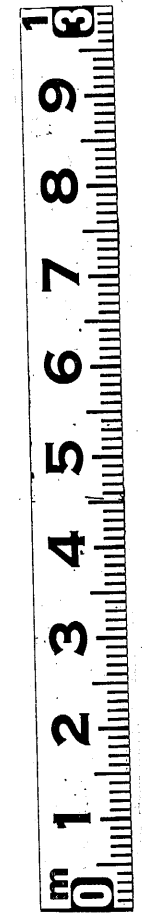


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B I L L,

Intended to be offered to PARLIAMENT,

F O R

The better RELIEF and EMPLOYMENT

O F T H E

P O O R,

W I T H I N

That Part of GREAT BRITAIN called  
E N G L A N D.

M.DCC.LXXV.

INTRODUCTION.

THIS Bill is intended to carry into Execution the Substance of the Plan proposed by the Resolutions of the House of Commons in the last Sessions, as far as it respects the Relief and Employment of the Poor.

The general Scope and Tendency of it, is,

To make whole Counties, and also Ridings and Divisions, where they have separate Commissions of the Peace and Quarter Sessions, and also all Cities and Towns which are Counties of themselves, contributory to the Relief and Employment of their Poor, by one General Fund arising from the Pools Rates, according to the Proportions in which they have been raised within the several Parishes, &c. on a Medium of the last Seven Years.

For the convenient Execution of this Plan, Persons having £. 100. per Annum Estate in England, or £. 50. per Annum in Wales, are constituted Governors for the Counties, &c. where they reside.

The Plan is not to be adopted but in such Counties,  
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ii INTRODUCTION.

ties, &c. where Two Thirds of the Governors, at a Meeting, after public Notice, shall approve of it.

If it be approved at such Meeting, the Governors present are to elect, by Ballot, a Committee of Nine Governors within such County, &c. who are to divide the same into so many Districts as shall be directed by the Act; but, in Counties where no such Direction shall be given, into so many Districts as the Committee shall judge proper; and also to fix the Places where the Buildings are to be erected.

The Governors of each District are made a Corporation, and required at their First Meeting to elect by Ballot, a Committee of Eleven Governors, to be called *The Committee of Buildings and Rates*, who are to make the Contracts for the Lands, and to take the Care and Management of the Buildings and Furniture; and also to ascertain the Medium of the Poores Rates in each Parish, &c. for the last Seven Years; from which an Appeal is given to the Justices at their General Quarter Sessions.

The Governors of each District are also required at the same Meeting, to elect by Ballot another Committee of Seven Governors, to be called *The Committee of Trade and Manufactures*; which Committee are to find proper Employment for the Poor, to provide necessary Utensils, Materials, and Instructors for that Purpose, and to superintend that very important Business.

Each of the said Committees are to elect a Clerk to attend them, and are jointly to elect a proper Person to be Treasurer and Clerk to the District; they are also jointly to consult and agree upon the Plan for the Buildings.

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INTRODUCTION. iii

The Expence of the Purchase of Lands, Buildings, and Furniture, is limited not to exceed Two Years and an Half's Produce of the Poor's Rates within each District, according to such Medium Sum; and the Money is to be borrowed on a Mortgage of the Poores Rates within the District, to be made by the Governors at their Quarterly Meetings.

The Committee of Buildings and Rates are to draw upon the Treasurer, from Time to Time, as the Money for the above Purposes shall be wanted; which Drafts he is to pay, upon Orders from the Governors at their Quarterly Meetings.

The Interest of the Money borrowed is to be paid out of the Poores Rates; and *£. 5 per Centum per Annum* of the Principal, after Two Years from the Time the Buildings shall be completed, if the Rates shall be sufficient for that and the other Purposes.

To be Four Quarterly Meetings of the Governors of each District, in the Weeks next preceding each Quarter Sessions, and that next preceding the *Michaelmas* Quarter Sessions is to be the Annual Meeting.

The Governors at their Quarterly Meetings are to certify to the Quarter Sessions, an Account of the Receipts and Disbursements for each District, within the preceding Quarter, and the Ballance in each Treasurer's Hands.

There are also to be Monthly and Weekly Meetings of the Governors within each District.

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iv INTRODUCTION.

A certain Number of Governors, to be elected by Ballot, shall be obliged to attend the Monthly Meetings.

Every Governor so elected, who shall refuse or neglect to attend the Monthly Meetings, and every Governor elected upon any Committee, and not attending, shall incur a Penalty, unless excused on the Terms mentioned in the Bill.

The Governors are, at their First Meeting after the Buildings shall be completed, and at every Annual Meeting, to nominate Guardians within each District, who shall be Rectors, Vicars, or Curates, or Persons having Estates of £. 25 per Annum, or occupying Lands of £. 50 per Annum; which Guardians are to inspect the Overseers Accounts before they are sent to the Governors, and to check any Errors or Irregularities in their Proceedings.

The Governors are also, at their said Meetings, to elect by Ballot a Committee of Seven Governors, which shall be *The Committee of Trade and Manufactures*; and another Committee of the like Number, which is to nominate Officers for the House, and to fill up Vacancies when they happen.

The Justices at their Quarter Sessions, from the Time the Buildings shall be completed, are to order the Assessments to be equally made within each Parish, &c. according to the Medium Rate so to be ascertained, with Liberty of Appeal to the Quarter Sessions by any Person aggrieved; and the Overseers of the Poor are to make and collect such Assessments, and pay the Money to the Treasurer of the District.

The Quarterly Assessments are to continue at the Medium

INTRODUCTION. v

Medium Sums first fixed, till it shall appear from the Accounts returned to the Quarter Sessions that a Reduction may be afforded, and then the Justices are to direct a Meeting of Governors from each District to consult about it, and to fix the proposed Reductions; which shall be observed in all future Assessments, till further Alterations shall be found necessary.

After a Reduction of the Assessments shall be made, if the Inhabitants of any Parish or Place shall make it appear, on Appeal to the Court of Quarter Sessions, that the Medium Sums so first ascertained exceeded 4s. in the Pound of the full Annual Value of their Lands, &c. the Court may reduce them to that Rate.

After the Buildings shall be completed, the Governors are to order the Poor into the House, and to see that they are properly accommodated, and that the Rules, Orders, and Regulations, are duly observed and enforced. The Children are to be placed out Apprentice when of proper Age.

The Governors of every District are, at their Annual Meetings, to return to the Two Houses of Parliament, a State of the Proceedings, in the Form prescribed by the Bill.

A Committee of Governors from each District are to meet Annually in every County, to consult about the State of their Affairs, and the further Execution of the Act.

To prevent Disputes amongst the Governors about the Rules and Orders to be observed in the Government

vi INTRODUCTION.

ment of each House, they are intended to be established with Certainty, and inserted in a Schedule to the Bill, and not to be varied but by Parliament.

An Establishment is made for Charitable Donations, to be employed in giving Portions on the Marriage of young Men or Women, who have been educated in any of these Houses, and have behaved well; and a Committee is to be elected by Ballot, to have the Care and Management of this Charity.

There are Clauses to fix the Settlements of the Poor, within Counties, Districts, and Places incorporated under this, or any other Act of Parliament, where they have resided Twelve Months without being chargeable; in order to prevent their being harrassed by frequent Removals,—and to avoid Litigations.

I know this Bill has many Defects, and stands in Need of much Alteration and Amendment; but the Speaker, and many Members, of the House of Commons, to whom it has been communicated, have been pleased to give their Sanction and Countenance to it, and to recommend the printing and distributing it amongst the Members, as the best Means of having it maturely considered, and improved by proper Amendments, before it shall be presented to the House.

It is hoped the Introduction of Select Committees, and Monthly Meetings, for transacting the material Business, and enforcing the Attendances upon them by Penalties, will remove many Objections, and render this very extensive Plan practicable, without laying too great a Burden on any Individual.

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INTRODUCTION. vii

It has been my Study, in forming this Bill, to guard it, as much as possible, against all Frauds and Abuses whatsoever in the Execution of it; to have the Poor well accommodated, and treated with great Humanity, but kept under a strict Conformity to the Rules and Orders of the House; to encourage good Behaviour, Sobriety, and Industry, by proper Rewards, and to find suitable and proper Employment, under prudent and careful Inspection, for all who are able to work; to ease the Magistrate in the more trivial Parts of his Duty, but to call forth his Assistance and Support, his Authority and Dignity, in the more essential Parts of it; to restrain the Overseers from any Extravagance or Partiality; and also to make the Bill as concise as the Nature of the Business, and the Course of legal Proceedings, will admit.

There are several Provisions necessary for completing this Work, which are not introduced into this Bill, (but some of them may probably be thought fit Objects for it); viz.

The Care, Preservation, and Maintenance, of Bastard Children :

The establishing proper Hospitals for Lunatics ; which may be done at the joint Expence of Four or Five adjacent Counties :

The Enquiries into, and Application of, particular Charities, which are given to the Poor of certain Parishes or Places; as those Poor will be relieved under the general Provisions of this Bill.

Also the Bill for explaining and amending the Act,

viii INTRODUCTION.

Act, passed in the 17th of King *George* the Second, relating to Rogues, Vagabonds, and other idle and disorderly Persons, and to Houses of Correction.

The Rules, Orders, and Regulations, for the Government of the Houses of Industry, are not yet prepared; the Substance of them will be collected from the Returns made by the several Houses of Industry, and will require much Consideration in settling; but they, together with the Forms of Proceeding, and an Abstract of the Returns, made pursuant to the Orders of the House of Commons concerning the Poor, and also concerning Vagrants and Houses of Correction, are intended to be printed as an Appendix to this, and distributed as soon as conveniently may be.

18 Nov. 1775.

THO<sup>s</sup> GILBERT.

A BILL

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B I L L,

Intended to be offered to Parliament, for the better Relief and Employment of the Poor, within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*.

WHEREAS the Expence of providing for the Poor, within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, is become a very grievous Burden; and the several Laws made for their Relief and Employment do not afford effectual Provision for the Care and Education of Infant Children; for the Employment of those who are able to work; or for the Support and Maintenance of those who from Age or Infirmities are reduced to Want and Distress;

Preamble.

Be it therefore Enacted and Declared 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

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The Poor within the several Counties to be relieved and maintained at the general Expence of each County.

the Authority of the same, That the Poor of every County within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England* (except as herein excepted) shall, from the Times hereafter mentioned, be employed, relieved, and maintained, at the general Expence of each County, upon Contribution from the several Parishes and Places within the same, in the Proportions hereafter mentioned, under and subject to the several Regulations and Provisions herein contained; and that proper Houses shall be provided and established for the Reception and Employment of such poor Persons as may be fit to be sent thither, under and subject to the Government hereby directed, and to the several Powers and Authorities given by this Act.

Who shall be Governors for executing the Act.

And be it further Enacted, That every Person residing in any County for Three Months in the Year, or more, and having an Estate or Interest in, or issuing out of, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, Freehold, Copyhold, or Customary, to or for his own Use and Benefit, in his own Right, or in Right of his Wife, in Possession for Life, or some greater Estate, either in Law or Equity, or an Estate for Years, determinable on One or more Life or Lives, of the clear Yearly Value of One hundred Pounds (except for any County within the Principality of *Wales*, and of the clear Yearly Value of Fifty Pounds within the said Principality) over and above all Incumbrances, and also every Rector and Vicar, whose Rectory or Vicarage shall be of the respective Values aforesaid, shall be, and is and are hereby declared

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declared to be, the Governors for executing the several Purposes of this Act within such County, pursuant to the Powers hereby vested in them; provided the Whole, or One Half at least, of such Estates, Rectories, or Vicarages, respectively, shall lie in the County for which such Person shall be a Governor, and the Residue thereof within some Part of *Great Britain*.

And be it further Enacted, That, before any Proceedings shall be had for executing the Provisions of this Act within any County, a General Meeting of the Governors shall be called by an Advertisement, signed by at least Fifteen Persons so qualified for Governors as aforesaid, and inserted in the Public News Papers circulated in such County, at least One Month before the Day of Meeting, specifying the Time and Place of such Meeting, and the Business to be transacted there, in the Form or to the Effect mentioned in the Schedule hereunto annexed; and Two Thirds at least of the Governors qualified as aforesaid, who shall attend such Meeting, or some subsequent Meeting, to be held for the like Purpose, pursuant to the Directions of this Act, shall, by Writing under their Hands, give their Approbation for enforcing this Act within such County, in the Words or to the Effect specified in the said Schedule, and shall return the same to the next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for such County where it shall be recorded; and in case it shall happen, that at such First Meeting of the Governors, such Approbation shall not be obtained, it shall

Before any Proceedings under the Act, a General Meeting of Governors to be held, in order to obtain their Approbation of it.

If Approbation not obtained at that Meeting, the like may be held every Year.

( 4 )

and may be lawful for any subsequent Meeting or Meetings to be called and held, from Time to Time, in like Manner, upon the like Notices, and for the same Purpose, at the Distance of One Year at least after the next preceding Meeting shall have been held.

