of any House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament, from the Tenants or Occupiers thereof respectively, shall be deemed and taken to be the Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of such Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, for the Purposes of this Act, and shall be liable to be rated and shall be compellable to pay the Rates in respect of such Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, in all Cases in which either Lessors, Landlords, or Owners are by this Act made liable to be rated, and to the Payment of such Rates, unless the real Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners thereof, shall declare himself, herself, or themselves to be such real Lessor or Lessors, Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, and shall voluntarily pay or compound for such Rates as aforesaid, or shall be distinctly or certainly known to be such by the said Vestrymen.

XCIV. Provided

XCIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to impeach or to make void any Covenant or Agreement made between any Landlord and Tenant in any Lease, Contract, or Agreement existing at the Time of the passing of this Act.

Agreement between Landlord and Tenant not to be impeached.

XCV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Goods and Chattels of all Persons occupying any House, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament or other Premises, or any Part thereof, within the said Parishes or either of them, to the Payment of the Rate whereon the Lessor, Landlord, or Owner thereof is hereby made liable as aforesaid, although the Person or Persons occupying any such House or other Premises, or any Part thereof, be not rated under or by virtue of this Act, shall be at all Times liable to be distrained and sold, by virtue of any Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County (which Warrant such Justice is hereby authorized and required to grant), for any Rates which may have accrued or become due during the Term of the Occupancy of such Persons respectively, and for the Costs, Charges, and Expences of such Warrant, and of any Appraisal, Possession, Removal, or Sale of such Goods and Chattels, or attendant thereon; but no such Person shall be liable to the Payment of a greater Sum for or towards the Discharge of the said Rates and Expences, or any of them, than the Amount of the Rent actually due and payable by such Persons to the Lessor, Landlord, or Owner of such House or other Premises; and every Person who shall pay any such Rates as ought to have been paid by the Lessor, Landlord, or Owner of any such House or other Premises, or upon whose Goods or Chattels the same shall be levied in pursuance of this Act, shall and may deduct the Amount of such Rates, and the Costs, Charges, and Expences of such Distress and Sale, out of the Rent due and payable to his or her Lessor, Landlord, or Owner, unless there shall be some Agreement to the contrary between the said Parties; and the Receipt for such Payment shall be a sufficient Discharge to every such Person for so much Money as he or she shall have so paid, or which shall have been levied on his or her Goods and Chattels, in pursuance of this Act, and shall be repaid by such Lessor, Landlord, or Owner, or be allowed by him in part or full Payment, as the Case may be, for the Rent due or to become due to him from such Person as aforesaid.

Goods of Occupiers liable to be distrained to a certain Extent.

XCVI. And be it further enacted, That in default of Payment of any Rate made by virtue of this Act, or of any Arrears thereof, charged in respect of any Lands, Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments assessed at less than Thirty Pounds, or in respect of any Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments let to any weekly or monthly Tenants, or let or underlet to Two or more Families or Occupiers, or let in separate Tenements, or in respect of any Lands, Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments the Rents whereof shall be reserved or become due or be collected at any shorter Period than quarterly, the same shall be and remain a Charge upon such respective Lands, Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments in respect whereof the same shall be so rated, and shall and may,

In default of Payment of Houses under 30^{l.}, &c. Rate to remain a Charge upon the Premises.

[*Local.*]

3 P

after

after Fourteen Days Notice left upon the Premises, be sued for and recovered of and from the respective Lessors, Landlords, or Owners thereof, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, or in any Court of Request for the County of *Middlesex*, or in any other Court of Request within the Jurisdiction of which any such Lessor, Landlord, or Owner shall reside; and if the Plaintiff shall recover in any such Action, Bill, Plaint or Information, he shall have full Costs, to be levied and recovered as other Monies upon Judgment are or may by Law be levied and recovered.

Landlords
to pay for
Houses let to
Ambassadors.

