Anno tricesimo

Georgii II. Regis.

An Act for rebuilding the Bridge over the River *Ribble*, between the Townships of *Preston* and *Penwortham*, near a Place called the *Fish House*, in the County Palatine of *Lancaster*.



WHEREAS by an Act of Parliament made in the Twenty fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled, An Act for building a Bridge over the River *Ribble*, between the Townships of *Preston* and *Penwortham*, near a Place called the *Fish House*, in the County Palatine of *Lancaster*, several Tolls and Powers were granted to the Commissioners therein appointed, for building a Bridge cross the said River Ribble, from some proper Place in the Township of Penwortham aforesaid, lying between the Call or Weir near the Fish House, and a Messuage or Dwelling-house, called the Boat House, in Penwortham aforesaid, to the opposite Shore, in the Township of Preston aforesaid, with necessary and proper Ramparts and Works for the Preservation and Support thereof, and for repairing the same; and several Authorities and Regulations were therein enacted and prescribed for the getting of Materials for the building and erecting of the said Bridge and Works, and for the carrying on, completing, supporting, and maintaining, of the same, and for the enlarging of the old, or making of such new Roads leading to the said Bridge, as should be

Preamble reciting Act 22 *Geo.* II.

necessary or proper for the more convenient passing or repassing to and from the same; and for making of Satisfaction to all Persons who shall be prejudiced thereby, together with several other Powers and Authorities, for the better and more effectual Execution of the said Act, and for the Punishment of Persons offending against the same: And whereas several Gentlemen, Land-owners, Traders, and Inhabitants, of the said County, being sensible of the great Advantage such Bridge must be to the said County, and to the Publick in General, as the Fords through the said River were, and still are very dangerous; and as it is the great and common Road from Liverpoole, Prescot, Ormskirk, and other Places in the South West Parts of the said County, to Preston, Lancaster, and other the North and North West Parts of the same, and so on to Westmorland, Cumberland, and Scotland; and finding that the Tolls or Duties directed by the said Act for raising Money to erect the said Bridge, Ramparts, and other Works, would not be near sufficient to answer that Purpose, they did by voluntary Subscriptions raise Money to erect and build the said Bridge, and the same was built accordingly, by such voluntary Subscriptions; and the great Advantage and Convenience thereof became evident to the Inhabitants of the said County, and all other His Majesty's Subjects having Occasion to pass that Way; and the Commissioners appointed by the said Act contracted with the Owners and Lessees of the Ferry over the said River, for their Interests therein, and paid the Money contracted for, whereby their Right and Title in and to such Ferry was divested out of such Owners and Lessees respectively: And whereas on or about the Fourth Day of September last past, after the said Bridge had been used by Carts and Carriages for the Space of a Year and upwards, One of the Piers to the Centre Arch gave way, occasioned (as is supposed) by some Defect in the Foundation, and in a short Time afterwards, that and Five other Arches of the said Bridge fell down; by which unfortunate Accident, the laudable Intention of the Contributors is defeated, and His Majesty's Subjects deprived of the great Advantage arising therefrom, and exposed to the great Hazard and Danger of losing their Lives and Properties in passing the said River with Horses, Carts, and Carriages: And whereas the Sum of Two thousand Pounds, to be raised in Three Years, with the old Materials, will be sufficient to rebuild the said Bridge, with necessary and proper Ramparts, Wings, Walls, and other Works, for the Support and Preservation thereof, in the Opinion

