Anno ſecundo

Georgii III. Regis.

An Act for the better Relief and Employment of the Poor, and for Cleanſing the Streets, Lanes, and other Paſſages and Places in the Pariſh of *Saint James*, within the Liberty of *Weſtminſter*; and for enlarging the Church Yard belonging to the ſaid Pariſh.



WHEREAS the Pariſh of Saint James, within the Liberty of Weſtminſter, is very large and populous, and the Poor thereof are exceedingly numerous, for whoſe Relief great Sums are annually raiſed by Poors Rates; and it is the Duty of the Overſeers of the Poor to collect thoſe Rates Quarterly, and alſo to relieve, employ, and take Care of, all the ſaid Poor, which is too burthenſome and extenſive a Duty to be well performed by the ſaid Overſeers, who are only Four in Number: And whereas the cleanſing of the Streets, Lanes, and other open Paſſages and Places in the ſaid Pariſh, has of late been ſo greatly neglected by the Scavengers and Rakers, as to render the ſame a Nuiſance both to the Inhabitants and to Paſſengers: And whereas by an Act of Parliament, made in the Twentieth Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King George the Second, intituled, An Act to confirm

Preamble, reciting Act 20 *Geo.* II.

an Agreement made by the Rector and Vestrymen of the Parish of *Saint James*, within the Liberty of *Westminster*, for enlarging the Church Yard of the said Parish, and other the Purposes therein mentioned; divers Sums of Money, rateable by Law on the Inhabitants of the said Parish, are by the said Act directed to be paid and applied, from time to time, out of the Monies collected for the Relief of the Poor, to and for the Payment of the Preacher Assistant to the Rector of the said Parish, and for and on account of such Robberies, and for the Relief of such sick, hurt, and maimed Soldiers and Mariners, and for and towards the amending, repairing, paving, cleansing, and supporting such common Highways, Causeways, Streets, and Pavements in the said Parish, and for providing and maintaining such Engine or Engines, Stopblocks, and Fire Cocks and Keys, and other Implements and Materials, and Payment of such Rewards on account of Fires in the said Parish, as are particularly mentioned in the same Act of Parliament: And whereas it would tend greatly to the Advantage of the said Parish, if other Provisions were made by Law for nominating Overseers, and for the better Relief, Employment, and taking Care of the Poor of the said Parish, than are contained in the general Laws now in being relating to the Poor; and if (instead of appointing Scavengers and Rakers) Powers were given to the Vestrymen of the said Parish, to contract annually with proper Persons for cleansing the Streets, Lanes, and other open Passages and Places in the said Parish, and for carrying away from thence the Dust, Dirt, Ashes, Filth and Soil thereof, and to make Rates for those Purposes; and also, if the Monies to be raised for the Relief of the Poor, and for making the Payments directed by the above-mentioned Act of Parliament, and likewise for cleansing the Streets, Lanes, and other open Passages and Places in the said Parish, were to be assessed annually, in Two distinct Assessments, to be entered in the same Books, and to be collected together: For Remedy therefore of the aforesaid Inconveniencies; May it 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 Vestrymen; by the Authority of the same, That the Vestrymen for the time being of the said Parish of Saint James, (who by virtue of an Act of Parliament made in the First Year of the Reign of the late King James the Second, intituled, An Act for erecting a new Parish, to be called The Parish

of

of *Saint James* within the Liberty of *Weſtminſter*, have Power and Authority for ordering and regulating the Affairs of the ſaid Pariſh, in ſuch Manner as in that Act is mentioned) ſhall, and they are hereby authorized and required to meet together in the Veſtry Room of the Pariſh Church of the ſaid Pariſh, on Eaſter Tueſday in the Year One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty two; or on ſome Wedneſday within the Space of Two Calendar Months next after the ſaid Eaſter Tueſday; and on ſome Day in Eaſter Week in every enſuing Year; and the major Part of them ſo met, ſhall then and there make a Liſt in Writing of the Names of Eight Perſons, being ſubſtantial Houſeholders in the ſaid Pariſh, whom ſuch Veſtrymen ſhall think fitly qualified to be nominated and appointed Overſeers of the Poor of the ſaid Pariſh for the ſaid Year One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty two, and ſo in like Manner for every enſuing Year; which Liſt ſhall be fairly entered in the Minute Books of the ſaid Veſtrymens Proceedings, and true Copies thereof, atteſted under the Hands of the Veſtry Clerks of the ſaid Pariſh, ſhall by them, or One of them, be delivered, with all convenient Speed, to any Two Juſtices of the Peace for the City and Liberty of Weſtminſter, then reſiding in or near to the ſaid Pariſh, who ſhall, and they are hereby authorized and required thereupon, forthwith, by Writing under their Hands and Seals, to nominate and appoint any Four, whom they ſhall think proper, of the Perſons named in ſuch Copy or Copies of the ſaid Liſt, to be Overſeers of the Poor of the ſaid Pariſh for the Year then next enſuing, and until new Overſeers ſhall in like Manner be nominated and appointed to ſucceed them; which Perſons, when ſo nominated and appointed, and having Notice thereof, ſhall from thenceforth, together with the Churchwardens for the time being of the ſaid Pariſh, be, and be deemed Overſeers of the Poor of the ſaid Pariſh of Saint James; and they and each of them the ſaid Overſeers, ſo nominated and appointed as aforeſaid, ſhall, and they are hereby ſeverally required to do, perform, and execute their reſpective Duty and Duties, and Office and Offices of Overſeer and Overſeers of the Poor of the ſaid Pariſh accordingly; and in caſe they, any or either of them, ſhall refuſe or neglect ſo to do, by the Space of Seven Days next after his or their having had ſuch Notice as aforeſaid, then One or more other Perſon or Perſons named in the ſaid Liſt, ſhall in like Manner be nominated and appointed, under the Hands and Seals of ſuch Two Juſtices of the Peace, to be an Overſeer or Overſeers of the Poor