XCVII. And be it further enacted, That all Rates which shall be made by virtue of this Act for or in respect of any Lands, Houses, Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments which shall be inhabited by any Ambassador, Agent, or Public Minister of any Foreign Prince or State, or any Secretary, Chaplain, Domestic Servant, or other Officer or Person whatsoever to whom the Privilege of such Ambassador, Agent, or Minister doth or may extend, shall be paid by the respective Lessors, Landlords, or Owners of such Lands, Houses, Buildings, Tenements, and Hereditaments, who are hereby made and declared liable to the Payment of all such Rates; and the same shall and may be recovered in the same Manner as by this Act is provided for the Recovery of the Rates in other Cases, or by Action of Debt or on the Case, from such respective Lessors, Landlords, or Owners, or by Bill, Plaint, or Information in any of the Courts of Record at *Westminster*, wherein no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, nor more than one Imparlanche, shall be allowed.

Errors in
Rates may
be rectified.

XCVIII. And be it further enacted, That whenever it shall appear to the Vestrymen of the joint Vestry, or to the Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, or to the Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, respectively, that there is any Omission or Error in any Rate made by such Vestrymen respectively, of or in the Assessment, or in the Name of any Person, or in the Description of any Premises liable to be rated for the Purposes of this Act, it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen who made such Rate, or their Successors, to cause to be added or corrected in such Rate the Assessment, or Name or Names of the Person or Persons omitted or erroneously rated, and the Description of the Property in respect of which he or she or they ought to be rated; and every such Addition or Correction made in any of the said Rates shall be as valid and effectual as if the same had originally been Part of the Rate.

Vestrymen
may remit
Rates to the
Poor.

XCIX. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, and likewise for the Vestrymen of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, and likewise for the Vestrymen of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, respectively, to exonerate and release, wholly or in part, any Householder or Occupier of any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments from the Payment of the Rates to be imposed by such respective Vestrymen by virtue of this Act, on account of the Poverty of such Person, during such Times and in such Proportions as such Vestrymen shall think fit.

C. And

C. And be it further enacted, That every Warrant of Distress granted and issued by virtue of this Act to enforce the Payment of any Rate or Assessment may include One or more Person or Persons, and may be in the Form or to the Effect following :

Form of
Warrant of
Distress.

‘ Middlesex } To the Collectors of the Poor’s Rates of the Parishes
‘ to wit. } of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Blooms-*
‘ *bury*, [or To the Collectors of the Church Rate of the
‘ Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, or To the Collectors of
‘ the Church Rate of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*,
‘ as the Case may require,] and to all Constables, Beadles,
‘ and Peace Officers of the said Parishes [or the said
‘ Parish.]

‘ WHEREAS the under-mentioned Person was and is duly assessed
‘ or liable to the Payment of the Sum of Money set opposite to
‘ his Name hereunder written, by virtue of a Rate duly made for
‘ the Relief of the Poor of the Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields*
‘ and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, [or for a Church Rate duly made
‘ for the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, or for the Parish of *Saint*
‘ *George Bloomsbury*, as the Case may be,] under and by virtue of
‘ an Act passed in the Eleventh Year of the Reign of His Majesty
‘ King *George* the Fourth, intituled [set forth the Title of this Act] :
‘ And whereas it duly appears upon Oath unto me, One of His
‘ Majesty’s Justices of the Peace for the said County, that the said
‘ Person has refused or neglected to pay the Sum so set opposite to
‘ his Name hereunder written as due by virtue of such Rate, and
‘ that the said Sum still remains due and unpaid : And whereas it
‘ also duly appeareth upon Oath unto me, that the said Person hath
‘ been duly summoned to appear and answer the Premises ; and such
‘ Person not having shewn any sufficient Cause why such Sum should
‘ not be paid by him, These are therefore, in His Majesty’s Name, to
‘ will and require you or either of you forthwith to levy the said
‘ Sum, and also such further Sum for Costs as is also set opposite
‘ his Name, by Distress and Sale of his Goods and Chattels, such
‘ Goods and Chattels being kept for the Space of Five Days before
‘ the same are sold, rendering to him the Overplus (if any), on
‘ Demand, the reasonable Charges of such Distress, and of any
‘ Removal or keeping Possession, Appraisalment, and Sale, being first
‘ deducted ; and if no sufficient Distress can be had or taken, then
‘ that you certify the same, to the end that such further Proceedings
‘ may be had therein as to the Law doth appertain : And I do
‘ hereby strictly charge and command all and singular the Constables,
‘ Headboroughs, 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

	Sums due.
	£ s. d.
‘ <i>A. B.</i> Occupier - - - - -	
‘ <i>C. D.</i> Landlord or Owner - - - - -	
‘ <i>E. F.</i> for House let in several Tenements	
‘ <i>G. H.</i> the Landlord for Houses in ‘ Street compounded for - - - - -	}
‘ <i>E. I.</i> for a House let ready furnished - - - - -	

CI. And

Actions to
be brought
for Rates in
certain Cases.