and Judgement of skilful and experienced Workmen, who have estimated the same, and proposed to undertake it for that Sum, and to give Security for the Support thereof for Twenty one Years; and the Toll or Pontage directed by the said recited Act, for the future Repairs of the said Bridge, will, after the building thereof, be very sufficient for that Purpose: And whereas most of the Landowners and Inhabitants of the said County are willing to have the said Sum of Two thousand Pounds raised upon the said County, for rebuilding the said Bridge, with necessary and proper Ramparts, Wings, Walls, Banks, and other Works, for the Support and Preservation thereof, so that after the raising and Payment of the same, they shall be freed, and for ever exempted from all further Expence, touching the rebuilding or repairing thereof, otherwise than by the Tolls and Duties to be raised for those Purposes, in Manner herein after mentioned; and although the rebuilding of the said Bridge will be a very great Advantage to the said County, and of publick Utility, yet the same cannot by the Laws and Statutes now in force, be rebuilt, and Money raised for that Purpose upon the said County, without the Aid and Authority of Parliament; May it therefore please Your most Excellent Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That the said Bridge shall with all convenient Speed be rebuilt cross the said River Ribble, either in the same Place where the said Bridge stood that is lately fallen, or from some other proper Place in the Township of Penwortham aforesaid, lying between the said Call or Weir near the Fish House and the said Messuage or Dwelling-house called the Boat House in Penwortham aforesaid, to the opposite Shore in the Township of Preston aforesaid, with necessary and proper Ramparts, Wings, Walls, Banks, and other Works, for the Support and Preservation thereof; and that every Person whatsoever, who shall for the time being be seised in his own Right, or in Right of his Wife, for Life, or of a greater Estate or Interest of and in Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, lying and being within the said County of Lancaster, of the yearly Value of One hundred Pounds, over and above all Deductions and Reprizes, and in the actual Possession or Receipt of the Rents and Profits of the same; or who shall be resident in the said County of Lancaster, and possessed of, or intitled unto, Personal Estate alone, or Real and

Qualification of Commissioners.

Personal Estate together, to the Value of Two thousand Pounds; or who shall be Heir Apparent of a Person seised in Manner aforesaid, of an Estate in Land, lying and being in the said County of Lancaster, of the clear yearly Value of Two hundred Pounds; shall be, and are hereby constituted and appointed to be Commissioners, for designing, erecting, ordering, and rebuilding such Bridge, with necessary and convenient Ramparts, Wings, Walls, Banks, and other Works, for the Support and Preservation thereof, in the Place and Stead of the Commissioners appointed by or in pursuance of the said recited Act, for building the Bridge thereby directed to be built.

Time and Place of Commissioners Meeting.

And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, shall meet together at the Town Hall in Preston aforesaid, on the Twenty fourth Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and fifty seven, and shall there adjourn themselves, and afterwards meet again, from time to time, upon such Adjournments or Notices, and at such Place or Places, and within such Distances, and in such Manner, as the Commissioners named in the said recited Act for building the said Bridge were impowered or enabled to do; and shall at all and every their Meetings bear and pay their own Expences.

Commissioners to defray their own Expences.

Commissioners to determine where, and how the Bridge is to be built.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any Five or more of the said Commissioners appointed by this Act, and they are hereby impowered, at their First, or any other subsequent Meeting or Meetings, to design, assign, and lay out, how, and in what Manner, and at what Place or Places, and with what Materials the said Bridge shall be rebuilt, and the Ramparts, Wings, Walls, Banks, and other Works, for the Support and Preservation of the same, be erected and done, and the Ways and Passages to and from the same set out, opened, enlarged, and made; and to do all other Matters and Things whatsoever, necessary or proper for carrying on and effecting the Purposes aforesaid, and to cause the same to be effectually done, and perfected accordingly.

Commissioners impowered to dig Gravel, &c.

And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, or any Person or Persons employed by them, or any Five or more of them, his and their Servants, Agents, and Workmen, to dig, gather, take, and carry away, Gravel, Sand, Stones, and other Materials; and to cut or make use of any Grounds adjoining or lying contiguous

to

to the said River; and to enlarge all or any of the Roads in Preston and Penwortham, leading to, and being within the Distance of One Mile from the said Bridge, and to set out and make new and convenint Roads within the same Distance, and to do all other Matters and Things whatsoever necessary or proper for rebuilding and completing the said Bridge, and other Works as aforesaid, and for making convenient Roads thereto, in as full and ample Manner to all Intents and Purposes, as the Commissioners appointed by the said recited Act, or any Five or more of them, his or their Servants, Agents, or Workmen, were impowered or enabled to do, by virtue of the said recited Act, for erecting and making the Bridge, and other Works thereby directed to be built and made; and the Roads so to be set out and made, shall be esteemed and taken, and are hereby declared, to be publick Highways, to all Intents and Purposes, and be repaired in such Manner, as the Roads directed to be set out by the said recited Act were thereby ordered to be repaired; and that the Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, shall, and are hereby impowered and enabled to execute, do, and perform, all and every such Powers and Authorities, Matters and Things, whatsoever, for rebuilding the said Bridge, and making the said Works, as the Commissioners appointed by the said recited Act for building the said Bridge thereby directed, were by such Act impowered or directed to execute, do, or perform, for that Purpose, and in as ample Manner, to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same were herein particularly repeated, and given to them by express Words.