On Approbation the Governors for the County to ballot for a Committee;

And be it further Enacted, That the Governors for each County, wherein such Approbation shall be signified as aforesaid, shall, at the same Meeting, forthwith proceed by Ballot to elect a Committee of Nine out of the Governors qualified to act within the said County, by each Governor's putting into a Box, to be provided for that Purpose, a List of the Names of Nine Persons so qualified, whom he shall judge most proper for the Committee hereafter mentioned, and the Nine Persons, who shall, upon casting up the Ballot, appear to have the Majority of Votes, shall be, and are hereby constituted the Committee for the Purposes hereafter mentioned; and the Committee being so elected, shall forthwith proceed to nominate a Clerk to attend them, and enter Minutes of their Proceedings, and shall allow him a reasonable Salary for his Trouble therein; and the said Committee, or the Major Part of them, such Major Part not being less than Five, shall meet and adjourn themselves, from Time to Time, and act as they shall think fit, for the Purposes hereafter mentioned; that is to say, They shall, as soon as conveniently may be, determine the Situation of the Houses for the Reception and Employment of the Poor within such County, having

who may appoint a Clerk;

and adjourn from Time to Time;

and determine the Situation of the Houses of Industry;

( 5 )

having Regard to Commons and Wastes for that Purpose, where they can be found in proper Places, and observing the Directions and Restrictions hereafter mentioned; and shall distribute the Parishes and Places within such County into the Number of Districts hereby directed, or, where no Direction shall be given, into such Number of Districts as the said Committee shall judge proper, in such Manner as to them shall seem fit, having Regard to their Situation and Vicinity as much as conveniently may be; and shall, by a Certificate or Instrument in Writing, to be signed and sealed by them, or any Six or more of them, specify and describe the Places at or near to which such Houses and Buildings shall be fixed, and the Names of the respective Parishes, Townships, and Places, maintaining, or being liable to maintain, their own Poor, which are to constitute each District, in the Form or to the Effect contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed, and shall distinguish such Districts respectively by the Names of the First, Second, &c. District, which Certificate, when so signed, shall be recorded and inrolled at the next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the County, Riding, Division, Soke, Franchise, Liberty, City, or County Corporate, wherein every such District, or the major Part thereof, shall be; and the said Committee shall fix a Day and Place for the First Meeting of the Governors within each District, and notify the same by Advertisements in some public News Paper or Papers circulated there, and shall determine the Number of Governors to

and distribute the Parishes, &c. into Districts;

and shall make a Certificate thereof;

which shall be inrolled at the next Quarter Sessions;

The Committee to appoint the First Meeting of the Governors in each District, and the Number to be elected within the same.



( 6 )

be elected within each District, pursuant to the Powers hereby given, not exceeding the Numbers herein limited for that County, and shall specify the same respectively in such Certificate.

The Number of Governors to be elected in each County, limited:

Provided nevertheless, and be it further Enacted, That the Number of Governors so to be elected shall not exceed, for all the Districts within each respective County, the Numbers following; that is to say, for the County of A,  
for the County of B,

Also the Number of Districts.

Provided also, and be it further Enacted, That the Number of Districts for each respective County shall be as follows; that is to say, For the County of A,  
for the County of B,  
&c. &c.

The Governors in each District to be a Corporation.

And be it further Enacted, That after such Certificate shall be so recorded as aforesaid, the Persons qualified to be Governors within each District as aforesaid, and those who shall be elected for the same pursuant to the Authority of this Act, shall be, and be deemed and taken to be, one Body Politic or Corporate in Law, to all Intents and Purposes, and shall have a perpetual Succession, and a Common Seal, within each of the said Districts; and shall be, and be called, The Governors of the Poor for such District; and shall be enabled to sue and plead, and be sued, by that Name, in all Courts and Places of Judicature; and by that Name shall and may

( 7 )

may purchase, take, hold, and receive, such Lands, Buildings, Sum or Sums of Money, as hereafter mentioned, and any Goods and Chattels whatsoever, to and for the Uses and Purposes of this Act, as fully and effectually, to all Intents and Purposes, as if such Names of Incorporation had been hereby given: but no such Corporation shall be capable of taking or holding any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, except as hereinafter mentioned and expressed.

And be it further Enacted, That the Governors within each District shall, and are hereby required to meet at the Time and Place to be so fixed by the Committee as aforesaid; and shall at such Meeting, by Ballot, in Manner aforesaid, elect a Committee of Eleven out of the Governors residing within the District, and qualified as aforesaid, which shall be called The Committee of Buildings and Rates; and shall afterwards, in like Manner, at the same Meeting, elect one other Committee of Seven out of the said Governors, which shall be called The Committee of Trade and Manufactures: And the Committees being so constituted, shall severally proceed to appoint a Clerk to enter the Minutes of their Proceedings; and they shall fix a proper Salary for such Clerk, which shall be paid Quarterly by the Treasurer of the said District; and the Governors composing the said Committees, or the major Part of them, shall, on the Day of their Election, or within Three Days after,

The Governors to choose, by Ballot, Eleven resident Governors to be a Committee of Buildings and Rates;

and another, of Seven, to be a Committee of Trade and Manufactures:

Each Committee to appoint a Clerk to attend them, with a Salary.

The Committees jointly to appoint a Clerk and Treasurer for the District.

( 8 )

after, jointly nominate some fit Person to be Clerk and Treasurer for the said District, and fix a proper Salary for his Trouble; which Treasurer shall give such Security by Bond to the Governors, as the said Committees, who shall so nominate him, shall direct and approve, for his duly accounting for the Money which shall come to his Hands under the Authority of this Act, in the Form or to the Effect contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed: And the said several Committees shall meet and adjourn themselves, and act, from Time to Time, as they shall think fit, for the several Purposes hereafter mentioned; that is to say, The Committee of Buildings and Rates, or the major Part of them from Time to Time assembled, such major Part not being less than Five; and the said Committee of Trade and Manufactures, or the major Part of them from Time to Time assembled, such major Part not being less than Three.

Treasurer to give Security,

Quorum of those Committees.

To facilitate Elections of Committees by Ballot, Lists of qualified Persons to be fixed up in the Election Room.

Provided always, and be it further Enacted, That in order to facilitate the Election of every Committee hereby directed to be chose by Ballot, no Person shall be capable of being elected upon any such Committee, but those who shall be previously nominated by some Governor, and whose Names shall be inserted in separate Papers for each Committee, where there shall be more than One, to be fixed in some conspicuous Part of the Room where such Election shall be made, specifying the Titles of each Committee, before the Election

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tion shall begin, that the Governors may inspect the same, and insert in their several Lists such Names whom they shall think most proper for that Committee.

Provided also, and be it further Enacted, That the Ballot for the First of the said Committees, where there shall be more than One, shall be cast up and scrutinized, and the Committee named, before the Ballot for the next Committee shall begin, to the Intent that any Governor present may put in Nomination for such other Committee, any of those who were inserted in the said Paper for the First Committee, but not elected thereupon.

The First Ballot to be cast up before the Second is begun;

that Persons put in Nomination for the First Committee, and not chose, may be put in Nomination for the other.

And be it further Enacted, That the said Committee of Buildings and Rates shall, and they are hereby impowered and required, as soon as conveniently may be, to inform themselves, by all proper Enquiries, of the Number of Poor of each Class which may be likely to be sent to the House of Industry for that District, under the Provisions and Regulations of this Act; and to procure a Plan of proper Buildings for the Reception, Accommodation, and Employment of such Poor, according to the Directions and true Intent and Meaning of this Act, with an Estimate of the Expences of executing the same; which Plan and Estimate shall be laid before the said Committee of Trade and Manufactures; and that the said Committee of Buildings and Rates, and the Committee of Trade and Manufactures, shall confer together, and fix upon

The Committee of Buildings and Rates to inform themselves of the Number of Poor of each Class likely to be sent to their House of Industry;

and to procure a Plan of proper Buildings for their Reception, &c.

and Estimates of Expence of executing such Plan.

Both Committees to confer and fix on the Plan,

( 10 )

upon that or some other Plan for the said Buildings, as they, or the major Part of them, jointly, shall think most proper for the several Purposes of this Act, having Regard to the Limitations herein made, of the Sums to be expended in such Buildings, and the Furniture thereof; and the said Committee of Buildings and Rates shall also, as soon as conveniently may be, enter into Contract or Contracts for the absolute Purchase in Fee Simple of any Quantity of Land, or for the renting any Lands, or for the purchasing, hiring, or renting any Buildings; and for the inclosing and improving, with Leave of the Lord of the Manor, if he is willing to contract, (on making Compensation as hereafter mentioned) any Waste or Common Grounds within such District, and at or near the Place so to be appointed, for the House and Buildings aforesaid, which by the said Committee shall be deemed most fit and convenient; so that the Lands, to be so purchased, rented, or inclosed, shall not, at the Time of purchasing, renting, or contracting for the same, exceed, in the Whole, the Yearly Value or Rent of One hundred Pounds.

The Committee of Buildings and Rates to contract for Purchase or Hire of Lands or Buildings;

and for inclosing Part of any Common or Waste, with Lord of Manor's Leave, on making Compensation.

Annual Value limited.

Committee of Buildings and Rates to cause the Buildings to be erected or provided;

And be it further Enacted, That the Committee of Buildings and Rates within each respective District, shall and may, and they are hereby required, as soon as conveniently may be (after the entering into such Contract or Contracts for the purchasing, hiring, or renting of Lands, Buildings, or Waste and Common Grounds as aforesaid, and after having a Plan for the Buildings settled and approved

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approved by the said Committees as aforesaid) to build and erect such Building or Buildings, or to alter, fit up, and repair, any old Building or Buildings, then in being (if such shall be agreed upon and approved by the said Committees) with all convenient Speed, in a plain and durable Manner, on the Lands or Waste and Common Grounds so to be purchased, hired, or rented, as aforesaid, for the Reception, Accommodation, and Employment of the several poor Persons who may be sent thither, under the Powers and Authorities, and for the Purposes of this Act; and both the said Committees, in fixing the Plan, and the said Committee of Buildings and Rates, in executing the same, shall have particular Regard to the Accommodation of the sickly, aged, and infirm Poor; and shall provide Apartments for married People separate from the others; and also a proper Building, A Pest House, as a Pest House, detached from the other Buildings, for the Reception and Accommodation of such Persons who shall have infectious Disorders; and also One other convenient Building, apart and detached from the rest, to serve as a House of Correction, for the confining, and keeping to hard Labour, such Persons who shall, by the Laws of the Realm, be sent to the House of Correction for Punishment, and also all such poor Persons, who, being able, shall refuse to work, or otherwise misbehave themselves; and shall also, in such Building for a House of Correction, provide some separate Apartments for the Reception of the most disorderly, to prevent their corrupting the rest, either by bad Example or Advice: And

having Regard to the Accommodation of the Sickly, Aged, and Infirm.

Apartments for married People.

A Pest House.

House of Correction.

( 12 )

Utensils and Furniture to be provided.

The Expence of the Whole not to exceed Two Years and an Half Income arising from the Poors Rates in the District.

Buildings to be provided by Contracts, to be advertised.

And the said Committee of Buildings and Rates shall also provide proper Utensils for such Buildings, and all proper and suitable Furniture for the several Apartments therein; so that they do not expend in the Whole, for the Purchase of such Lands and Buildings, and in the building, altering, fitting up, and furnishing the same, more than Two Years and an Half's Income or Revenue arising from the Poors Rates within the several Parishes and Places in each respective District, according to the several Assessments to be rated, assessed, and charged as hereafter mentioned: And the said Committee shall, and is hereby required, before any such Buildings shall be undertaken or begun, to cause Advertisements to be inserted in some public News Paper or News Papers circulated within that District, and on the Market Crosses, or other public Places, within Three of the next Market Towns, specifying that the said Buildings (referring to the Plan agreed upon) are to be erected, altered, or repaired, as the Case shall be, by Contract, together, or in Parts, as they shall think most proper, and fixing a Day and Place (not less than Thirty Days from the Time of such Advertisement) when they will be attended with Proposals from any Person or Persons inclined to undertake the said Buildings, or any Part thereof respectively; and upon or after such Day, the said Committee shall, and is hereby required to contract by Writing for such Buildings, with such Person or Persons whom they shall think most likely to furnish the best Materials, and to perform such Work in the most substantial and satisfactory Manner;

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Manner; and the said Committee of Buildings and Rates is also required to superintend and direct the said Works and Buildings, until they shall be completed, with the Assistance of the Clerk to be appointed by them as aforesaid; and the said Committee shall have Power to draw upon the Treasurer of the said District, from Time to Time, for such Sum and Sums of Money as shall be ordered by the Governors at their Quarterly Meetings, for discharging the Expences in executing the several Matters referred to them as aforesaid: Provided always, That no Contract shall be made or entered into by the said Committee of Buildings and Rates, for Work, Materials, Goods, or Furniture, which shall amount to Twenty Pounds or upwards, unless public Notice shall previously be given, and a Time fixed for receiving Proposals concerning the same, in Manner aforesaid.

The Committee to superintend the Buildings, and to draw on the Treasurer for the Money;

as shall be ordered by the Governors at Quarterly Meetings.

And be it further Enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Ecclesiastical or Civil, Husbands, Guardians, Trustees, and Feoffees in Trust, Committees, Executors, Administrators, and all other Trustees whatever, not only for and on Behalf of themselves, their Heirs and Successors, but also for and on Behalf of their Cestuique Trusts, whether Infants, or Issue unborn, Lunatics, Idiots, Femes Covert, or other Person or Persons, and to and for all Femes Covert who are or shall be seised or interested in their own Right, and to and for all and every other Person or Persons whatsoever, who are or shall

Enabling incapacitated Persons to sell or lease.

shall be seised, possessed of, or interested in, any Lands, Buildings, or Waste and Common Grounds, which shall be convenient for the Purposes herein mentioned, to contract for, sell, lease, and convey unto the said Governors for the Time being, all or any Part of such Lands and Buildings, or Waste and Common Grounds, for the Use of the said Governors; and that all such Contracts, Agreements, Sales, Conveyances, and Assurances, shall be valid and effectual in the Law, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, any Law, Statute, Usage, or Custom to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding; and all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, and all Persons whatsoever, so conveying or leasing as aforesaid, are hereby indemnified for what he, she, they, or any of them, shall respectively do by virtue and in pursuance of this Act.

Where Contract is made for Waste or Common, the Lord of the Manor to grant it in Fee on a reserved Rent.