CI. And be it further enacted, That when a sufficient Distress cannot be found, it shall be lawful for the said Vestrymen respectively to bring an Action of Debt, or a Special Action on the Case, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, for all or any of the Rates to be made by such Vestrymen respectively by virtue of this Act, in which Action it shall be sufficient for the Plaintiffs to declare that the Defendant or Defendants is or are indebted to the Plaintiffs in such Sum of Money as the Plaintiffs shall suppose to be due; and if the Plaintiffs shall recover such Sum so declared for, or any Part thereof, they shall have full Costs, to be levied and recovered as other Monies upon Judgment made by Law be levied and recovered; and in such Action no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, nor more than one Imparlance, shall be allowed.

Rate Books
to be re-
ceived in
Evidence.

CII. And be it further enacted, That the Books of Rates to be delivered to the Collectors or other Officers by the said respective Vestrymen, and all Entries afterwards made therein, in manner by this Act directed, or examined Copies thereof respectively, signed by any Seven or more Vestrymen, shall be received as Evidence of the Rates imposed by virtue of this Act.

Penalty for
obstructing
Execution
of Act.

CIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall interrupt or intrude upon any Meeting of the Vestrymen or of the Directors of the Poor, acting respectively in the Execution of this Act, or shall assault or obstruct any of the said Vestrymen or Directors, or any of the Collectors, Clerks, Surveyors, Assistant Overseers, or other Officers, Workmen, Agents, Servants, or Persons continued, appointed, or employed by virtue of this Act, in the Performance or Execution of their respective Duties, or of any of the Work, Matters, or Things by this Act authorized, every Person so offending shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds for every such Offence.

Vestrymen
may direct
Actions to
be brought.

CIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, or of either of the said Parishes, to order any Actions or Prosecutions, or any Proceedings whatsoever, to be brought, had, or instituted and carried on against any Person or Persons, for any Offence against this Act, or connected with the Well-being and Ordering of such Parishes or either of them, or for any other public or general Purpose in which such Parishes or either of them shall be concerned or interested; and the Expences of all such Actions, Prosecutions, and Proceedings as aforesaid shall be paid out of the Monies to be received by such respective Vestrymen under the Powers or by virtue of this Act.

For com-
pelling Wit-
nesses to
attend.

CV. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall be summoned as a Witness to attend and give Evidence before any Justice of the Peace touching any Matter or Fact contained or involved in or affecting any Information or Complaint for any Offence committed against this Act, either on the Part of the Prosecutor or on the Part of the Party summoned or accused, and shall refuse or neglect to appear at the Time and Place to be for that Purpose appointed, having been paid or tendered a reasonable Sum for his Costs and Charges, without

without a reasonable Excuse for his Refusal or Neglect, or appearing shall refuse to be examined upon Oath (or in the Case of a Quaker on solemn Affirmation), then and in either of the said Cases every such Person shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds for every such Offence.