and to widen the Roads.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in order to defray the Expence of rebuilding the said Bridge, with necessary and proper Ramparts, Wings, Walls, Banks, and other Works, for the Support and Preservation thereof, and to answer the other Purposes of this Act, the Sum of Two thousand Pounds, and no more, shall be levied and raised by a County Rate upon the said County of Lancaster, and paid within the Space of Three Years, in Manner following; to wit, The Sum of One thousand Pounds, Part thereof, on the First Day of November, One thousand seven hundred and fifty seven; the Sum of Five hundred Pounds, other Part thereof, on the First Day of August, One thousand seven hundred and fifty eight; and the Sum of Five hundred Pounds, Residue thereof, on the First Day of November, One thousand seven hundred and fifty nine; and that in order to raise the same, the Justices of Peace for

Two thousand Pounds to be raised by a County Rate.

the

the said County of Lancaster, at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held in and for the same County, at Preston aforesaid, by Adjournment, or otherwise, next after the Twenty fourth Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and fifty seven, shall, and are hereby directed and required to issue a Roll or Assessment to the several High or Chief Constables, or other Officers of the several Hundreds, Wapentakes, Liberties, and Divisions, within the said County of Lancaster, to whom Rolls or Assessments for County Rates are usually directed or sent, and shall therein ascertain and set down the several Proportions to be charged upon every Hundred, Wapentake, Liberty, and Division, within the said County, for and towards raising and making up the Sum of One thousand Pounds, being One Moiety of the said Sum of Two thousand Pounds, by the same Rates and Proportions, and in the same Manner, as such respective Hundreds, Wapentakes, Liberties, and Divisions, are usually charged, upon raising Money to County Rates, for repairing the Gaol of the said County, and conveying Vagrants; and shall therein require and order such High and Chief Constables, and other Officers respectively, to collect and raise, within their respective Hundreds, Wapentakes, Liberties, and Divisions, the Sum or Sums so charged upon them respectively, towards raising the said One thousand Pounds, and to pay the same on the First Day of November then next ensuing, to the Treasurer and Clerk of the said Commissioners for the time being, to be chosen, appointed, and certified, to the said Quarter Sessions, as hereinafter is mentioned; and in like Manner the Justices of the Peace for the said County of Lancaster, at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held in and for the same County, at Preston as aforesaid, next after the Feast of Easter, One thousand seven hundred and fifty eight, shall, and they are hereby directed and required to issue another Roll or Assessment to the said Chief or High Constables, and other Officers, in Manner aforesaid, for raising the further Sum of Five hundred Pounds, other Part of the said Sum of Two thousand Pounds, to be paid to the said Treasurer or Clerk of the said Commissioners, for the time being, on the First Day of August, One thousand seven hundred and fifty eight; and so in like Manner, the Justices of the Peace of and for the said County of Lancaster, at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held in and for the same County at Preston, as aforesaid, next after the Feast of Easter, One thousand seven hundred and fifty nine, shall, and are hereby

hereby directed and required to issue another Roll or Assessment to the said Chief or High Constables, and other Officers, in Manner aforesaid, for raising the further Sum of Five hundred Pounds, Residue of the said Sum of Two thousand Pounds, to be paid to the Treasurer or Clerk of the said Commissioners, for the time being, on the First Day of November, One thousand seven hundred and fifty nine; and the said High or Chief Constables, and other Officers, shall, immediately upon the Receipt of every such Roll or Assessment, ascertain and apportion how much shall be paid by every Township, Hill, Hamlet, Booth, District, or other Place, within their respective Hundreds, Wapentakes, Liberties, and Divisions, towards making up the Sums to be by them respectively collected and raised, by the same Rates and Proportions, and in the same Manner, as Money is usually collected and raised within such respective Hundreds, Wapentakes, Liberties, and Divisions, towards the Repair of the County Gaol, and conveying Vagrants, in the same County; and shall forthwith issue Precepts to the Petty Constables, Greaves, and other Officers of the several Townships, Hills, Hamlets, Booths, Districts, and other Places, within their respective Hundreds, Wapentakes, Liberties, and Divisions, thereby directing and requiring them respectively to assess, collect, and raise, the several Sums so charged on their respective Townships, Hills, Hamlets, Booths, Districts, and other Places; and the said several Petty Constables, Greaves, and other Officers, shall, immediately upon Receipt of every such Precept, make, or cause to be made, a fair and equal Assessment or Assessments upon the Owners and Occupiers of Lands in, and Inhabitants of, their respective Townships, Hills, Hamlets, Booths, and Districts, for raising the Monies directed to be raised by them respectively, in the same Manner and Proportions as Assessments are usually made to raise Money, for repairing the County Gaol, and conveying Vagrants; and shall collect and levy the same by such and the like Ways and Means as Monies assessed and levied for the Repair of the County Gaol, and conveying Vagrants, is collected and levied; and shall pay and answer the same to their respective Chief or High Constables, or other Officers, in due Time, that so they may duly answer and pay to the Treasurer and Clerk of the said Commissioners, the several Sums directed to be raised by them respectively, as aforesaid, at the respective Times herein before appointed for Payment thereof, which they are hereby directed and required to do accordingly; and, upon Re-