Provided always, and be it further Enacted, That where Contracts shall be made for such Waste and Common Grounds, the Lord or Lords of the Manor shall, and he and they is and are hereby authorized to grant the Fee Simple thereof to the Corporation of such District, on which Grant a perpetual Rent shall be reserved, according to the then Value of such Waste and Common Grounds; One Fifteenth Part of the said Rent to be reserved to the Lord of such Manor, and his Heirs, or to such Person or Persons Use or Uses as such Manor shall stand limited by any Settlement or Settlements, together with all Mines and Minerals in and under the same; and the Residue thereof to be reserved and

One Fifteenth Part whereof shall go to the Lord of the Manor;

and the Residue to the Overseers of the Poor of the Parishes having Right of Common,

and made payable to the respective Overseers of the Poor of the several Parishes, Townships or Places, wherein such Common or Waste Ground shall lie, and their Successors, to be by them from Year to Year applied in Aid of the Poores Rates of such respective Parishes, Townships, or Places, in such Proportions as shall be agreed upon between such Overseers for the Time being, and the said Committee.

And be it further Enacted, That all Sums of Money, which are to be paid to any Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Ecclesiastical or Civil, Feoffees in Trust, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, Committees, or other Trustees whatsoever, for or on Behalf of any Infants, Lunatics, Idiots, Femes Covert, or other Cestuique Trusts, or to any other Person or Persons whose Lands are limited in strict Settlement, for the Purchase of any Lands or Grounds as aforesaid, shall, in case the same shall exceed the Sum of Twenty Pounds, be laid out by such Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Ecclesiastical or Civil, Feoffees in Trust, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, Committees, or other Trustees, Person or Persons, seised of Lands or Grounds so limited in strict Settlement, as soon as conveniently may be, in the Purchase of Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments in Fee Simple, and conveyed to, or to the Use of, such Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Ecclesiastical or Civil, Feoffees in Trust, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, Committees, or other Trustees, or to and for such other

Money to be paid to Corporations, &c. to be laid out in the Purchase of Estates for the like Uses, in case it exceeds 20/.

( 16 )

Other Person or Persons, and for such Estate; and to, for, upon, and subject to, such Uses, Trusts, Limitations, Remainders, and Contingencies, as the Lands or Grounds for or in respect whereof such Purchase Money shall be so paid as aforesaid, were limited, settled, and assured, at the Time such Purchase or Contract was made as aforesaid (the Charges of such Conveyances and Settlements to be paid out of the Monies arising by this Act) and in the mean Time, and until such Purchase or Purchases shall be made, the said Money shall be laid out by such Bodies Politic, or other Persons entitled to receive the same as aforesaid, in some of the public Funds, or on Government or Real Securities, in the Name of Two or more Persons, one to be nominated by the Party or Parties interested therein, and the other by the said Governors, at some public Meeting held under the Authority of this Act; and the Interest arising, or to be produced from such Funds or Securities, shall be paid to such Person or Persons respectively as would for the Time being be entitled to the Rents and Profits of such Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments so to be purchased, in case the same were purchased and settled pursuant to the Tenor and true Meaning of this Act.

And in the mean Time to be placed out in the Funds.

If Lords of Manors refuse to treat for Waste Lands, the Value to be ascertained by a Jury.

And be it further Enacted, That if any such Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Ecclesiastical or Civil, Husbands, Guardians, Trustees, and Feoffees in Trust, Committees, Executors, Administrators, or any other Person or Persons interested in any Waste or Common Lands, which may be wanted for any of the Purposes

( 17 )

Purposes of this Act, as Lord or Lords of the Manor, upon Notice to him, her, or them given, or left in Writing at the House or Houses, or other Place or Places of Abode, of such Person or Persons, or of the principal Officer or Officers of any such Body Politic or Corporate, shall, for the Space of Twenty-one Days next after such Notice given or left, neglect or refuse to treat, or shall not agree in the Premises, or by reason of Absence shall be prevented from treating, then, and in every such Case, any Three or more Justices of the Peace of the County, Riding, Division, Soke, Franchise, Precinct, Liberty, City, County Corporate, or Place, where such Common or Waste Land shall lie, shall, and are hereby authorized and required to enquire into and ascertain the annual Value of such Common or Waste Land proposed to be taken by the said Governors, for any of the Purposes of this Act, by a Jury of indifferent Men of such County, Riding, Division, Soke, Franchise, Precinct, Liberty, City, County Corporate, or Place as aforesaid; and the said Justices shall summon and call before such Jury, and examine upon Oath, any Person or Persons whomsoever (which Oath any One or more of the said Justices is and are empowered to administer) and such Justices shall, by ordering a View or otherwise, use all Ways and Means, as well for their own as for the said Jury's Information in the Premises; and after the said Jury shall have inquired of and ascertained the annual Value of such Common or Waste Land, they the said Justices shall thereupon order, adjudge, and determine, that the Sum or Sums of Money, which shall so appear to be the annual Value of such

C Common

Common or Waste Land, shall be the Rent to be thereafter for ever paid to the Lord or Lords of the said Manor, and to the Overseers of the Poor of the Parishes, Townships, or Places, or of the Parish, Township, or Place, where such Waste or Common Lands shall lie, as a full Equivalent and Compensation for such Waste or Common Land, in the Proportions following; that is to say, One Fifteenth Part of such annual Rent to the Lord or Lords of such Manor for the Time being, and the Residue and Remainder thereof to such Overseer or Overseers of the Poor, to be applied in Aid of their respective Poors Rates, according to the Interest of their respective Parishes or Places in such Waste or Common Lands, to be settled and ascertained by such Jury; which said Verdict or Inquisition, and Judgment, Order, and Determination thereupon, shall be final, binding, and conclusive, to all Intents and Purposes, against all Persons and Parties whomsoever, claiming or to claim, in Possession, Remainder, Reversion, or otherwise, their Heirs and Successors, as well absent as present, Infants, Femes Covert, Lunatics, Idiots, and Persons under any Disability whatsoever, Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Ecclesiastical or Civil, Husbands, Guardians, Trustees, and Feoffees in Trust, Committees, Executors, Administrators, or any other Person or Persons whatsoever; and for summoning and returning such Juries, the said Justices are hereby empowered to issue their Warrant or Warrants to the Sheriff of the respective County, Riding, Division, Soke, Franchise, Precinct, Liberty, City, County Corporate, or Place, requiring

Verdict of the Jury to be final.

Method of calling a Jury.

requiring him to impanel, summon, and return, an indifferent Jury of Twenty-four Persons, qualified to serve upon Juries, to appear before the said Justices at such Time and Place, within the Limits of their Jurisdiction, as in such Warrant or Warrants shall be appointed; and such respective Sheriff, or his Deputy or Deputies, is and are hereby required to impanel, summon, and return such Number of Persons accordingly; and out of the Persons so summoned, impanelled, and returned, or out of such of them as shall appear upon such Summons, the said Justices shall, and they are hereby empowered and required to draw by Ballot, and to swear, or cause to be sworn, Twelve Men, who shall be the Jury for the Purposes aforesaid; and, in Default of a sufficient Number of Jurymen so returned, the said Sheriff, or his Deputy or Deputies, or the said Justices, shall return such other honest and indifferent Men of the Standers-by, or that can speedily be procured to attend that Service, to make up the Number of Twelve; and all Persons concerned shall have their lawful Challenges against any of the said Jurymen, when they come to be sworn; and the said Justices shall have Power, from Time to Time, to impose any reasonable Fine or Fines upon such Sheriff, his Deputy or Deputies, Bailiffs, or Agents, making Default in the Premises, and on any of the Persons that shall be summoned and returned on such Jury, and who shall not appear, or appearing shall refuse to be sworn on the said Jury, or being so sworn shall refuse to give, or not give, a Verdict, or shall in any other Manner wilfully neglect their Duty therein, contrary to the true Intent

Jury may be challenged.

Persons neglecting their Duty to be fined.

( 20 )

tent and Meaning of this Act, and on any of the Persons who being required to give Evidence before the said Jury, shall refuse or neglect to appear, or appearing shall refuse to be sworn and examined, or to give Evidence; so that no such Fine be more than Ten Pounds, nor less than Two Pounds, on any one Person for one Offence.

By whom the Expences of the Jury shall be borne.

And be it further Enacted, That in case any Jury shall give in and deliver a Verdict for more Money, as an annual Rent for such Waste or Common Land, than what shall have been agreed to and offered by the said Governors before the summoning and returning the Jury, as an annual Rent for the same as aforesaid, that then, and in such Case, the Costs and Expences of summoning and maintaining the Jury and Witnesses shall be borne and paid by the said Governors, out of the Money to be raised by the Authority of this Act; but if such Jury shall give and deliver a Verdict for no more, or for less, Money than shall have been agreed to and offered by the said Governors before the summoning and returning the said Jury, as an annual Rent for such Waste or Common Land as aforesaid, that then the Costs and Expences of summoning and maintaining the said Jury and Witnesses shall be borne and paid by the Person or Persons with whom the said Governors shall have such Controversy or Dispute.

A General Fund to be provided in each County from the Poor Rates.

And be it further Enacted, That, for executing the several Powers and Purposes of this Act, One general Fund shall be provided

( 21 )

provided from the Poores Rates, within each respective County, to be assessed, adjusted, and proportioned as hereafter mentioned; that is to say, Each Parish, Township, and Place, shall contribute in Proportion to the Sum which shall have been assessed, raised, and expended for the Use or on Account of the Poor within the same respectively, (exclusive of such other Payments as shall have been defrayed out of the Poores Rates) upon a Medium of the last Seven Years preceding the Feast of *Easter* One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy-five: And in order to ascertain what Sums have been so assessed, raised, or expended, the said Committee of Buildings and Rates within such District as aforesaid shall and may, and they are hereby empowered and required, within their respective Districts, to inspect the Books, Assessments, Rates, Levies, and Accounts of the respective Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor; and such Churchwardens and Overseers, or One of them, or some Person for them, or such other Person or Persons who shall have the Custody of such Assessments, Rates, Levies, Books, or Accounts, or any of them, in each respective Parish, Township, or Place, within such District, shall, and they are hereby required, upon Notice in Writing, signed by Five of the said Committee, being delivered to them respectively, or left at their respective Places of Abode, at least Seven Days before the Meeting of the said Committee, to attend the said Committee with such Assessments, Rates, Levies, Books, or Accounts, which they shall have in their respective Custodies or Power, relative to the Poor, for all or any of the Seven Years preceding the said

Each Parish, &c. to contribute in Proportion to the Sum raised on Account of the Poor, on a Medium of the last Seven Years.

Parish Books, &c. may be inspected by the Committee of Buildings and Rates, in order to ascertain the Sums.



( 22 )

Feast of *Easter*, and shall leave such Assessments, Rates, Levies, Books, or Accounts, in the Custody of the said Committee, to the End that they may examine the same, and fix and ascertain the Proportions to be observed, as above directed, in assessing the several Parishes, Townships, and Places, in each District, which they are hereby authorized and required to fix and ascertain accordingly; and if such Assessments, Rates, Levies, Books, or Accounts, shall not be produced, the said Committee shall examine any Person or Persons upon Oath, concerning the same; and such Committee shall return such Assessments, Rates, Levies, Books, and Accounts, to the respective Churchwardens and Overseers of such respective Parish, Township, or Place, for the Time being, whenever they, or any of them, shall demand the same, after the Expiration of Twenty-one Days from the Delivery thereof to the said Committee.

In case the Books, &c. are lost or withheld, the Committee may assess the Parish, &c. at the highest Rate within the Seven Years.

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That in case all or any such Assessments, Rates, Levies, Books, or Accounts, for any Parish, Township, or Place, shall be lost, mislaid, or wilfully withheld from the said Committee at such Meeting, the said Committee are hereby authorized to assess such Parish, Township, or Place, at the highest Sum, at which, from the best Evidence or Information so to be collected as aforesaid, they shall appear to have been rated in any One Year within the said Seven Years, and if either Evidence or Information shall be withheld concerning the same, at such Sum as the said Committee shall, in their Discretion, think fit.

Provided

( 23 )

Provided also, That if there shall be any Parish, Township, or Place, within such District, in which there shall have been no Poors Rates within the said Seven Years, or where the Poors Rates have not amounted, on a Medium of such Seven Years, to Six Pence in the Pound, according to the annual Value of the rateable Property there, the said Committee is hereby authorized and required to assess such Parish, Township, or Place, notwithstanding, at their Discretion, but so as not to exceed Six Pence in the Pound on such first Assessment, according to the annual Value of the Property rateable therein as aforesaid.

Where no Poors Rate shall have been made within the Seven Years, amounting to Six Pence in the Pound, the Committee may assess the Parish, &c. to Six Pence in the Pound.

And be it further Enacted, That the said Committee of Buildings and Rates within each respective District, shall, and are hereby required, at the next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the County, Riding, Division, Soke, Francise, Precinct, Liberty, City, County Corporate, or Place, wherein such District, or the major Part thereof, shall be situate, after they shall have settled, adjusted, and ascertained the Sum which each Parish, Township, and Place, hath so raised and applied, as aforesaid, on a Medium of the said Seven Years, certify and return the same to the said Court of Quarter Sessions; and the Justices of Peace constituting such Court shall, and are hereby required to record the same with the Clerk of the Peace.

The Committee to certify to the Quarter Sessions the Sums ascertained on each Parish, &c. and the same to be recorded.

Provided always, and be it further Enacted, That no Governor shall act in the ascertaining and determining the Assessments for any Parish, Township, or Place, where he hath

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any Estate or Property chargeable to the Poores Rates, but shall withdraw from the rest of the Committee whilst the Assessment for such Parish, Township, or Place, shall be under Consideration.

No Parish compellable to raise more in any Year than the Sum so ascertained.

Provided also, and be it further Enacted, That no Parish, Township, or Place, shall be obliged or compellable to contribute more in any One Year to the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor, under the Directions and Regulations of this Act, than the Sum so to be ascertained and certified as aforesaid, for the Medium of their Contribution for the said Seven Years, any Law or Statute to the contrary notwithstanding.

Lands or Buildings used for the Purposes of the Act, not to be taxed higher than before, nor at all to the Window Tax or County Rates.