CVI. And be it further enacted, That all Penalties and Forfeitures inflicted or imposed by this Act, or by virtue of any Rule, Order, or Bye Law made in pursuance thereof, (the Manner of levying and recovering which is not herein particularly directed,) may, in case of Non-payment thereof, be recovered in a summary Way by the Order and Adjudication of some Justice of the Peace for the said County of *Middlesex*, on Complaint to him for that Purpose exhibited, and afterwards be levied, as well as the Costs (if any) of such Proceedings on Nonpayment, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the respective Offenders or Persons liable to pay the same, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of such Justice, who is hereby authorized and required to summon and examine any Witnesses of or concerning such Offence, Matters, and Things, and to hear and determine the same; and the Overplus (if any) of the Money so raised or recovered, after discharging such Penalty or Forfeiture, and the Costs and Expences as aforesaid, shall be returned to the respective Owners of the Goods and Chattels so seized and distrained; all which Penalties and Forfeitures, not herein directed to be otherwise applied, shall be paid to the Vestrymen of the said Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, or of the said Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, (as the Case may require,) in respect of Offences against such respective Parishes, or to the Vestrymen of the joint Vestry of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury* in respect of Offences against such last-mentioned Parishes jointly, or to the respective Treasurers or Vestry Clerks of such respective Parishes, and shall be applied in aid of the Rates to be raised within such respective Parishes under the Powers of this Act; and it shall be lawful for the said Justice to order any Offender so convicted to be detained in safe Custody until Return can be conveniently made to such Warrant of Distress, unless such Offender can give sufficient Security, to the Satisfaction of such Justice, for his or her Appearance before the said Justice, or before some other Justice having Jurisdiction, on such Day as shall be appointed for the Return of such Warrant, such Day not being later than Five Days from the Day of taking any such Security, and which Security any such Justice is hereby empowered to take by way or Recognizance or otherwise; but if upon the Return of such Warrant it shall appear that no sufficient Distress can be had whereupon to levy the said Penalty or Forfeiture and Costs and Expences as aforesaid, and the same shall not be forthwith paid, or in case it shall appear to the Satisfaction of any such Justice, upon the Confession of the Offender or otherwise, that he or she hath not sufficient Goods and Chattels whereupon such Penalty or Forfeiture, Costs and Expences, could be levied, if a Warrant of Distress were issued, such Justice shall not be required to issue such Warrant, but in such Case such Justice is hereby required, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to commit such Offender to some Common Gaol or House of Correction, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for any Time

Recovery
and Appli-
cation of
Penalties.

[*Local.*]

3 Q

not

not exceeding Three Months, or until such Offender shall have paid such Penalty or Forfeiture, and all Costs and Charges attending the Proceedings (to be ascertained by such Justice), or shall otherwise be discharged by due Course of Law: Provided always, that in all Cases where the Penalty imposed by this Act shall exceed the Sum of Five Pounds no summary Proceeding shall be had or taken for the Recovery thereof before a less Number than Two Justices.

Damages and Charges in case of Distress to be settled by Justices.

CVII. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where Damages or Charges are by this Act directed to be paid, and the Manner of ascertaining the Amount thereof is not specified or provided for, such Amount, in case of Nonpayment or of any Dispute respecting the same, shall be ascertained and determined by some Justice of the Peace; and where by this Act any Damages or Charges are directed to be paid in addition to any Penalty for any Offence, the Amount of such Damage or Charges, in case of Nonpayment or of any Dispute respecting the same, shall be ascertained and determined by the Justice by or before whom any Offender shall be convicted of such Offence; and such Justices respectively are hereby authorized and required, on Nonpayment of the Damages or Charges in any of the Cases aforesaid, to levy such Damages or Charges by Distress and Sale of the Offender's Goods and Chattels, in manner directed by this Act for the levying of Penalties or Forfeitures.

Justices may proceed by Summons in the Recovery of Penalties.

CVIII. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases in which by this Act any Penalty or Forfeiture is made recoverable by Information before a Justice of the Peace, it shall be lawful for any Justice of the Peace to whom Complaint shall be made of any Offence against this Act to summon before him the Party complained against, and on such Summons to hear and determine the Matter of such Complaint, and on Proof of the Offence to convict the Offender, and to adjudge him or her to pay the Penalty or Forfeiture incurred, and to proceed to recover the same, although no Information in Writing shall have been exhibited before him; and all such Proceedings by Summons without Information in Writing shall be as valid and effectual to all Intents and Purposes as if an Information in Writing had been exhibited.

Forms of Information and Conviction.

CIX. And be it further enacted, That all Justices of the Peace before whom any Person informed against shall be convicted of or in any Offence against this Act may cause the Information (whenever any Information shall be taken in Writing) and the Conviction respectively to be drawn in the Form following, or in any Form to the same Effect (as the Case may require); that is to say,

Form of Information.