ceipt thereof, the said Treasurer or Clerk shall, and is hereby required to give unto such High or Chief Constables, and other Officers, respectively, a Receipt or Acquittance, under his Hand, for the Sums so paid to him; and such Receipts or Acquittances shall be a full Discharge to such High or Chief Constables, and other Officers, respectively, and to their respective Hundreds, Wapentakes, and Divisions, for the Sums so by them respectively paid as aforesaid; and the Clerk of the Peace of the said County shall have and receive for the issuing of every such Roll the Sum of Five Shillings, and no more, from the High or Chief Constables, or other Officers, of each Hundred, Wapentake, or Division, who are hereby directed to pay the same accordingly.

Act 12 Geo. II. extended to this Act.

And, for facilitating the Raising and Payment of the said several Sums of One thousand Pounds, Five hundred Pounds, and Five hundred Pounds, at the Times and in Manner aforesaid; be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every the Powers, Authorities, Directions, and Clauses, contained in an Act of Parliament, made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of his present Majesty, intituled, An Act for the more easy assessing, collecting, and levying, of County Rates, shall be, and are hereby extended, to the assessing, collecting, and levying, the said Sums, amounting to Two thousand Pounds, herein before directed to be raised, in as full and ample Manner, to all Intents and Purposes, as if the Powers, Authorities, Directions, and Clauses, contained in such Act, relating to the assessing, collecting, and levying, of County Rates, had been inserted herein Word by Word; and if any High or Chief Constable, Petty Constable, Greave, Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor, or other Officer, shall refuse or neglect to make or issue any such Precept or Precepts, or to make any such Apportionment or Apportionments, Assessment or Assessments, as is or are herein before directed and appointed to be made; or to raise, collect, or pay, the Sum or Sums herein before directed to be by them respectively collected, raised, and paid, according to the Directions, true Intent, and Meaning of this Act, or that shall, in any Manner whatsoever, wilfully neglect his or their Duty in the Premisses; every Person and Persons, so refusing or neglecting, shall, for every such Refusal or Neglect, incur the same Penalties, to be recovered and levied in the same Manner as by the said recited Act of the Twelfth Year of his present Majesty, or by any other Law or Statute now in Force, are inflicted upon, and directed to be recovered against High or Chief Constables, Petty Constables,

Constables, Greaves, Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poor, and other Officers, for their Refusal or Neglect, to assess, collect, levy, or pay, any County Rate whatsoever; and if any Person or Persons shall think him, her, or themselves, over rated or aggrieved by any Rate or Assessment to be made in pursuance hereof, he or they may appeal to the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the said County of Lancaster, that shall be held by Adjournment, or otherwise, next after the issuing of such Rolls respectively, at such Place in the said County where the Business for the Hundred, Wapentake, Liberty, or Division, wherein such Rate shall be made, hath been usually done, giving Notice in Writing of such Appeal, as well to the Treasurer and Clerk of the said Commissioners, as to the Officer or Officers that made such Rate or Assessment, Six Days at least before such Quarter Sessions; and the Justices of Peace at such respective Quarter Sessions, shall proceed to hear and determine the same, and cause such Rate or Assessment to be regulated or altered, if they see Occasion, in such Manner as to them shall seem proper, so as that the Sum total assessed on any such Hundred, Wapentake, Liberty, Division, Township, Hill, Hamlet, Booth, District, or Place, be not thereby diminished or lessened; and the Determination of the said Justices, at such Quarter Sessions respectively, shall be final and conclusive on all Persons concerned, and to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever; and every Rate or Assessment, against which no such Appeal shall be made, shall be also binding and conclusive, to all Intents and Purposes, and shall stand and be levied according to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act.