Provided also, and be it further Enacted, That in all future Rates, Taxes, and Levies, to be made for any Parish or Place wherein any Lands, Grounds, or Buildings, which shall be purchased, hired, or rented, for the Purposes of this Act, shall be situate, such Lands, Grounds, or Buildings, shall not be assessed to the Land Tax, Poor, Church, or Constables Rate, at any higher Value or improved Rent than they were at the Time of such Purchase, nor shall ever be assessed to the Window Tax, nor to the County Rates.

Persons aggrieved by Assessments, or Orders of Justices, may appeal to Quarter Sessions.

Provided also, and be it further Enacted, That if any Person or Persons within any Parish, Township, or Place, in any District, shall be aggrieved by any Assessment, Levy, or Rate to be made by the said Committee touching the Proportions aforesaid, or by the Overseers of the Poor of any Parish, Township, or Place, for collecting the Money to be

be assessed under the Authority of this Act, or by any Order made by any Justice of Peace, in Execution of any of the Powers or Authorities of this Act, it shall and may be lawful for such Person or Persons to appeal to the next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, to be held for the respective County, Riding, Division, Soke, Franchise, Liberty, City, County Corporate, or Place, wherein such Complaint shall arise; so that the Person or Persons so appealing do give Six Days Notice at least of such Appeal, to the Clerk of such District where the Appeal shall be, against the Proceedings of such Committee, or to the Overseers of the Poor, or Justice of Peace, respectively, against whose Proceedings such Appeal shall be made; and the Justices of the Peace, at such respective Quarter Sessions, shall and may hear and determine such Appeals in such Manner as they shall think just; and the Judgment of such Justices shall be final.

Provided also, and be it further Enacted, That this Act shall not extend to hinder or prevent the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor for any Parish, Township, or Place, within any such District, from assessing or raising any Sum or Sums of Money to make any Payment or Payments which is or are directed and required by any Law in being to be made out of the Poores Rates; but such Sum and Sums of Money shall and may be assessed and raised separately for such Purposes, over and above the Sums to be assessed and raised under the Authority of this Act, and shall be accounted for in such Manner as if this Act had not been made.

All other Payments usually made out of Poores Rates, to be raised as heretofore;

and assessed separately.

And

The Committee of Trade and Manufactures to adopt proper Plans for Employment of the Poor of both Sexes and all Ages;

And be it further Enacted, That the said Committee of Trade and Manufactures shall, as soon as conveniently may be after they shall have been so elected as aforesaid, form and adopt some proper Plan or Plans for the Employment of the Poor of both Sexes, and of all Ages, who shall be able to work, within their respective Districts; and, in order to facilitate the Introduction of such Plan into their respective Houses of Industry, as soon as the Buildings shall be completed, the said Committee shall, and they are hereby authorized and required, as soon as they have formed any such Plan, to carry the same into Execution within One or more Workhouse or Workhouses, or other Buildings, which they shall find most convenient, within their respective Districts, by employing the Poor of such Parishes and Places therein, which shall lie near to such Workhouses, or other Buildings; and the said Committee are hereby authorized to hire proper Buildings for that Purpose, if no Workhouses can be conveniently procured, and also proper Persons to instruct such Poor in the several Branches of Work or Manufacture in which they shall be employed; and the said Committee are also hereby authorized to purchase proper Utensils, Stock, and Materials, for the Employment of the said Poor as aforesaid; and all Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor within the respective Parishes, Townships, and Places, where such Work and Manufactures shall be thought fit by the said Committee to be carried on, or whose Poor shall be employed by them therein, shall, and are hereby required to be aiding and assisting to the

and may hire Buildings for such Purpose, where no Workhouse can be conveniently procured; and employ Persons to instruct the Poor in the several Branches of Work;

and may purchase Stock and Materials.

Churchwardens and Overseers to be assisting.

the said Committee in the Business aforesaid, and shall send from amongst their Poor, Persons capable of working, to be employed and instructed therein; and the Expences of hiring the Buildings, hiring the Teachers, and of buying the Utensils, for carrying on such Employment and Manufactures, shall be paid by the Treasurer of each respective District out of the Money to be borrowed for the Purposes of this Act, and the same shall be repaid out of the Assessments to be made within the first Two Years after the Buildings shall be completed, as hereafter mentioned; and all the Expences of purchasing Stock and Materials shall be paid by the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the several Parishes or Places where such Work shall be carried on, or whose Poor shall be employed therein; and such Churchwardens and Overseers shall have and receive, for the Use of such Parish or Place, the Goods so to be worked or manufactured by their respective Poor, and the Clerk of the Committee shall, for that Purpose, keep a separate and distinct Account of the Expences and Earnings within every such Parish or Place.

Expences of Buildings, Teachers, and Utensils, to be paid for by the Treasurer of the District.

Expences of Stock and Materials to be paid for by Churchwardens and Overseers;

who are to have the Goods manufactured by their Poor.

And be it further Enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Governors of each respective District, at their respective Quarterly Meetings hereafter appointed, to borrow and take up at Interest, from Time to Time, such Sum and Sums of Money as shall be necessary for the purchasing such Lands, and erecting and furnishing such Buildings as aforesaid, not exceeding in the Whole, for each District, the Amount of Two Years

Governors at Quarterly Meetings may borrow Money at Interest for purchasing Lands, and erecting and furnishing Buildings, not exceeding Two Years and an Half Medium Average of Poores Rates in Seven Years;

Years and an Half of the Medium or Average of the Money raised and applied for the Use or on Account of the Poor within the said Seven Years, so to be ascertained, valued, and recorded, as aforesaid, and to assign over by Writing, without Stamps, under the Common Seal of the said Corporation, in the Form and to the Effect specified in the Schedule hereunto annexed, all or any of the Poores Rates, to be collected within such respective District, as a Security for the Re-payment of the Principal and Interest of the Monies so to be borrowed, in such Manner as hereinafter mentioned, (the Charges of such Assignments to be paid out of the Monies to be raised by virtue of this Act;) and Copies of all such Assignments shall be entered in a Book or Books, to be kept by the Clerk belonging to the said District, and Extracts thereof transmitted to the Justices of Peace at their next General Quarter Sessions, and kept by them on Record there; and all and every Person and Persons to whom any such Assignment shall be made, or who shall be entitled to the Money thereby secured, is and are hereby empowered, from Time to Time, by an Instrument under his, her, or their Hand or Hands, to be indorsed on the Back of his, her, or their Security, or by any other Writing or Writings, to be executed under his, her, or their Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals, in the Presence of Two or more credible Witnesses, without Stamps, in the Words or to the Effect contained in the said Schedule, to transfer his, her, or their Right to the Principal and Interest Money thereby secured; all which Transfers shall, within One Calendar Month next after the Date thereof, be notified and produced

And may assign the Rates for a Security.

Assignments to be entered in Books by District Clerk, and Extracts transmitted to the Quarter Sessions to be recorded.

Assignments may be transferred.

produced to the Clerk of the said District, who shall cause an Entry to be made thereof, containing the Date, the Names of the Parties, and Witnesses, and of the Sum of Money therein mentioned, to be transferred in the said Book or Books, to be kept for entering the said original Assignment; and for each of such Entries the said Clerk shall be paid the Sum of Two Shillings and Six Pence, and no more; and the said Clerk of the Peace shall be paid the Sum of Five Shillings for recording the said Certificate, and the Sum of Two Shillings and Six Pence for recording each of the said Securities.

And be it further Enacted, That there shall be Four General Quarterly Meetings held by the Governors for the Time being, at the House to be provided within each District, in every Year, in the Week next preceding every General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, on a certain Day, within each of those Weeks, to be fixed by the Governors of each District, at their First Meeting after the District shall be so formed and certified as aforesaid, and the same shall be notified by public Advertisement in some News Paper circulated within each respective District; and One of such Quarterly Meetings, *videlicet*, that to be held in the Week next before the *Michaelmas* Quarter Sessions of the Peace, shall be held on the *Tuesday* in such Week, and shall be the General Annual Meeting of the Governors within each respective District, for the several Purposes of this Act.

The Governors to hold Quarterly Meetings in the Weeks preceding the Quarter Sessions.

And be it further Enacted, That, besides the said Quarterly Meetings, there shall be held, After Buildings completed, Governors to hold Monthly Meetings in each District,

( 30 )

held, after the said Buildings shall be completed, and so certified by the Governors, pursuant to the Directions of this Act, a Monthly Meeting of the Governors within each District, for the better Execution of the several Purposes of this Act, on a certain Day in each Month, to be appointed by the Governors at their said First Meeting after the Buildings shall be completed.

Accounts to be stated at each Quarterly Meeting;

and transmitted, under Corporation Seal, to the Quarter Sessions;

to enable the Justices to order proper Assessments for the succeeding Quarter.

Justices to order the Assessment of One Fourth Part of the Annual Medium,

And be it further Enacted, That, at every such Quarterly Meeting of the Governors, a State of all the Receipts and Disbursements within each District, for the preceding Quarter, distinguishing the Sums received from each Parish, Township, and Place, respectively, and the Balance in the Treasurer's Hands, shall be prepared, and certified under the Corporation Seal, and transmitted by the Clerk of each District to the Justices of Peace at their then next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the County, Riding, Division, Soke, Franchise, Liberty, City, County Corporate, or Place, having Quarter Sessions of the Peace, wherein every such District, or the greater Part thereof, shall lie or be situated, with Intent to enable such Justices to order proper Assessments to be made for the succeeding Quarter; and the said Justices, at each of their respective Quarter Sessions, shall, and are hereby authorized and required, from and after the Buildings shall be completed, and so certified as aforesaid, to order an Assessment upon every Parish, Township, and Place, within each respective District, of One Fourth Part of the respective Sums so to be

( 31 )

be charged and ascertained as aforesaid for the annual Medium of the said Seven preceding Years, and for the levying and paying thereof respectively to the Treasurer of each respective District, whose Receipt shall be a legal Discharge to the Person paying the same, and shall continue such Orders at every Quarter Sessions, until a Reduction can be afforded in the said Assessments, and the same shall be agreed upon and ordered at a General Meeting of the Committee of Governors for the whole County wherein such Districts shall lie, in the Manner hereinafter mentioned; and the Clerk of each respective District shall, and is hereby required to transmit or deliver a Copy of such Order of the said Court of Quarter Sessions to one of the Overseers of the Poor of every Parish, Township, and Place, within such District; and the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of every such Parish, Township, and Place, shall, and are hereby required, within One Calendar Month after a Copy of such Order shall be so delivered as aforesaid, with as much Equality and Indifference as possible, to assess and raise, by Taxation of every Inhabitant, Parson, Vicar, and others, and of every Occupier of Lands, Houses, Tenements, Tythes Improprate, Propriation of Tythes, Coal Mines, or saleable Underwoods, in their respective Parishes, Townships, and Places, so much Money as shall be ordered upon such respective Parishes, Townships, and Places, by the said Court of Quarter Sessions; for all which Sums of Money so ordered by the said Court, and assessed by the said Churchwardens

until a Reduction can be afforded.

Overseers, on Receipt of the Order, to assess and raise the Money.

dens and Overseers of the Poor, in case of any Deficiency, the Parishioners and Inhabitants of the respective Parishes, Townships, and Places, wherein such Sums of Money shall be so ordered and assessed, shall be answerable and compellable to pay upon a Re-assessment, which in that case is hereby directed to be made by the said Churchwardens and Overseers in Manner aforesaid; and such Assessments, and also such Re-assessments, shall be assessed, levied, and recovered in such and the like Manner, and by such and the same Authority, as Money assessed for the Relief of the Poor is, by the Laws now in being, to be levied and recovered, and with the same Right of Appeal to Persons aggrieved, any Thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

Until Buildings completed, Interest of Money borrowed to be paid out of the Money in the Treasurer's Hands;

and repaid out of the Rates within the Two first Years:

And be it further Enacted, That until the said Buildings shall be completed, and so certified as aforesaid, the Interest of the Money to be borrowed for the said Purchases, Buildings, and Furniture, shall be paid by the Treasurer of each District, out of the Money which shall come to his Hands from such Principal Money so to be borrowed; and such Interest, together with the Money so to be paid by the Treasurer, for hiring Buildings, hiring Teachers, and buying Utensils, for employing the Poor as aforesaid, shall be repaid to or retained by him out of the Quarterly Assessments to be levied as aforesaid, within the first Two Years after the said Buildings shall be certified to be fit for the Reception of the Poor, by Eight equal Quarterly Payments, unless the Money to be borrowed

rowed under the Authority and Limitations of this Act, shall be found sufficient for those as well as the several other Purposes herein mentioned; and the growing Interest, from the Time such Buildings shall be so completed, shall be regularly paid as it shall become due; and, after the said Two Years, so much of the Principal Money shall be discharged within each Year as will amount to Five Pounds *per Centum* upon the whole Debt owing within each District, out of the Money to be raised by the said Assessments, if it shall be sufficient for that, as well as the other Purposes of this Act, and the same shall be charged in the respective Treasurer's Accounts.

and at the End of the Two Years, Five *per Cent.* of the Principal to be paid off Annually, out of the Money raised by Assessments.

And be it further Enacted, That the Governors in each District shall meet at the House of Industry there within Twenty-one Days after the Certificate as aforesaid shall be made of the Buildings being completed and fitted for the Reception of the Poor within that District, on a Day and at an Hour to be appointed by the said Committee of Buildings and Rates, of which the Clerk to the said District shall give Notice, by Advertisements to be fixed on the Market Cross, and other public Places in every Market Town within the said District, and likewise by Advertisements in the public News Papers, circulated within that District, in the Form or to the Effect contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed; and in order to enforce a due and equal Attendance of the Governors at the Monthly Meetings so required to be held as aforesaid, every Person qualified as aforesaid for a Governor, within each District, shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, by the

Governors of Districts to meet in House of Industry within Twenty-one Days after the Buildings completed.

For enforcing Attendance of Governors at Monthly Meetings.

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( 34 )

Governors to send in their Names  
and Places of Abode to the Clerk,  
on Pain of forfeiting 10/.