‘ } BE it remembered, That on the Day of
 ‘ to wit. } A. B. of informeth me,
 ‘ C. D., one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for
 ‘ that of [here describe the Offence, with
 ‘ the Time and Place] contrary to an Act passed in the Eleventh
 ‘ Year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Fourth, intituled
 ‘ [here insert the Title of this Act], which hath imposed a Forfeiture
 ‘ of for the said Offence. Taken the
 ‘ Day of before me, C. D.”

BE

‘ **B**E it remembered, That on [*Time of Conviction*] at
 ‘ *A.B.* is convicted before me, one of His Majesty’s Justices of
 ‘ the Peace for for that the said *A.B.* did on [*here*
 ‘ *state the Offence, with the Time and Place*], contrary to an Act passed
 ‘ in the Eleventh Year of the Reign of His Majesty King *George* the
 ‘ Fourth, intituled [*here insert the Title of this Act*]; and I do there-
 ‘ fore adjudge that the said *A.B.* hath forfeited for the said Offence
 ‘ the Sum of , or shall be committed to [*Place of Im-*
 ‘ *prisonment*] for the Space of . Given under my
 ‘ Hand and Seal, the Day and Year first above written.”

Form of Conviction.

CX. And be it further enacted, That where any Distress shall be made for any Money to be levied by virtue of this Act, the Distress itself shall not be deemed unlawful, nor any Party making the same be deemed a Trespasser, on account of any Defect or Want of Form in any Proceeding relating thereto; nor shall such Party be deemed a Trespasser, *ab initio*, on account of any Irregularity which shall be afterwards committed by him or her; but the Party aggrieved by such Defect or Irregularity shall and may recover full Satisfaction for the special Damage by an Action upon the Case.

Distress not unlawful for Want of Form.

CXI. And be it futher enacted, That in all Actions and Proceed- ings whatsoever relating to the Execution of this Act, none of the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, or of the said separate Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, nor any of their respective Clerks, Collectors, or other Officers or Servants, nor any of the said Directors of the Poor, nor any of the said Churchwardens or Overseers, nor any of the Inhabitants of either of the Parishes aforesaid, shall be deemed incompetent to give Evidence by reason of their filling or holding any Office, or of their being charged with or paying any Rate, under or by virtue of this Act.

Inhabitants, &c. to be competent Witnesses.

CXII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Person shall think himself or herself aggrieved by any Rate or by the Imposition of any Fine or Penalty by the Authority of any Rule or Order made in pursuance of this Act, or by any other Act or Matter made or done or arising under or in pursuance of this Act, such Person may appeal to the Vestrymen by or from whom, or by or from whose Act or Order, such Cause of Complaint shall arise, at any of their Meetings, provided that Notice of such Appeal be given within One Calendar Month next after such Rate or other Cause of Complaint shall have been made or shall have arisen; and such Vestrymen may examine any Appellant and any Witnesses touching the Matter of such Appeal, and may grant or refuse Relief to the Person or Persons appealing, and make such Order therein as to them shall seem meet.

Appeal to the Vestrymen.

CXIII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That if any Person shall think himself or herself aggrieved by any Rate or by the Imposition of any Fine or Penalty by the Authority of any Rule or Order, or by any other Act or Matter, made, done, or arising under or in pursuance of this Act, or by any Warrant, Order, or Conviction of

Appeal to the Quarter Sessions.