Persons aggrieved may appeal to the Quarter Sessions.

And, if it should happen that the said Two thousand Pounds, directed to be raised upon the said County, be not sufficient to rebuild the said Bridge, with proper Ramparts, Wings, Walls, and other Works, for the Support and Preservation thereof, and to answer the other Purposes before-mentioned; be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Commissioners appointed by this Act, or any Five or more of them, in case the said Sum of Two thousand Pounds be not sufficient for the Purposes aforesaid, and not otherwise, to erect, or cause to be set up, a Turnpike or Toll-gate upon or at either End of the said Bridge to be rebuilt as aforesaid; and to lay and assess, as a Duty or Pontage, in the Nature of a Toll, to be paid before any Passage over the said Bridge shall be permitted, not exceeding the several Sums which,

Tolls to be collected, if the 2000 *l.* is insufficient.

which, by the said recited Act of the Twenty fourth Year of His present Majesty's Reign, the Commissioners thereby appointed for building the said Bridge, were impowered or enabled to lay or assess for that Purpose; and the same shall be collected, paid, received, and levied, by such Ways and Means, and in such Manner, as the Tolls or Duties directed by the last-mentioned Act for building the said Bridge, were ordered or appointed to be collected, levied, and raised, for that Purpose; and that the Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, shall have, and are hereby invested with, all and every the Powers and Authorities touching the laying, assessing, collecting, and levying, the Tolls and Duties herein before directed; and for appointing Collectors, Receivers, and other Officers, for those Purposes; and for mortgaging, assigning, and leasing, the same; and for punishing Frauds to evade the Payment thereof; and with all other Powers and Authorities whatsoever relating thereto, as the said Commissioners appointed by the said recited Act of the Twenty fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, for building the Bridge thereby directed to be built, or any Five or more of them, were thereby impowered or enabled to execute, do, or perform, relating to the Duties or Tolls for building that Bridge, as fully, to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same were here repeated and inserted Word by Word.

Tolls to cease when a sufficient Sum is raised.

Provided always, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That when and so soon as a sufficient Sum of Money shall, in the Judgement of the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, be raised and collected by the Tolls and Duties before-mentioned, as will be sufficient, with the said Two thousand Pounds, to rebuild and perfect the said Bridge and other Works; and to pay the Charges and Salaries incident to, and attending the raising and collecting of the same; and such Sum and Sums of Money as shall be borrowed thereon, with the Interest due for the same; and to answer the other Purposes before-mentioned; then, and from thenceforth, the said Tolls and Duties herein before directed to be raised, shall cease and determine; and if any Surplus of the Monies arising by such Tolls or Duties shall, after rebuilding and perfecting the said Bridge, remain unapplied, the same shall be paid to such Person or Persons as the Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Nine or more of them, shall, by Writing under their Hands, direct or appoint, to remain as a Fund until Repairs are wanted, and be then applied

applied for and towards the same; and, in the mean Time, the said Commissioners, or any Nine or more of them, are hereby impowered to direct the same to be placed out at Interest, in such Manner, and on such Securities, as they, or any Nine or more of them, shall think fit.

Bridge to be kept in Repair by Tolls.

And, for making Provision for the future Repairs of the said intended Bridge after the rebuilding thereof, and the Ramparts, Wings, Walls, Banks, and other Works thereto belonging, as the same shall, from time to time, become necessary; be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every the Person and Persons herein before appointed to be Commissioners for rebuilding the said Bridge, shall be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners for the future Repairs thereof, in the Place and Stead of the Commissioners appointed by the said recited Act of the Twenty fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, for the future Repairs of the Bridge thereby directed to be built; and that it shall and may be lawful to and for the Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, from time to time, when any Repairs shall be wanting to the said Bridge intended to be rebuilt as aforesaid, to take such Measures for and concerning the Repair thereof; and to erect and set up a Turnpike or Toll-gate upon or at either End of the said Bridge, and thereat to take, collect, and receive, a Toll or Pontage, not exceeding the Duties mentioned in the said recited Act last-mentioned, for the future Repairs of the Bridge thereby directed to be built; and the same shall be collected, paid, received, and levied, by such Ways and Means, and in such Manner, as the Tolls and Duties directed by the said last-mentioned Act, for future Repairs of the Bridge thereby directed to be built, were ordered and appointed to be collected, levied, and raised; and that the Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, shall have, and are hereby invested with, all and every the Powers and Authorities touching the laying and assessing, collecting and levying the Tolls and Duties hereby appointed for the future Repairs of the Bridge hereby directed to be rebuilt, and the Ramparts, Wings, Walls, and other Works thereunto belonging; and for appointing Collectors, Receivers, and other Officers; and for mortgaging, assigning, and leasing the same; and to punish Frauds for evading the Payment thereof; and with all other Powers and Authorities whatsoever, that the Commissioners appointed by the said recited Act of the Twenty fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, for the future