Hand of some other Governour, before Eleven o'Clock in the Forenoon of the Day so to be appointed as aforesaid for the Meeting of the Governors of the said District, to the Clerk of the said District, and also in like Manner at every Annual Meeting of the Governors hereby directed to be held for each respective District, his Name and Place of Abode, fairly wrote on a Piece of Paper, or, in Default thereof, shall forfeit the Sum of Ten Pounds; and the said Clerk shall, and is hereby required to write, or cause to be fairly wrote, before Twelve o'Clock on the Day of each of the said respective Meetings, upon a Roll of Parchment, to be by him prepared for that Purpose, a List of the Names and Places of Abode of all the Persons who shall have delivered or sent their Names as aforesaid, and also every such Name and Place of Abode on a separate Piece of Paper, of equal Size, as near as may be, and deliver the same respectively to the Governors then present, after having cast up, and figured at the Bottom of such List, the Total Number of Persons contained therein, and what the Twelfth Part thereof amounts to, and how many (if any) remain after the equal Distribution into Twelve Parts; and the Governors then present, after having elected a President or Chairman, shall cause the said separate Pieces of Paper to be rolled up and put into a Box, to be provided by the said Clerk for that Purpose; and if there shall happen any Fractional Numbers beyond the Twelve equal Numbers for each Month in the Year, there shall be one added to each Month, beginning with the Month of *October*, and proceeding to each

Governors to be drawn by Ballot  
for each Month's Attendance.

( 35 )

each successive Month, until they shall be all disposed of; and the President or Chairman shall publicly declare the Number of Governors contained in such List, who shall, according to the Regulation aforesaid, be required to attend the said Monthly Meeting, for each respective Month; and the said Clerk, or some Governor or Governors then present, shall, in the First Place, draw out of the said Box so many Names as are required, according to the Regulation aforesaid, to attend for the Month of *October*, and in like Manner for each succeeding Month; and the Names so drawn for each respective Month shall be entered by the Clerk, or some other Person, in the Presence and with the Approbation of the said Governors, separately and distinctly, in a Book to be provided by the Clerk for that Purpose; and the Persons to be so drawn as aforesaid for each respective Month, shall, and are hereby required to attend the Monthly Meeting of the Governors for the Month for which they shall be so drawn, or in Default thereof shall respectively forfeit the Sum of Ten Pounds.

Governors so elected to forfeit  
10/ for Non-Attendance.

Provided nevertheless, That if any of the Governors, who shall be present at such respective Meetings, shall then and there agree to exchange their Month's Attendance, and shall notify the same to the Clerk, he shall transfer their Names to the Months for which such Exchanges shall be made; and every Governor attending according to the Exchange so made, shall be excused the said Forfeiture.

Governors may exchange their  
Month's Attendances.

D 2

Provided

( 36 )

On what Conditions to be excused Attendance.

Provided also, That in Case any Governor, from Sickness or other unavoidable Cause (to be allowed by the Governors at their Monthly Meeting, where his Attendance was required) shall be unable to attend, and shall procure another Governor to attend in his Place, he shall be excused such Forfeiture for such Default of personal Attendance.

Further Regulation for enforcing Attendance of Governors at Monthly Meetings.

Provided also, and be it further Enacted, That if the said Meeting, at which the Roll for the Attendance of the Governors shall be fixed by Ballot as aforesaid, shall happen within Three Months of the Annual Meeting of the Governors so appointed as aforesaid, the First Ballot shall be for so many Months as will include those Months, with the Twelve Months of the succeeding Year, by dividing the Number of Governors into Fifteen, Fourteen, or Thirteen, instead of Twelve, as the Case shall require; and such additional Months shall be marked with the Addition of the Year of our Lord in which they shall be; but if the said Meeting shall happen above Three Months before the said Annual Meeting, the Ballot shall be divided into Twelve Months as aforesaid, and drawn for those Months only which shall intervene between the Time of such Ballot and the Annual Meeting of the Governors; and the Governors, who shall happen to be chose for those Months, shall serve for the same respectively, or pay such Forfeiture, as aforesaid for Non-attendance, unless such Person shall exchange with another Governor, or be excused on procuring another Governor to attend for him as aforesaid.

And

( 37 )

And be it further Enacted, That the Governors within each District may, and are hereby authorized, at their said First Meeting after the said Buildings shall be completed as aforesaid, or at any Annual Meeting to be held pursuant to this Act, to elect any Person or Persons residing within their respective Districts, though not qualified as hereinbefore directed, whom they shall think fit, to be Governors, provided they do not at any Time exceed the Number to be limited for that District by the Committee to be so first elected as aforesaid, and that every Governor so to be elected shall have such Qualification of One hundred Pounds per Annum as aforesaid, within some Part of His Majesty's Dominions.

Governors may, at their First or Annual Meetings, elect other Persons, with other Qualifications, to be Governors to a certain Number:

And be it further Enacted, That the said Governors shall also, at their said First and every Annual Meeting, appoint so many and such Persons (not being Churchwardens or Overseers of the Poor) to be Guardians of the Poor within their respective Districts, as they shall judge fit for that Office; so that every Person, so to be appointed a Guardian, shall either be a Rector, Vicar, or Curate, or have such Estate of such Quality as before described for the Qualification of a Governor, of the clear yearly Value of Twenty-five Pounds, or occupy Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, of the clear Yearly Value of Fifty Pounds.

And may appoint Guardians of the Poor for that District.

Guardians' Qualification.

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And



A Committee of Trade and Manufactures to be chosen by Ballot, by Governors, at their First Meeting, and at Annual Meetings afterwards.

And be it further Enacted, That at the said First Meeting of the Governors of each District, after the Buildings shall have been completed, and at every Annual Meeting of the Governors of each District, after the Year in which such First Meeting shall be held, they shall, in Manner aforesaid, elect by Ballot, a Committee of Seven Governors, who shall be a Committee of Trade and Manufactures; which Committee shall meet at the House of Industry, and adjourn themselves from Time to Time, as they shall think fit; and the Clerk of the District shall attend them, and enter the Minutes of their Proceedings in a Book to be provided and kept by him for that Purpose; and the said Committee shall confer and consult with the Governors, who composed the said former Committee of Trade and Manufactures, upon the Plan which may have been formed by such Committee for employing the Poor within such District, and adopt that or any other Plan which shall be better approved by the said Committee and the said other Governors, or the major Part of them, so collected, and the same shall be received and carried into Execution within such District, and shall not be thereafter varied or altered, except by the Direction of the Governors at some Annual Meeting; And the said Committee of Trade and Manufactures is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint One or more Person or Persons, whom they shall think well qualified, to instruct the Poor in the several Branches of Trade and Manufactures, in which

New Committee to confer with their Predecessors, and fix a Plan for employing the Poor;

which shall not be varied but at an Annual Meeting of Governors.

which they shall be so employed, and fix such Salaries or other Allowances as may be a Compensation for their Services, not exceeding One hundred Pounds *per Annum* in the Whole; and the said Committee shall give an Account to the Governors at their Monthly Meetings, of all Goods manufactured, and of all Materials and Utensils which may be wanted for carrying on such Trade or Manufactures, who shall order Notices to be given, by Advertisements in Manner aforesaid, for Persons inclined to furnish such Materials and Utensils, to deliver their Proposals in Writing at some Monthly Meeting of the Governors, who shall direct such Contracts to be made for the same as they shall think fit.

Committee to give Account to Governors, at their Monthly Meetings, of Materials wanting; who shall advertise for Persons to furnish the same.

And be it further Enacted, That all manufactured Goods, and other Goods and Chattels belonging to the said Corporation, which shall at any Time be sold and disposed of, shall be sold and disposed of, for ready Money, at some Monthly Meeting of the Governors, by Auction to the best Bidder, after giving public Notice thereof by Advertisements, in Manner before directed by this Act.

All manufactured Goods, &c. belonging to Corporations to be sold by Auction, at Monthly Meetings of Governors.

Provided always, and be it further Enacted, That no Person or Persons, who shall have been elected as aforesaid, and shall have served upon any Committee of Buildings and Rates, or of Trade and Manufactures, or upon the Committee of Charities hereafter mentioned, shall at any Time, within Three Years afterwards, be elected upon

No Person who shall have been elected on any Committee of Building, Trade, &c. or of Charity, shall be elected on any other Committee for the same Purpose, within the next Three Years, without his Consent.

( 40 )

any other Committees for the same Purpose, without his Consent.

Governors to choose a Committee who are to appoint Officers,

And be it further Enacted, That the Governours at their said First Meeting for every District, after the Buildings shall be certified to have been completed as aforesaid, shall, by Ballot in Manner aforesaid, elect Seven out of the Governours then present; which Seven Governours so elected shall constitute a Committee, which Committee, or the Major Part of them, such Major Part not being less than Three, shall forthwith, or within Six Days after, appoint One fit and proper Person to be the Master, and One other fit Person to be the Matron, One or more other fit Person or Persons to be Surgeon or Surgeons, One or more other fit Person or Persons to instruct the Children in Reading, and some Clergyman of the Church of *England*, to instruct the Persons so maintained in such House in the Principles of the Christian Religion, and the Children in the Church Catechism, and also to visit the Sick, and perform other Offices of his Function in such House; and the said Committee shall order such Salaries to each Person so to be appointed, as they shall think proper; which Salaries shall be paid Quarterly, by Four equal Payments, by the Treasurer of the District, out of the Money to arise under the Authority of this Act; and if any Vacancy shall happen after such Nomination, before the Annual Meeting of the Governours of such District in the Year next following, either by the Death, Resignation, or Removal of any Officer appointed under the

( 41 )

the Authority of this Act, such Committee shall nominate a fit Person or Persons to supply such Vacancy.

And be it further Enacted, That the said Governours, at every Annual Meeting within their respective Districts, (except at the Annual Meeting, which may happen within the Year in which such First Nomination shall be made) shall in like Manner elect by Ballot, out of the Governours then present, Seven Persons, who shall constitute a Committee for the Year then next ensuing; and such Committee, or the Major Part of them, such Major Part not being less than Three, shall, upon any Vacancy or Vacancies, by the Death, Resignation, or Removal of any of the Officers hereinbefore mentioned, appoint another fit Person or Persons to succeed him or them; but no such Officer shall be removed, except by the Governours at some Annual or Quarterly Meeting.

Governors at Annual Meetings to elect Seven to be a Committee for the Year ensuing, to fill-up Vacancies of Officers,

Provided always, and be it further Enacted, That if any One or more of the Governours so to be elected by Ballot at any of the Meetings aforesaid, shall immediately shew to the other Governours then present, sufficient Cause why he or they ought to be excused from that Duty, his or their Place or Places shall be immediately supplied, in each of such Ballots respectively, out of the Governor or Governours who stood next to him or them in Number of Votes, with Liberty for every One so added to shew Cause in like Manner as aforesaid; and on such Cause being allowed by the Governours,

On what Terms Governours may be excused acting, and how their Places shall be supplied.

( 42 )

Governors, their Places shall be supplied by the Person or Persons nearest to him or them upon the Ballot, in Manner aforesaid.

When Buildings are ready, Governors may order the Overseers to bring their Poor to the House of Industry.

And be it further Enacted, That the said Governors shall and may, at their said Meeting to be held next after the said Buildings shall be certified to be compleat as aforesaid, or afterwards, from Time to Time, at their Monthly Meetings, order and direct the Overseers of the Poor of the respective Parishes, Townships, and Places within that District, to take their Poor to the said House of Industry, on such Days respectively as the said Governors shall judge most proper and convenient and shall direct, for the Reception and Accommodation of the Poor of such District.

In the mean Time the Poor to remain under Care of Overseers.

Overseers to obey the Order of the Governors.

And be it further Enacted, That, until the Poor shall by such Order be required to be removed, they shall continue under the Government and Management of the respective Churchwardens and Overseers; but the respective Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of every Parish, Township, and Place, within every District where the Buildings shall be completed as aforesaid, shall, and they are hereby authorized and required forthwith, after such Order received by them from the Governors as aforesaid, to take, send, or convey, to the House or Houses so to be provided within such District, all poor Persons, within their respective Parishes, Townships, or Places, wanting Relief, and incapable of providing for themselves; and the Govern  
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( 43 )

nors for the Time being, and their Officers to be appointed as aforesaid, shall, and are hereby required to receive such Poor, and provide for them according to the Directions hereby given.

And be it further Enacted, That from and after the Poor shall have been so removed and conveyed to the said Houses, pursuant to the Directions aforesaid, the respective Parishes, Townships, or Places, from whence they shall have been so removed, shall be discharged of and from all Expences and Contributions towards their Relief and Maintenance, other than and except the Assessments and Contributions directed by the Authority of this Act to be levied and paid to the Treasurer of such District, any Law to the contrary notwithstanding.

When Poor delivered into House of Industry, their Parishes discharged from relieving them, other than by the Contributions directed by this Act.

And be it further Enacted, That the Guardians so to be appointed as aforesaid shall, and are hereby required, from Time to Time, to be aiding and assisting with their Advice to the Overseers of the Poor, in all Matters respecting the Execution of the several Purposes of this Act, within the respective Districts for which they shall be so appointed; and if the Overseers of the Poor shall at any Time find any of the poor Persons within their respective Parishes, Townships, or Places, in such a State as to make it dangerous to their Health to be removed, or affected with so slight a Disorder as may afford a Prospect of a speedy Recovery with a small Temporary Allowance, they shall, and are hereby required to consult One Governor, or  
Two

The Guardians to assist Overseers with their Advice.

In what Cases Temporary Allowances may be made by Overseers, and how they are to be reimbursed.