of any Justice of the Peace, it shall be lawful for such Person to appeal to the next General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held in and for the said County of *Middlesex* after the Cause of Complaint shall have arisen; or in case of an Appeal against the Confirmation of any Rate by the said Vestrymen, then, on having paid such Rate, to such next General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace after such Confirmation shall have been notified to the Party liable to such Rate; either of which Courts of Sessions are hereby empowered to hear and finally determine the Matter of the Appeal, and to make such Order therein as to them shall seem meet; which Order shall be conclusive upon all Parties, provided that the Party so appealing shall give or cause to be given at least Seven Days Notice in Writing of his or her Intention of appealing as aforesaid, and of the Matter or Cause thereof; and in case of Appeal against the Accounts of the said joint Parishes or of the said separate Parishes, or either of them, the particular Grounds and Causes of Appeal, and the Charges and Items appealed against, shall be expressed on such Notice to the Vestry Clerk or Clerks for the Time being of the Parishes or Parish in respect of which such Appeal shall be made, or other the Respondent or Respondents, and shall within Four Days after such Notice enter into a Recognizance before some Justice of the Peace, with sufficient Sureties, to try such Appeal at the then next General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace which shall first happen, and to abide the Order of and pay such Costs as shall be awarded by the Justices at such Quarter Sessions, or at any Adjournment thereof; and upon the Hearing such Justices shall not inquire or examine into any Cause or Ground of Appeal or any Charge or Item not specified in the Notice; and such Justices shall finally determine the Matter of such Appeal, and may, according to their Discretion, award such Costs to the Party appealing or appealed against as they shall think proper, and their Determination in or concerning the Premises shall be conclusive on all Parties, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever: Provided nevertheless, that such Justices shall not inquire into any Appeal against any Rate or Thing made or done by the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry, or by the Vestrymen of either of the said separate Parishes, unless Complaint shall first have been previously made to the respective Vestrymen by whose Act or Order the Cause of Complaint shall have arisen, and such Vestrymen shall have refused Satisfaction to the Appellant, or shall have neglected, for Ten Days after the Date of the Notice of Appeal to such Vestrymen, to give Satisfaction, and to notify the same to the Appellant: Provided also, that such Justices shall not inquire into nor interfere with any Election of Vestrymen, nor alter any Rule or Order relating to such Proceeding or Election.

Rates may be amended on Appeal.

CXIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That on Appeal from any of the said Rates the Justices at such General or Quarter Sessions shall amend the same, in such Manner as may be necessary for giving Relief, without quashing or altering such Rates with respect to other Persons mentioned in the same; but if it shall be found necessary to set aside any such Rate, the said Justices shall order a new Rate to be made, in the Manner in this Act directed.

CXV. And be it further enacted, That no Rate, nor any Proceeding to be had touching the Conviction of any Offender against this Act, nor any Order made, nor any other Matter or Thing done in or relating to the Execution of this Act, 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*.

Rates and Proceedings not to be quashed for Want of Form.

CXVI. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That no Action, Suit, or Information shall be commenced against any Person for any thing arising out of this Act, unless Fourteen Days Notice of the Intention to commence such Action or Information shall have been given in Writing to the intended Defendant or Defendants, nor unless such Action, Suit, or Information shall be commenced within Three Calendar Months next after the Fact committed, or in case there shall be a Continuation of Damage, then within Three Calendar Months next after the committing such Damage shall have ceased, nor unless such Action, Suit, or Information shall be brought or laid in the County or Place where the Cause of Action shall have arisen, and not elsewhere; and the Defendant or Defendants in every such Action, Suit, or Information may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and every special Matter in Evidence, at any Trial which shall be had thereupon, and that the same was done with the Authority of this Act; and if it shall appear to have been so done, or that such Action, Suit, or Information was brought otherwise than as hereinbefore directed, the Jury shall find a Verdict for the Defendant or Defendants; and upon such Verdict, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall become nonsuited, or shall suffer a Discontinuance of any such Action, Suit, or Information after the Defendant or Defendants shall have appeared thereto, or if a Verdict shall pass against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs therein, or if upon Demurrer or otherwise Judgment shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants shall have his, her, or their Costs, and shall have such Remedy for recovering the same as Defendants have for recovering Costs of Suit by Law in other Cases.

Limitation of Actions.

CXVII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That no Plaintiff shall recover in any Action for Irregularity, Trespass, or other wrongful Proceeding made or committed in Execution of this Act, if Tender of sufficient Amends shall have been made, by or on behalf of the Party who shall have committed such Irregularity, Trespass, or other wrongful Proceeding, before such Action brought; and in case no Tender shall have been made, it shall be lawful for the Defendant in any such Action, by Leave of the Court where such Action shall depend, at any Time before Issue joined, to pay into Court such Sum of Money as he or she shall think fit, whereupon such Proceedings, Orders, and Adjudications shall be had and made in and by such Court as in other Actions where Defendants are allowed to pay Money into Court.