Repairs of the Bridge thereby directed to be built, or any Five or more of them, were thereby impowered or enabled to execute, do, and perform, relating to the Duties or Tolls for the future Repairs of that Bridge, as fully, to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same were here repeated and inserted Word by Word.

Power of former Act, relating to the Tolls, extend to this.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every the Powers, Authorities, Directions, Clauses, Matters, and Things whatsoever, contained in the said recited Act of the Twenty fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, touching the assessing, laying, collecting, gathering, levying, or recovering, the Tolls and Duties by that Act directed to be raised, as well for the building as future Repairs of the Bridge thereby directed to be built, or in any wise relating thereto; or for punishing or preventing Frauds to evade the Payment thereof, shall be, and are hereby vested in the Commissioners hereby appointed; and they, or any Five or more of them, shall, and are hereby impowered to execute, do, and perform the same, in relation to the respective Tolls and Duties hereby directed, as fully, to all Intents and Purposes, as the respective Commissioners, appointed by the said recited Act, were thereby impowered or enabled to do relating to the Tolls and Duties therein mentioned.

Trustees to nominate Officers;

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, at their First or any subsequent Meeting or Meetings, by Writing under their Hands, to nominate and appoint such Person to be their Treasurer and Clerk for receiving and paying the Monies to be received and paid in pursuance of this Act; and for entering and transcribing such Orders, Warrants, and Precepts, and doing such other Matters as may be necessary or proper to be done in the Execution of the Powers hereby given and granted; which Treasurer and Clerk shall, from time to time, be removeable at the Pleasure of the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Nine or more of them, at any such Meeting or Meetings as aforesaid, by Writing under the Hands of them, or any Nine or more of them; and the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, shall, and are hereby required, upon every such Nomination or Appointment of a Treasurer and Clerk, to certify to the Justices of Peace at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, to be held by Adjournment, or otherwise at Preston aforesaid, in and for the said County of Lancaster, next after the Nomination

and remove them, and appoint others.

mination or Appointment of every such Treasurer and Clerk, the Name, Place of Abode, and Addition, of every such Treasurer and Clerk so, from time to time, to be nominated and appointed, that so the said Justices may know to whom they shall direct the Money to be raised by virtue of this Act, to be, from time to time, paid; and every such Certificate shall be recorded or filed amongst the Records or Proceedings of the said Court of Quarter Sessions, by the Clerk of the Peace for the said County, who is hereby required to record and file the same accordingly, without Fee or Reward; and the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Nine or more of them, may make such Allowances, out of the Monies to be raised pursuant to the Directions of this Act, unto such Treasurer and Clerk, for his Care and Pains in the Execution of his Office, as they, or any Nine or more of them, shall, from time to time, think reasonable; and the said Treasurer and Clerk shall, upon Oath, if required by the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, at any such Meeting or Meetings as aforesaid, from time to time, give in a true, exact, and perfect Account, in Writing under his Hand, of all Monies which he shall have received, paid, and disbursed, by virtue or in pursuance of this Act, or by reason of his said Office; which Oath the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, are hereby impowered to administer.

Trustees to allow Officers Salaries.

Treasurer to account upon Oath.

Provided always, and be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Treasurer or Treasurers, Receiver or Receivers, to be appointed as aforesaid, shall, before he or they enter upon the said respective Offices, give such Security for the due Execution thereof, as to the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, shall seem meet.