( 44 )

Two Guardians, acting within such District, and if they think such Person improper to be removed, such Governor, or Guardians respectively shall certify the same, with the Circumstances of the Case, and the Reasons which induce his or their Opinion thereupon, by Writing under his or their Hand or Hands, to the Governors, at their next Monthly Meeting, and may in such Certificate specify a Weekly or other Allowance to be made to such Person, until the Case shall be represented to the Governors at their Monthly Meeting, and may order the Overseer of the Poor to pay such Allowance; which Certificate and Order shall respectively be in the Form or to the Effect contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed; and the Overseers of the Poor shall, and are hereby required, in all such Cases, to observe and obey such Order; (but they shall not in any Case relieve any poor Person longer than Three Days, and that in Cases of Accidents, or sudden Sickness, without obtaining such Certificate and Order as aforesaid;) and shall transmit such Certificate to the Governors at their next Monthly Meeting, or, in Default in any of the Particulars aforesaid, shall respectively forfeit the Sum of Five Pounds for every Offence.

Overseers to make out Accounts of such Payments Monthly.

And be it further Enacted, That the Overseers of the Poor of every Parish, Township, or Place, where any Weekly or other Payment or Allowance shall be made by them, or any of them, to or in respect of any poor Person out of the said House of Industry, shall, and are hereby required to make out an Account

( 45 )

count thereof in Writing once in every Month, in the Beginning of the Week next before the Week in which the Monthly Meeting of the Governors for such District shall be held, and shall produce such Account to a Governor acting within, or Two Guardians appointed for, such District, who shall sign and allow the same, if, upon Examination and Enquiry into the Matters therein contained, they shall be satisfied that such Account is just and true, and upon the Allowance of such Account the Treasurer shall, and is hereby required to pay the Amount thereof to such Person or Persons who shall produce and give a Receipt for the same; but if the said Governor or Guardians shall suspect the Truth of any Part thereof, or discover any Errors or Overcharges therein, they are hereby required to specify the same in Writing, at the Foot or on the Back of such Account, and to sign his or their Name or Names thereto, or to send a Representation thereof in Writing, signed as aforesaid, on a separate Paper, to the Governors of such District, at their next Monthly Meeting, who shall, and are hereby required to summon such Overseer of the Poor to appear before them, and to examine into the Truth of such Observations or Representations, and to disallow any Articles in such Account which shall appear to them erroneous or unjust; and unless such Accounts shall be transmitted to the said Governors every Month as aforesaid, the same shall not be paid, but the Overseer neglecting to make out and transmit the same as aforesaid, shall bear the Loss of the Sums paid by him, or which became due for the Purposes aforesaid, within such Month; and if, upon

The same to be allowed by a Governor, or Two Guardians, and paid by the Treasurer:

If not allowed, then to be transmitted, with the Reasons for Refusal, to the Governors, at next Monthly Meeting, to be inquired into.

upon such Inspection and Examination by the Governors, it shall appear that such Account was just and true, the Governors shall order an Allowance to the Overseer of what shall appear reasonable, for his Loss of Time and Attendance upon the Governors, in Support of such Account.

Governors at their Monthly Meetings to superintend the House and Poor, and also the Accounts and Transactions within the preceding Month :

And be it further Enacted, That the Governors shall, and they are hereby required, at their said Monthly Meetings, in every District, to examine and superintend the State and Management of the said House, and the Poor within the same, and also the Account of the Receipts and Disbursements within the preceding Month, and the Conduct of the several Officers employed in such House, and hear and determine the Complaints, if any shall be made; and shall also inspect and examine the several Accounts transmitted from the Overseers of the Poor, of Money paid by them, or Expences incurred, for or on Account of Poor kept out of the said House, within their respective Parishes, Townships, or Places, which Accounts the Clerk of the said District shall lay before them at every Monthly Meeting, with Extracts from the same, and such Observations as have occurred to him thereupon, and seem in his Judgment most proper for the Consideration of the Governors; and shall also lay before the said Governors, at their Monthly Meetings, such Observations and Representations of the Governors or Guardians as shall be made thereupon, pursuant to the Authority and Directions of this Act; and shall also order the Attendance of any Overseer, or other

They shall order the Attendance of Overseers and others, to explain the Transactions, when Complaints shall be made.

other Person concerned in any of the Transactions contained in such Account, before them at the next or some other Monthly Meeting, if they think it necessary, and such Persons shall reside within Ten Miles of the said House of Industry, to explain such Account, or to answer such Charge as shall be objected to him; but if such Person shall live at a greater Distance from the said House, the said Governors shall order such Person to attend some Justice of Peace acting within the said District, and living in or near the Parish, Township, or Place where the Matter of Complaint arose, which Order shall specify the Cause of Complaint, and the Matter to be examined and enquired into, and shall be in the Form or to the Effect contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed; and the said Order shall be sent by the Governors to some such Justice of Peace as aforesaid, who shall, and is hereby required to mark upon the Back of such Order the Day and Hour when he will be attended upon that Business (in the Words or to the Effect contained in the said Schedule) which Hearing shall be within Three Days after he shall receive such Order; and the Parties concerned, upon Notice of such Order, and of the Time appointed by the Justice for hearing the said Complaint, are hereby required to attend such Justice, who shall make such Order therein as to him shall seem meet; and the Governors, at their said Monthly Meetings, shall order and direct a convenient Stock of Hemp, Flax, Wool, Cotton, Thread, Iron, Stone, Wood, Leather, or other Materials or Stores, for the Use and Employment of the Poor; and shall at every

Governors at Monthly Meetings to form themselves into Com- such

mittees of Three, to attend Weekly Meetings.

such Monthly Meeting divide and appoint themselves into Committees of Three, who shall and are hereby required to meet at the said House every Monday Morning, or oftener if necessary, until the next Monthly Meeting, to superintend the said House, and to see the Rules, Orders, and Regulations established for the Government of the Officers and Poor properly enforced; and the Names of the Governors to be so appointed for the Weekly Duty, shall be entered by the Clerk of the District in a Book to be kept for that Purpose.

Covered Carts, &c. to be provided for conveying the Poor to or from Houses of Industry.

And be it further Enacted, That the Governors of every District shall cause One or more covered Carts, or other convenient Carriages, properly adapted for the easy Conveyance of sick or infirm Persons to or from the said House of Industry, to be provided within every District, before the Poor shall be removed thither, and the same shall be kept at the House of Industry there, and delivered to the Overseer of the Poor of any Parish, Township, or Place, within the District, who shall apply for the same, for the Purpose aforesaid, if it happens not to be in Use at the Time of such Application; and no Overseer shall keep such Carriage longer in his Custody than shall be necessary for conveying the poor Person or Persons, under the Description aforesaid, to or from such House of Industry, on Pain of forfeiting such Sum for his Neglect therein, as the Governors at any Monthly Meeting shall think fit to impose, not exceeding Forty Shillings for every Offence.

And

And be it further Enacted, That the poor Persons, when brought to the said House of Industry, shall be placed by the Master, Matron, and other Officers belonging to the said House, in such Apartments as shall be best suited to their respective Ages, Infirmities, Necessities, Conditions, and Occasions, after examining into the same, observing, in that and every other Proceeding, the Rules, Orders, and Regulations hereafter established for the Houses in all Districts, to be formed under the Authority of this Act; and such of the Poor who shall be able to work, shall be employed in Labour suited to their Strength and Capacity; and if the said Governors shall, at the First Removal of the Poor to any such House of Industry, or, at any Time afterwards, upon Inquiry, find any Person or Persons sent thither, to be improper to be kept within the Walls of the House, or that there shall not be sufficient Room therein, the said Governors may order and direct such Person or Persons, either to be returned to the Parish or Place from which he, she, or they was or were sent, and put under the Care of the Overseer there, with such weekly and other Allowance, to be paid by the Treasurer of the District, as the said Governors shall at any Monthly Meeting direct, or to be sent to any other Place within the District, which they shall think more proper and convenient, and there kept and maintained out of the General Fund arising as aforesaid, but employed in such Labour as shall be found most proper; or if it shall appear more convenient, the said Governors may,

The Poor, when brought to the House, shall be properly placed there,

and employed according to their Strength and Capacities.

In Case any Persons sent shall be deemed improper to be admitted, or in Case there is not sufficient Room in the House, the Governors may order such to be returned to their Parishes, or other Places within their District, with Allowances for their Maintenance.

Or the Governors may provide Lodgings and Work out of the House.

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if they think fit, provide Lodgings and Work out of the said House, for any such Person or Persons, and allow them to come to the said House for their Victuals.

Care to be taken to instruct and educate Infants under Four Years old :

And be it further Enacted, That particular Care shall be had to the Preservation, Instruction, and Education of the Infant Poor in every of the said Districts; and for that Purpose, such of them under the Age of Four Years, who have lost their Parents, or whose Parents are unable to maintain them, and shall be willing to part with them, may, by the Direction of the said Governors at their Monthly Meetings, upon Recommendation to them in Writing, under the Hands of One Governor, or Two or more of the said Guardians, expressing the Situation and Circumstances of every such Child or Children, and of his or their Parents, (if any) in the Form or to the Effect contained in the said Schedule, be put out to nurse in the Parish or Place where they live, or in some neighbouring Parish or Place, until they shall be fit to receive Instructions, and shall from that Time be sent to the House of Industry to which such Parish or Place shall belong, according to the Regulations aforesaid, and be there instructed in all necessary Duties, and employed in such Manner as shall be most suitable to their Age and Capacities.

And also those above that Age.

And be it further Enacted, That such of the Infant Poor above the Age of Four Years, who have lost their Parents, or whose Parents

( 51 )

Parents are unable to maintain them, may, upon the Recommendation of One of the said Governors, or of Two or more of the said Guardians in Manner aforesaid, be ordered by the said Governors or Guardians to be brought into the House of Industry to which the Parish or Place where such poor Children are settled shall belong, and shall be there instructed and employed as aforesaid; and that each of such Children of the respective Classes hereinbefore described, when of Age to be placed out Apprentice, or to some proper Service, shall be so placed out by the Governors at any Monthly Meeting, when proper Masters or Mistresses can be found to receive them, in the Manner hereafter directed.

Children to be apprenticed.

Provided nevertheless, and be it further Enacted, That if at any Time before the said Children shall be so placed out, the Parent or Parents of any such Child or Children shall apply to the said Governors at any Monthly Meeting, and desire their, his, or her Child or Children to be returned, and it shall be made appear to the said Governors that such Parent or Parents is or are able to maintain and provide for such Child or Children in a proper Manner, the said Governors shall, and are hereby required to return him, her, or them accordingly.

Parents able to maintain their Children in a proper Manner, may have them returned.

And be it further Enacted, That whenever the Governors, at their Monthly Meetings, shall think fit to apprentice out poor Children,

Apprentices to be bound by Indentures for certain Terms.

( 52 )

Children, they shall be bound by Indenture without Stamps, to be instructed in Husbandry, or in some Trade or useful Occupation, or to any Officer of the House, to be instructed in any Trade or Manufacture carried on within the same for the Benefit of the said House; or the said Governors may, if they think fit, bind any Male Child or Children Apprentice, in the Sea Service, to the Captain, Master, or Owner of any Ship, or Vessel; provided that no such Service or Apprenticeship shall extend, in the Case of such Males, beyond the Age of Twenty-one Years, or, in the Case of such Females, beyond the Age of Eighteen Years; and such Sum or Sums shall be paid for the Cloathing any such Apprentice as the Governors shall judge proper, not exceeding Fifty Shillings; and the Persons to whom such Children shall be bound Apprentice, shall be obliged to receive and provide for them in like Manner as they are now obliged by Law to provide for Apprentices; and no Apprentice so bound as aforesaid shall (except with the Consent of the Governors at some Monthly Meeting) be assigned or turned over to any Person or Persons whatsoever, and then and in that Case, only, to One of the same Trade, Business, or Occupation; and that all Persons to whom they shall be so assigned or bound over, shall be obliged to receive and provide for them in the same Manner, and under the same Penalties and Forfeitures, as the Persons to whom they were first bound as aforesaid were obliged to do.

And

( 53 )

And be it further Enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Governors, and they are hereby authorized to compel any poor People, who shall be sustained in the respective Houses of Industry, to perform any necessary Business or menial Offices therein; and that the Master of the said House of Industry, on Application made by any Surveyor of the Highways, Turnpike Surveyor, or other Person occasionally wanting poor Persons, in Harvest, Hop-gathering, or other Work, suited to the Strength and Ability of such poor Persons, may hire or let out so many of the said poor Persons as shall be so required, on a Contract for their Labour and Maintenance, at such Wages as such poor Persons shall respectively deserve, and as shall be agreed for between the said Master and the Person or Persons hiring such poor Persons; which Wages shall be paid to the Treasurer of the District for the Time being, and shall be by him accounted for, and applied to the Purposes of this Act.

Poor to be compelled to work in the necessary Business of the House:

Or may be let out to Work.

And be it further Enacted, That the several Ridings in the County of *York*, and Divisions in the Counties of *Lincoln* and *Kent*, and the Liberty of *Saint Albans* in the County of *Hertford*, having separate Commissions, and General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, within the same, shall, for all the Purposes of this Act, be deemed and considered as distinct Counties; and also, that all Cities and Towns, which are Counties of themselves, having separate Quarter Sessions, under particular Commissions, or by Charter,

What Places shall be deemed distinct Counties for the Purposes of this Act.



ter, shall, with respect to all the Provisions and Regulations of this Act, be deemed and considered as distinct Counties; and the Qualification of the Governors within such Cities and Towns shall be the same as is herein directed for the several Counties within the Principality of *Wales*.

Places incorporated by particular Acts, to continue so, unless they desire to be included in this Act.

And be it further Enacted, That all Hundreds, Cities, Towns, Divisions, Parishes, and Places, within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, which have been incorporated or formed into Districts by the Authority of any Act or Acts of Parliament for the better Relief and Employment of the Poor, and have maintained, and continue to maintain, their Poor under the Authority of such Act or Acts, shall be exempted, freed, and discharged from the several Provisions, Powers, and Authorities of this Act, unless the Governors, Directors, Assistants, Guardians, or other Officers intrusted with the Execution of any such Act or Acts of Parliament, shall request the contrary, and signify such Request under their Corporate Seal to the Governors for the County wherein such Hundred, City, Town, Division, Parish, District, or Place shall lie, at their First Meeting to be held under the Authority of this Act, any Thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Districts having a Surplus of Money, to pay the same to such as shall be deficient, by Order of Justices at Quarter Sessions.