Plaintiff not to recover after Tender of sufficient Amends.

CXVIII. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where any Justice of the Peace is authorized by this Act to examine any Person, or to take cognizance of or to hear or determine any Matter or Complaint,

General Power to Justices to administer Oaths.

[*Local.*]

3 R

plaint,

plaint, it shall be lawful for such Justice and he is hereby required to administer an Oath to or to receive the Affirmation of any Person before he or she shall be examined by or before such Justice.

Declaring
what shall be
good Service
of Notice
on Vestry-
men and
Directors.

CXIX. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where it may be necessary for any Person to serve any Notice, or any Proceeding in Law or Equity, upon the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry of the Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, or upon the Vestrymen in the Parish of *Saint Giles in the Fields*, or upon the Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint George Bloomsbury*, or upon the Directors of the Poor of the said joint Parishes, Service thereof respectively upon the Vestry Clerk or Vestry Clerks of the Parishes or Parish to which such Notice or other Proceeding has Reference, or by leaving such Notice at the Office of such Clerk or Clerks, or at his or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, or at the Office of the Vestrymen of the Parishes or Parish to which such Notice or other Proceeding has reference, or Service upon any Five of the Vestrymen of such Parish, or upon any Three of the Directors of the Poor, or their Clerk, as the Case may require, leaving such Notice at their respective last or usual Places of Abode, shall be deemed sufficient Service of the same respectively on the said Vestrymen or Directors.

Declaring
what shall be
good Service
of Notice by
Vestrymen
and Direc-
tors.

CXX. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where it may be necessary for such Vestrymen or Directors of the Poor to give any Notice to any Person or Body Corporate under the Provisions of this Act, such Notice shall be in Writing or in Print, or partly in Writing and partly in Print, and be signed by any Five or more of such Vestrymen, or by any Three or more of such Directors, or by their Clerk for the Time being, and shall be delivered to such Person, or be left at his or her last or usual Place of Abode, or be delivered to some Member of such Body, or be left at his last or usual Place of Abode, or to some Clerk or other Officer of such Body, or be left at the Office of such Clerk or Officer, or at his last or usual Place of Abode, except in Cases in which any other Mode of giving such respective Notices is by this Act particularly directed.

Mode of
giving public
Notices.

CXXI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in all Cases where by this Act any public Notice is directed to be given by the said Vestrymen or Directors (except such public Notices as by this Act respectively directed to be given in some other Manner), such respective Notices shall be signed by the Vestry Clerk or Clerks for the Time being of the Parishes or Parish to which such Notice has reference, and shall be affixed to the Doors of the Church of the Parish to which the Subject Matter has reference on some *Sunday* previous to Divine Service; and all such Notices so published shall be good and available in Law for the Purposes of this Act.

Saving Eccle-
siastical
Jurisdiction
of the Bishop
of London.

CXXII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That this Act, or any thing herein contained, shall not extend or be construed to extend to invalidate or avoid any Ecclesiastical Law or Constitution of the Church of *England*, or to destroy any of the Rights or Powers belonging to the Lord Bishop of *London*, or in anywise to abridge

or controul the ordinary Jurisdiction of the said Lord Bishop of *London* for the Time being, in and over the aforesaid Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, or over the Minister thereof, or in, over, or relating to any Matter or Thing respecting the Ministers thereof, except so far as relates to the letting and managing the Pews in the Parish Church of each of the said Parishes; but that it shall be lawful for the said Lord Bishop of *London* for the Time being to, and such Lord Bishop shall and may, at all Times after the passing of this Act, visit and exercise Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction in the said Parishes of *Saint Giles in the Fields* and *Saint George Bloomsbury*, or either of them, as amply as such Bishop might do immediately before the passing of this Act.

CXXIII. And be it further enacted, That all the Costs, Charges, and Expences of preparing, applying for, and obtaining this Act, or in anywise incident thereto, shall be paid out of the Money already in hand, or out of the first Money which shall be raised by the Vestrymen of the said joint Vestry under the Authority or by virtue of this Act. Expences of this Act how to be paid.

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

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN,
Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1830.