Treasurer to give Security.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That there shall be provided and kept by the Treasurer and Clerk to be appointed pursuant to this Act, One or more Book or Books, in which all Monies received by him by virtue of this Act, or for any of the Purposes thereof, and all Payments and Disbursements out of the same, by Order or Direction of the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, shall from time to time be fairly set down and entered, truly expressing the Times and the Names of the Persons respectively, from, to, or by whom the same were so received and disbursed, and for what Uses or Purposes; and upon reasonable Request, shall, Once in every Year, or oftner, if required by the said Commissioners hereby

Accounts to be kept by the Clerk.

appointed, or any Five or more of them, draw out, state, and sign the Account from the said Book or Books so to be kept as aforesaid, and deliver the same to the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or to any Five or more of them; which said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, are hereby impowered, from time to time, to discharge such Treasurer and Clerk, so accounting, of all such Monies as he shall fairly and truly have accounted for as aforesaid; and the Acquittance or Discharge of the Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, under their Hands, shall be a full and absolute Discharge to the said Treasurer or Clerk, for all Monies so by him paid, received, and accounted for, as aforesaid; and the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Three of them, shall, and may at all seasonable and proper Times, have Recourse to, and inspect, in the Hands of the said Treasurer and Clerk, the Proceedings of the said Commissioners hereby appointed, and all such Book or Books of Account to be kept, as aforesaid, without any Fee or Reward; and may have Copies thereof, or of any Part thereof, paying for the same after the Rate of Three Pence for every Two hundred Words.

Power to make Contracts.

And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, and they are hereby fully authorized and impowered, to make such Contracts and Agreements, as they shall think proper, with any Artificers, Workmen, or other Persons, for rebuilding or making such Bridge, Ramparts, Wings, Walls, Banks, Ways, and other Works, or any Part or Parts thereof; and that all such Artificers and others, who shall make any such Contracts or Agreements with the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, for rebuilding or finishing all or any Part of the said Bridge or other Works intended to be built or made by virtue of the Powers given in and by this Act, shall give Security to be approved of by the said Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, for the due Performance of all and every the Matters and Things contained in such Contracts or Agreements, according to the true Intent and Meaning of the same.

Particular Exemptions.

And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every the Clauses, Matters, and Things whatsoever, contained in the said recited Act of the Twenty fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, for impowering the Commissioners thereby appointed, or any

of

of them, to erect or set up a Ferry or Ferries cross the said River, on the particular Occasions therein mentioned; and to take such Rates or Duties for Passage over such Ferry or Ferries (the neat Money arising whereby shall be applied towards rebuilding the Bridge hereby directed, and the future Repairs thereof, as the Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, shall, from time to time, think proper) and for exempting Persons, in particular Cases therein mentioned, from Payment of the Tolls and Duties thereby directed above Once in the same Day, or the Day following; and for erecting Rails, Gates, or Fences, on both Sides, or either Side of the said River, in order to prevent Persons from passing, or endeavouring to pass through the same to avoid paying the Tolls or Duties thereby directed; and also for making and leaving Gates and Passages for the Occupation of the Islands in the said River, called The Holmes; and for preventing Persons passing and repassing through such Gates and Passages, whereby the Payment of the Rates and Duties thereby directed, might be avoided; and also for giving Liberty of Ingress, Egress, and Regress, to and from the said Islands, for taking and carrying away the Tythes growing and renewing on the said Islands; and for lending the Key or Keys of the Gate or Gates leading thereto for that Purpose; and for preventing such Gate or Gates being left open or unlocked, or any Person or Persons passing through the same, whereby the Payment of the Tolls or Duties thereby directed, might be avoided; and also for compounding with Passengers by the Year, or otherwise, for the said Tolls or Duties thereby directed; and for recovering and levying such Compositions; and also for declaring, that no Order should be made, or Resolutions taken, at any Meeting or Meetings where Nine or more Commissioners were present, without the Consent of the major Part of them; and also for preventing Persons from sitting or acting as Commissioners in Cases where they are directly or indirectly concerned; and for imposing upon and recovering Penalties from any Person or Persons thereby disabled from acting as a Commissioner, who shall presume to act as such; and for punishing such Persons as should wilfully and maliciously destroy or damage the said Bridge thereby directed, or interrupt the building thereof; and also for declaring that Bridge, and the Toll and Duties to be laid by virtue thereof, not assessable to any publick or parochial Rate; and for making such Bridge extraparochial; and for preventing and remedying the Overflowing of the neighbouring Lands