And be it further Enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Justices of the Peace, from Time to Time, at their General Quarter Sessions, where there shall happen to be more than One District within their Juris-

Jurisdiction, to order the Treasurer of any such District, who shall have a Surplus of Money in his Hands more than sufficient to defray the necessary Expences in and under the Authority of this Act, to pay the same, or such Part thereof as they shall think fit, to the Treasurer or Treasurers of any other District or Districts within their said Jurisdiction, where the Assessment raised within the same, under the Authority of this Act, shall prove deficient for the Purposes aforesaid.

And be it further Enacted, That when it shall appear to the said Justices, at their General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, that the Assessments, upon a Medium of the said Seven Years, so to be ascertained as aforesaid, within the several Districts under their Jurisdiction, shall be more than sufficient for the several Purposes required by this Act, such Justices shall order Notices to be given thereof to the Clerks of each respective District, in the Form or to the Effect contained in the said Schedule; which Order the Clerk of the Peace of such Quarter Sessions shall, and is hereby required to obey, and shall receive for every such Notice so served the Sum of Five Shillings from the Treasurer of each District; and the said Justices shall also fix a Time and Place, within Fourteen Days after the then next Quarterly Meeting of the Governors of such Districts, for a Meeting of a Committee of the Governors from each District, in order to consult and determine what Reduction will be proper to be made in their several Quarterly Assessments; and the

When Justices in Quarter Sessions find Assessments, on a Medium of Seven Years, more than sufficient, they shall give Notice thereof to District Clerks;

and appoint a Time and Place for a Committee from each District, to determine upon a Reduction.

( 56 )

Manner of electing their Committee :

Who are to certify such proposed Reduction to the next Quarter Sessions.

Governors for each District, within the Jurisdiction of such Justices, shall, at their next Quarterly Meeting, elect by Ballot, in Manner aforesaid, Three of the Governors for such District as a Committee to attend such Meeting; which Governors so elected for each District shall, and are hereby required to attend such Meeting at the Time and Place so to be appointed as aforesaid; and they, or the major Part of them, shall, at such Meeting, certify under their Hands, to the Justices at their then next Quarter Sessions of the Peace, what Reduction, in their Opinion, ought to be thereafter made in the Quarterly Assessments to be ordered by the said Court of Quarter Sessions, as herein before directed, observing a due Proportion betwixt the several Parishes, Townships, and Places, in each District, according to the Medium Sum, to be ascertained as aforesaid; which Certificate shall be forthwith transmitted by them to the Clerk of the Peace belonging to such Court of Quarter Sessions, and be by him laid before the Justices of the Peace at their then next Quarter Sessions, who shall take the same into Consideration, and order the subsequent Assessments for each respective District, according to the Reductions so proposed by the said Committee as aforesaid; but in case the said Committee shall make no such Certificate, or shall happen to be equally divided in their Opinions upon the said Business, the said Court of Quarter Sessions shall determine upon the Reduction so to be made, from the Accounts so to be transmitted to them from the Quarterly Meetings of the respective Districts as aforesaid, according to their

( 57 )

their Judgment and Discretion, observing a due Proportion betwixt every Parish, Township, and Place, within each respective District, according to the Medium Sums, to be ascertained as aforesaid; and that from and after every such Determination, the Sums and Proportions to be settled and adjusted, upon every such Reduction, shall be observed and continued in every Quarterly Assessment so to be made as aforesaid, until some further Reduction or Advance shall be thereafter made, which shall be done, from Time to Time, upon the like Notices, and in the like Manner and Form, as hereinbefore directed in all Respects; but in case any Advance of the Assessments so reduced should be found necessary, it shall never exceed, in any Parish, Township, or Place, the Medium Sum of the said Seven Years, so to be first ascertained as aforesaid.

Reduced Assessments to be collected till further Reduction or Advance made therein.

Advanced Assessments never to exceed the Medium Sum.

And be it further Enacted, That if the Inhabitants of any Parish, Township, or Place, in any District within the Jurisdiction of such Court of Quarter Sessions, where the said Assessments shall have been so ordered to be reduced as aforesaid, shall find themselves charged, by the Medium Sums which had been so ascertained as aforesaid, for their Assessment, more than Four Shillings in the Pound within the Year, according to the full annual Value of all the Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, and Property usually rated to the Relief of their Poor, and shall think fit to complain thereof to the said Court of Quarter Sessions, the said Justices shall hear and determine the said Complaint; and if they

In any Parish where Assessments are reduced, if Inhabitants find themselves charged, by the Medium Sums which had been ascertained, more than Four Shillings in the Pound,

the Quarter Sessions may reduce such Assessment to Four Shillings in the Pound; which shall, in

future, be deemed the Medium Sum for that Parish, &c.

Quarter Sessions may direct Persons to value the Lands, &c. where they find it necessary.

If it shall appear that the Parish, &c. was not assessed to Four Shillings in the Pound, the Assessment shall continue, and the Inhabitants shall pay the Expenses of the Enquiry.

they find the same to be true, they shall forthwith reduce such Assessment to Four Shillings in the Pound of the annual Value of such Property, as aforesaid; which shall for that Parish, Township, or Place be considered as the Medium Sum, and in all future Assessments shall be varied, from Time to Time, in Proportion as the other Assessments within the same District shall be varied or altered; and in order to judge whether the said Complaint is well founded, the Justices at such Quarter Sessions may, if they think fit, appoint Two or Three Persons of Knowledge and Integrity to view, enquire into, and value, the said Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, and Property; which Persons shall, and are hereby required to certify the annual Value thereof, by Writing under their Hands, upon Oath, to such Justices, at the then next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, who shall determine the same; and in case such View and Enquiry shall be directed, the Justices shall continue to assess such Parish, Township, or Place, in like Manner as they assess others within the same District, from the Medium Sums ascertained as aforesaid, until such View and Enquiry shall be had, and such Certificate and Determination of the Court made thereupon as aforesaid; but if it shall appear from such Enquiry and Determination, that such Parish, Township, or Place was not assessed by such Medium Sum to the Amount of Four Shillings in the Pound of the annual Value of all the Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, and Property usually rated therein, then and in that Case the Assessments for such Parish, Township, or Place, shall continue to be

be paid as they would have been if no such Complaint had been made; and the Overseers of the Poor for such Parish, Township, or Place, shall moreover pay such Sum and Sums of Money, for the Trouble and Expenses of the Persons who took such View and Valuation, and made such Certificate as aforesaid, as the said Justices at their Court of Quarter Sessions shall order and adjudge, or in Default of Payment thereof within Six Days after the Service of such Order upon the Overseer of the Poor of such Parish, Township, or Place, the same shall be levied upon the Goods and Chattels of any Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor of such Parish, Township, or Place, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any Justice of Peace acting within such Jurisdiction; which Churchwarden or Overseer shall and may be reimbursed the same, by an Assessment to be made, by Order of a Justice of the Peace, upon the several Persons contributing to the Pools Rates within such Parish, Township, or Place.

And be it further Enacted, That at every Meeting of the Governors under the Authority of this Act, the Governors present shall elect a Chairman or President amongst themselves, before they proceed to any other Business; and in case of an Equality of Votes in any of the Questions which may come under their Deliberation at such Meeting, the Chairman or President so elected shall have the casting Vote; and that at every such Meeting respectively, the Governors present shall have Power to administer an Oath to any Person or Persons who shall be examined before

Governors at their Meetings to choose a Chairman, who shall have a casting Voice when the Votes are equal.

Governors impowered to administer Oaths.

( 60 )

before them, touching any of the Matters or Things which they are authorized to enquire into by virtue of this Act.

The reasonable Charges of conveying the Poor to Houses of Industry, to be paid by the Treasurer.

And be it further Enacted, That the reasonable Charges and Expences of conveying the Poor to the said House of Industry, from the several Parishes, Townships, and Places, within each District, shall be paid by the Treasurer of the District upon the Delivery of such Poor at such House, provided the Charge appears to such Treasurer just and reasonable, if not, the same shall be settled and adjusted by the Governors at their next Monthly Meeting.

Accounts of Proceedings in the several Districts to be laid before both Houses of Parliament annually.

And be it further Enacted, That the Governors of the several Districts to be formed under the Authority of this Act shall, at their respective annual Meetings in every Year, return, under their Corporate Seals, to the Clerk of each House of Parliament, in the Form hereunto annexed, an Account of the Maintenance and Employment of the Poor, and of the several Receipts and Disbursements, within the Year then next preceding, and of all such other Particulars relating thereto as are specified and pointed out by the said Form.

A Committee of Five Governors to be elected annually in each District; who are to meet and confer together on the General Proceedings within the County.

And be it further Enacted, That the Governors of every District shall, at their respective annual Meetings, elect by Ballot, in Manner aforesaid, Five Governors, who shall together form a Committee for the Purpose hereafter mentioned; and the said Committee, so elected as aforesaid, shall meet together on  
*Tuesday*

( 61 )

*Tuesday* in the Week next after the then next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the County, Riding, Division, Soke, Franchise, Liberty, City, County Corporate, or Place, to which such District shall belong, at the Hall or Room where such Quarter Sessions was held, at Eleven o'Clock in the Forenoon, and adjourn themselves to such Place as they shall think fit, and shall then and there inspect the Returns to be made to the Two Houses of Parliament from each District as aforesaid, and confer together upon the best Means for carrying into further Execution the several Purposes of this Act, and for applying to Parliament for any Alteration or Amendment thereof, if any such shall be found necessary; and the Clerks of each respective District shall, and are hereby required to attend the said Committee with the said Returns.

And be it further Enacted, That the several Rules, Orders, and Regulations specified and contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed, shall be, and are hereby established for the Rule and Government of the several Houses to be erected and provided under the Authority of this Act, and shall be enforced by the Governors, and observed and obeyed in all Respects by the Officers of each District, and by all Persons admitted into the several Houses so to be erected or provided, or who shall be relieved or employed under the Authority of this Act.

The Rules, &c. contained in the Schedule to be established for Government of the Houses of Industry.

And be it further Enacted, That for the Encouragement of good Behaviour in the poor  
*For promoting good Behaviour in Children.*

poor Children intended to be educated and provided for under the Authority of this Act, as soon as the Approbation of the Governors shall be signified, for enforcing the Provisions hereby established, within any County, a Subscription shall be opened within the same County, and Books kept for entering the same, in the Form contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed, and at such Places as the Governors then present shall direct; which Subscription shall be made for raising a Fund, by voluntary Gifts and Contributions from charitable and well-disposed Persons, for the Purpose of rewarding such poor Children as aforesaid, who shall have behaved themselves well during their Continuance in the said House, and afterwards in the Services to which they shall have been placed by the Governors, either as Apprentices or Servants, by giving to each young Woman so educated and so behaving herself, on her Marriage, a certain Sum of Money, as a Portion; and by giving to each young Man so educated and so behaving himself, on his Marriage, a small Portion of Land, adjoining to a Highway, on some Common or Waste within the District where he was so educated, sufficient for a House and Garden, and allowing him a Sum of Money towards building a House thereupon, such Land to be granted by the Lord of the Manor to the Governors of the said District, and their Successors, by a perpetual Lease, reserving an annual Rent, according to the then annual Value thereof, such Rent to be paid by the said Governors and their Successors, and ascertained by a Jury, in Manner aforesaid, if the Parties do not agree, and proportioned between

A Charitable Subscription to be opened,

in order to give a Portion in Money to young Women,

and of some Waste Land and Money to young Men, educated within the House, on their Marriage.

tween the Lord and Freeholders of such Manor, and applied as hereinbefore directed concerning Lands to be taken for the Use of the said Corporation: Provided nevertheless, that if any such young Man, or the Owner or Possessor of such House and Land, for the Time being, shall be guilty of a Felony, or of Perjury, or of Subornation of Perjury, and convicted thereof in any Court of Justice; he or she shall, from the Time of such Conviction, forfeit the said House and Land, and all his or her Interest therein; and the same shall, from that Time, vest in the Governors of the District wherein the same shall lie, and be disposed of by the Committee of Charity for the Time being, for the charitable Purposes of this Act, in such Manner as they shall think fit.

And be it further Enacted, That the Money so to be subscribed as aforesaid, shall be paid by each Subscriber into the Hands of the Treasurer of each respective District wherein such Subscription shall be made, at the Time of subscribing, or within Three Months after, an Account of which shall be kept separate from all other Accounts; and all such Money shall be vested in the Governors of such District and their Successors, and shall be placed out at Interest in the Government Funds, and the Principal Money, with the Interest or Dividends arising thereupon, shall make a Common Stock, and be applied from Time to Time for the Purposes aforesaid, under the Direction of the Committee of Charities hereinbefore mentioned.

Subscription Money to be paid into the Hands of the Treasurers.

Separate Accounts thereof to be kept, and Money to be placed in the Funds, and Dividends to be applied for the above Purposes, under Direction of the Committee of Charities.

And

Governors may hold Lands not exceeding £. 500 per Annum.

And be it further Enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Governors of any District so to be formed and incorporated as aforesaid, and their Successors, to take and hold from any Person or Persons, Bodies Politic or Corporate, any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, by Deed or Will duly executed, for the charitable Purposes of this Act, so that the same do not exceed in the Whole the annual Value of Five hundred Pounds.

Manner of choosing Committee of Charities, to inspect all Accounts of Charities, and take Care of Estates given for the Purposes of the Act.