in the building thereof; and also for exempting all Proceedings for putting that Act in Execution, as well of the Commissioners thereby appointed, as of His Majesty's Justices of Peace, from any Stamp Duty; and for preventing any Conviction, Order, Warrant, or other Proceeding, touching the Matters aforesaid, or relating thereto, being quashed or set aside for Want of Form, or being removeable by Certiorari; and for declaring, that Distresses by virtue of that Act should not be deemed unlawful, or the Party or Parties a Trespasser or Trespassers on account of any Defect, or want of Form in the Warrant of Distress, or a Trespasser or Trespassers ab initio, on account of any Irregularity after-distraining, and for directing a Satisfaction for the Special Damage sustained thereby, and no more; and for preventing a Recovery, in any Action, for such Irregularity, where Tender of Amends had been made; and for limiting the Time for bringing Actions against any Person or Persons for any thing done in pursuance of that Act; and for directing where the same shall be brought and laid, and what the Defendant or Defendants may plead and give in Evidence; and for directing a Verdict or Verdicts to be given for the Defendant or Defendants, in the particular Cases therein mentioned; and for giving Costs against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, in Cases of Nonsuit, Discontinuance, Verdict, and Judgement, upon Demurrer; and for recovering such Costs; shall be and are hereby extended to this present Act of Parliament; and shall be deemed and taken as Part thereof, for the Purposes herein before mentioned, according to the Tenor, true Intent, and Meaning thereof; and as fully to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same were herein inserted and repeated Word by Word; and the same shall extend to the rebuilding of the said Bridge, and the Ramparts, Wings, Walls, Banks, and other Works, to be made for the Support thereof; and to the Tolls and Duties to be laid, assessed, collected, and received, in pursuance of this Act; and to all other Matters and Things herein contained, in as ample Manner, to all Intents and Purposes, as they did or could, or were intended to extend, to the erecting of the Bridge, Ramparts, Wings, Walls, Banks, and other Works, directed to be built and made by the said Act of the Twenty fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, or to the Tolls and Duties therein mentioned, or to any other Matters and Things therein contained; and the Commissioners hereby appointed, or any Five or more of them, shall and may, and they are hereby impowered, to execute, do, and perform

perform all Powers, Authorities, Matters, and Things, whatsoever, relating to the Clauses aforesaid, or any of them, or any other Matter or Thing whatsoever, contained in such recited Act, in as full and ample Manner, to all Intents and Purposes, as the Commissioners either for building the Bridge thereby directed to be built, or for the future Repairs thereof, or any particular Number of either Set of those Commissioners, were impowered or enabled to execute, do, or perform, by virtue or in pursuance of the said recited Act.

Exemptions from Tolls.

Provided always, and it is hereby declared, That no Toll or Duty shall be paid at any Turnpike or Toll-gate to be erected or set up pursuant to this Act, for passing or repassing with Carts or Carriages with or for Gravel or other Materials for Repair of the Highways in the Parishes of Preston and Penwortham aforesaid, or either of them.

Only 2000 *l.* to be raised on the County.

And be it hereby enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no further or other Sum or Sums of Money, than the said Sum of Two thousand Pounds, shall at any Time hereafter be assessed, tared, or raised, upon the said County Palatine of Lancaster, or the Inhabitants thereof, for the future rebuilding of the said Bridge, in case the same shall again fall; or for the future Repairs thereof, or of the Ramparts, Wings, Walls, Banks, or other Works, for the Support or Preservation thereof; save and except by the Pontage, Tolls, and Duties, to be laid, assessed, received, and taken, for those Purposes, by virtue and in pursuance of this Act.

Justices for *Preston*, not to act, unless Justices for the County.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Justice of the Peace for the Borough of Preston aforesaid, shall do any Act, Matter, or Thing, as a Justice of the Peace, by virtue of this or the said recited Act, unless such Justice be also a Justice of the Peace for the said County of Lancaster.

Charges of passing this Act to be first paid.

Provided always, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them, shall, out of the first Monies which shall be raised and received by virtue of this Act, defray and discharge all the Expences incurred in, and upon Account of obtaining this Act.

Publick Act.

And it is hereby further enacted and declared, That this Act shall be deemed and taken as a Publick Act; and shall be taken Notice of as such, by all Judges, Justices of the Peace, and other Persons, in all Courts and Places, without specially pleading the same.

Saving.

Saving, and always reserving, as in and by the said recited Act of the Twenty fourth Year of the Reign of His

his present Majesty, was saved and reserved to the Lords, Owners, and Proprietors, of all Royalties or Liberties of Fishing and Fowling upon the said River Ribble, their respective Rights and Privileges of Fishing and Fowling in and upon the same; any thing herein before contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

FINIS.