And, for the better Management of the said Charity, Be it further Enacted, That the Committee of Buildings and Rates, to be elected as aforesaid, shall also be the Committee of Charities, until the said Buildings shall be completed as aforesaid; and that, at the said First Meeting of the Governors of each District after the said Buildings shall be completed, and at every Annual Meeting of the said Governors, to be held within every Year afterwards, there shall be elected by Ballot, in Manner aforesaid, One Committee, consisting of Five Governors, to be called the Committee of Charities, which shall inspect into the Accounts of the said Charities, and see that the Money is, from Time to Time, properly placed out, and that the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, which may be given for the Benefit of the said Charities, are let to the best Advantage, and the Rents and Profits duly and properly accounted for, so as to make, with the Interest and Dividends aforesaid, an accumulating Fund for the Benefit of the said Charities; and the said Committee, or the Major Part thereof, such Major Part not being less than Three, shall, as soon

soon as there shall be any Objects for the Application of the said Charity, according to the Directions of this Act, apply and distribute the same accordingly, and shall, at Michaelmas in every Year, make up a List of the Subscriptions, and also of the Money received for Rent, Interest, or Dividends, and of the Money applied within each Year for the Use of the Charity, and print and publish the same in some public News Paper circulated within that District.

And be it further Enacted, That if any Governor or Governors, to be elected or appointed to serve upon any Committee by virtue and under the Authority of this Act, and who shall not be excused from attending the same in the Manner hereby allowed, shall refuse or neglect to attend such Committee, and to act therein, for the several Purposes hereby directed, every Governor or Governors so refusing or neglecting, shall forfeit a Sum not exceeding Twenty Pounds, nor less than Ten Pounds, for every such Refusal or Neglect.

Penalty on Governors for refusing to serve on any Committee.

And be it further Enacted, That after the Poor shall have been conveyed to the Buildings so to be provided for them within any County, pursuant to the Directions of this Act, no poor Person shall be removed by Order of Justices of Peace from One Parish, Township, or Place, to another, within the same County; but that all poor Persons wanting Relief within such County, shall be sent to the House of Industry within the

After the Poor are conveyed to the Houses of Industry, no poor Person to be removed by a Justice's Order from one Parish, &c. to another, within the same County; but be sent to the House of Industry for the District where they reside.

Except as excepted :  
But may be removed from thence to their legal Settlement within any other County, &c. :

But no Person to be so removed to or from any County formed into Districts, or any other incorporated Districts, until they shall have been chargeable :

Nor when chargeable, if they have resided there Twelve Months without being so.

Persons having a Settlement within any County, &c. formed into Districts under this Act, being desirous of removing, after Six Months Residence, for the Sake of carrying on any Business, the Governors may grant them Letters Testimonial.

the District where they reside, (except as herein excepted) and may be removed from thence by Order of Two Justices of the Peace, on the Complaint of the Governors, signified by their Clerk, to the Place of their last legal Settlement within any other County or Place; but no poor Person shall, after the Twenty-fourth Day of June One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy-seven, be removed, as aforesaid, to or from any County which shall have been formed into Districts under the Authority of this Act, or to or from any Hundred, City, Town, District, or Place, incorporated under this or any other Act or Acts of Parliament for the Relief and Employment of their Poor, until such poor Person shall have been actually and *bona fide* chargeable to such County, Hundred, City, Town, District, or Place; and that no Person shall, from the Time aforesaid, be removed by Order of Justices, from any such County, Hundred, City, Town, District, or Place, wherein they have resided Twelve Calendar Months next preceding, without having been actually and *bona fide* chargeable to the same, to any other County so formed into Districts, or to any other Hundred, City, Town, District, or Place, so incorporated as aforesaid.

Provided always, and be it further Enacted, That if any poor Person or Persons, having a legal Settlement in any County, Riding, Division, City, Liberty, Precinct, or County Corporate, wherein the Execution of this Act shall have been enforced, shall after

after he, she, or they, hath or have resided Six Months within the same, be desirous to remove from thence, for the Sake of exercising any Trade, or for the better obtaining Harvest Work, or for any other lawful Occasion, the Governors for the Time being, of the District wherein such Person shall reside, at any of their Monthly Meetings herein appointed, may, and are hereby impowered to grant Letters Testimonial to such poor Person or Persons, in the Form or to the Effect contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed, specifying their respective Names, Occupations, and Places of Abode, and the Place or Places to which they desire to remove, to the end that such poor Person or Persons may pass unmolested in the Pursuit of such their lawful Business.

Provided also, and be it further Enacted, That all such Letters Testimonial shall be granted under the Common Seal of the Corporation; and if any Person or Persons shall forge or counterfeit such Letters Testimonial, or shall have with him, her, or them any such Letters Testimonial forged or counterfeit as aforesaid, knowing the same to be forged or counterfeited, every such Offender or Offenders shall be deemed guilty of Felony, and be transported to any of His Majesty's Plantations for Seven Years.

Provided always, and be it further Enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for all and every Justice and Justices of the Peace, who shall have Authority to act

Such Letters to be under the Common Seal.

Persons forging them guilty of Felony.

Justices of Peace may execute the Powers hereby given, notwithstanding their Payment to the Pours Rates.

( 68 )

act within any County, District, or Place, wherein the Powers of this Act shall be enforced for the Relief and Employment of the Poor, to make, do, and execute all and every Act and Acts, Thing and Things, appertaining to the Office of a Justice of the Peace, so far as the same relates to the Execution of this Act; notwithstanding any such Justice or Justices of the Peace shall be rated to or chargeable with the Levies or Rates within any Parish, Township, or Place, affected by any such Act or Acts of such Justice or Justices as aforesaid, any Law to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Governors and Guardians within Districts already incorporated, may adopt any of the Provisions of this Act.

Provided also, and be it further Enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Governors and Guardians, or other Persons having the Power of making Bye-Laws, Rules, Orders, and Regulations, within any of the Districts already incorporated by Act of Parliament for the Relief and Employment of the Poor, to extend their Plan, by adopting all or any of the Provisions of this Act, and all the Rules, Orders, and Regulations, hereby established, so as the same be done at a Meeting to be appointed for that Purpose, whereof Fifteen Days Notice shall be given, either by Advertisement in some public News Paper circulated within such District, or upon the Market Cross, or other public Place, within Three of the next Market Towns, and so as the same be done with the Consent of the Majority of the Governors, Directors, and Guardians then present.

And

( 69 )

And be it further Enacted, That as soon as the Poor shall be received into the Houses of Industry, as aforesaid, all Parish Certificates, and all Indentures of Parish Apprentices, all Orders of Removal, and other Orders of Justices of Peace relative to the Poor, all Examinations of Paupers, and Bonds of Indemnity against Bastard Children, which shall be in the Custody of the respective Parochial Officers, shall be delivered to the Clerk of the District for the Time being, to be preserved and kept for the Benefit of the said Corporation; and the Governors for the Time being shall and may, by all proper Means, apply the same to the Benefit of the said Corporation, in as effectual a Manner as such respective Parochial Officers could or might have done for their respective Parishes; and it shall and may be lawful for the Governors of such District, for the Time being, to sue such Bonds of Bastardy in the Corporate Name of such District, and they shall recover the Penalties thereof, as if such Bonds had been originally made to them, any Law, Statute, or Custom, to the contrary notwithstanding.

How to be applied.

And be it further Enacted, That in all Cases where One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace, is or are empowered by the Laws now in being, to proceed on the Complaint of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of any Parish, Township, or Place, with respect to any poor Person or Persons whatsoever, it shall and may be lawful for such Justice or Justices of the Peace, and he or they are hereby required to proceed on the Complaint of the Governors of such District for the Time being, signified by their

In Cases where Justices may proceed on Complaint of Parish Officers, with respect to the Poor, they may proceed on Complaint of the Governors.



( 70 )

their Clerk, in such and the like Manner, to all Intents and Purposes, as if such Complaint had been made by such Churchwardens and Overseers, or any of them.

Two Justices may appoint Overseers of the Poor for Extraparochial Places.

And be it further Enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for Two Justices of the Peace, within their respective Jurisdictions, to appoint One or more Overseer or Overseers of the Poor, for any Extraparochial Place within the same, although no Overseer may have been theretofore appointed for such Place, and although such Place may not consist of Houses sufficient to constitute it a Township or Vill,

Parishes which have Workhouses may dispose of the same, when their Poor are sent to the House of Industry.

And be it further Enacted, That in such Parishes, Townships, and Places, within every District, wherein any Workhouse hath been erected and established for the Relief and Employment of the Poor, before the Forming of such District, the respective Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor shall and may, and they are hereby required, so soon as the Poor of such respective Parishes, Townships, or Places, shall be removed as aforesaid to the House of Industry within such District, to sell and dispose of such Workhouse, together with the Furniture, Stock, and Materials belonging thereto, and the Money arising from the Sale thereof shall go and be applied in Aid of the Poores Rates to be levied in such respective Parishes, Townships, and Places.

Punishing all Persons employed under the Governors, who shall embezzle or misapply Money or Goods.

And be it further Enacted, That if any Superintendant, Matron, or other Officer or Person

( 71 )

Person whatsoever, employed by the said Governors for the Time being, shall purloin, embezzle, or wilfully misapply, any Sum or Sums of Money, or any Materials or Implements of Work, Utensils, Cloaths, Wearing Apparel, or other Goods or Chattels belonging to the said Corporation, every such Offender or Offenders shall not only be discharged from his, her, or their Office or Offices, but shall also forfeit and pay the Sum of Ten Pounds, and also Treble the Value of such Sum of Money, Materials or Implements of Work, Utensils, Cloaths, Wearing Apparel, Goods, and Chattels, which shall be so purloined, embezzled, or misapplied.

And be it further Enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall, by open Violence, wilfully and maliciously obstruct the erecting, building, or repairing such House or Houses, or other Buildings, or the inclosing such Waste or Common Grounds, or wilfully deface or damage the said Buildings, or any of them, or the Fences of such Inclosures, or any Part thereof, every Person or Persons so offending, and being thereof lawfully convicted, shall be deemed guilty of Felony, and be transported to any of His Majesty's Plantations for Seven Years.

Punishing Persons obstructing the building, or repairing of Houses, &c. for the Purposes of this Act.

And be it further Enacted, That if any Action or Suit shall be commenced against any Person or Persons, for any Thing done in pursuance of this Act, the same shall be commenced within Six Calendar Months after the Fact committed, and not afterwards, and shall

Limitation of Actions.

( 72 )

shall be laid or brought in the County wherein the Cause of Complaint shall arise, and not elsewhere ; and the Defendant or Defendants in such Action or Suit shall and may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the special Matter in Evidence at any Trial to be had thereupon, and that the same was done in pursuance and by the Authority of this Act : And if it shall appear so to be done, or that such Action or Suit shall be commenced after the Time before limited for bringing the same, or shall be brought in any other County or Place, that then the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants ; and upon a Verdict for the Defendant or Defendants, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall be nonsuited, or discontinue his, her, or their Action or Suit, after the Defendant or Defendants shall have appeared, or if upon Demurrer Judgment shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants shall and may recover Costs, and have the like Remedy for the same as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have in other Cases by Law.

Penalty on unqualified Persons acting as Governors.

And it is hereby further Enacted, That if any Person intended by this Act to be disabled from acting as a Governor or Guardian for any of the Purposes of this Act, shall nevertheless presume to act as a Governor or Guardian, every such Person for every such Offence, shall respectively forfeit the Sum of Fifty Pounds, to any Person or Persons who will inform or sue for the same, to be recovered in any of His Majesty's Courts

( 73 )

Courts of Record, by Action of Debt, or on the Case, Bill, Suit, or Information, wherein no Effoin, Protection, Wager of Law, or more than one Imparlance shall be allowed ; and in every such Action, Suit, or Information, the Proof of his Qualification shall lie on such Person against whom the same is brought.

And be it further Enacted, That if any Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, Constable, Tythingman, Headborough, or any other Person or Persons whatsoever, shall neglect or refuse to attend the Governors or Committees hereby appointed, when required so to do, or shall refuse or neglect to execute such Orders as they shall receive from them, or from any other Person or Persons hereby authorized and empowered to give such Orders, or shall otherwise wilfully obstruct the Execution of this Act, or neglect any Duty hereby imposed upon him or them, or if any Person or Persons summoned to attend as a Witness or Witnesses before the said Governors, or other Person or Persons as aforesaid, shall neglect or refuse to attend such Summons, or to give Evidence, every Person so neglecting or offending shall, for each Neglect or Offence respectively, forfeit a Sum not exceeding Ten Pounds, nor less than Forty Shillings.

Penalty on Parish Officers, &c. for Neglect of Duty under this Act.

And be it further Enacted, That all Penalties and Forfeitures inflicted by this Act shall, where not otherwise directed, be levied by Distress and Sale of the Offenders Goods and Chattels, by virtue of a Warrant under

For Recovery of Penalties and Forfeitures.

G

( 74 )

under the Hand and Seal of any Justice of the Peace having Jurisdiction where such Offender shall dwell, rendering to the said Offender the Overplus, after the Charge of such Distress and Sale shall be deducted; and in case sufficient Distress shall not be found, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for any such Justice of the Peace to commit such Offender to the Common Gaol, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, for any Space not exceeding Three Months, nor less than One Month.

Application.

And be it further Enacted, That all Fines and Forfeitures arising from any Offences committed against this Act, whereof the Applications are not particularly directed, shall be paid, One Half to the Informer, and the other Half, with all Fines and Penalties which by the Direction of any Laws now in being are to be applied to the Use of the Poor in any Parish, Township, or Place, to the Treasurer for the Time being of the District wherein such Offence shall be committed, and be applied to the Purposes of this Act, and no other Purpose whatsoever.

Persons having Interest in Penalties, &c. not thereby disabled from being Witnesses.

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That no Person or Persons shall, by Reason of his, her, or their Interest in such Fines and Penalties, be disabled from being a Witness or Witnesses in any Action, Suit, or Information for the same, nor shall any Person or Persons, by Reason of his, her, or their paying to the Poores Rates within any County, be disabled from being a Witness or Witnesses  
in

( 75 )

in any Suit, Cause, or Examination, concerning the Settlement of any poor Person or Persons within such County.

And be it further Enacted, That this Act <sup>Public Act.</sup> shall be deemed and taken to be a Public Act, and shall be judicially taken Notice of as such, by all Judges, Justices, and other Persons whomsoever, without specially pleading the same.

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