Their Firſt and ſubſequent Meetings.

Appointment of Overſeers,

Overſeers refuſing or neglecting their Duty, others to be choſen.

of the said Parish, in the Stead of him or them who shall so refuse or neglect.

And in case of such Neglect or Refusal to serve, to forfeit 12*l.*

And be it further enacted, That every Person nominated and appointed an Overseer of the Poor of the said Parish in Manner aforesaid, who shall refuse or neglect to take upon himself that Office and Duty, within the Space of Seven Days next after he shall have had Notice of his being so nominated and appointed, shall, upon Proof thereof by the Oath or Oaths of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, before any Two such Justices of the Peace as aforesaid (which Oath or Oaths they the said Justices are hereby authorized to administer) respectively forfeit and pay, for such Refusal or Neglect, the Sum of Twelve Pounds for the Use of the Poor of the said Parish, to be levied by Distress and Sale of his respective Goods and Chattles, by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of the same Two Justices of the Peace, before whom the Proof of such Refusal or Neglect shall be made as aforesaid, to be directed to the Constables for the City and Liberty of Westminster, or any of them (which Warrant or Warrants the said Justices are hereby impowered and required to make and issue) and the said Constables are hereby respectively required to execute every such Warrant accordingly, and with all convenient Speed to pay over all the Monies which shall, from time to time, be so forfeited and levied, into the Hands of the Treasurer or Treasurers for the time being, to be appointed in pursuance of this Act, who shall apply, account for, and pay the same in like Manner as he or they ought to apply, account for, and pay any other Monies to be assessed and raised for the Relief of the Poor by virtue of this Act.

And whereas by an Act of Parliament made in the Seventeenth Year of the Reign of his said late Majesty King George the Second, intituled, An Act for Remedying some Defects in the Act made in the Forty third Year of the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, intituled, *An Act for the Relief of the Poor*, it was amongst other Things enacted, That from and after the Twenty fourth Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and forty four, the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor should yearly and every Year, within Fourteen Days after other Overseers should be nominated and appointed to succeed them, deliver in to such succeeding Overseers a just, true, and perfect Account in Writing, fairly entered in a Book or Books to be kept for that Purpose and signed by the said Churchwardens and Overseers thereby directed to account as aforesaid, under their Hands, of all Sums of Money by them received, or rated and assessed, and not

received; and also of all Goods, Chattles, Stock, and Materials that should be in their Hands, or in the Hands of any of the Poor in order to be wrought, and of all Monies paid by such Churchwardens and Overseers so accounting; and of all other Things concerning their said Office; and should also pay and deliver over all Sums of Money, Goods, Chattles, and other Things as should be in their Hands, unto such succeeding Overseers of the Poor; which said Account should be verified by Oath, or by the Affirmation of Persons called Quakers, before One or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, and which said Oath or Affirmation such Justice or Justices were thereby authorized and required to administer, and to sign and attest the Caption of the same at the Foot of the said Account without Fee or Reward; and that the said Book or Books should be carefully preserved by the Churchwardens and Overseers, or One of them, in some public or other Place in every Parish, Township, or Place: And whereas for the better carrying into Execution the Intents and Purposes of this Act, with respect to the Relief of the Poor, it is necessary that the Persons who were nominated and appointed Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish of Saint James, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and fifty one, should account for all Things concerning their Office of Overseers of the Poor, and pay and deliver over all Sums of Money, Goods, Chattles, and other Things, as shall, at the Expiration of their said Office, be in their Hands, in such Manner and to such Person or Persons as is herein after directed; be it therefore further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That on the Saturday Fortnight next after the passing of this Act, there shall be a Meeting of the Vestrymen of the said Parish of Saint James, held in the Vestry Room of the Parish Church of the said Parish, between the Hours of Ten and Twelve in the Forenoon of that Day, at which Time and Place, all the said Persons who were nominated and appointed Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and fifty one, shall and they are hereby severally required personally to attend, and then and there to deliver to such of the said Vestrymen as shall be so met, a just, true, and perfect Account in Writing, fairly entered in a Book or Books to be prepared for that Purpose, signed by them the said Overseers, of all Sums of Money by them or any of them respectively received, or rated and assessed, and not received to that Time; and also of all Goods, Chattles, Stock, and Materials that shall be then in their Hands, or in the

First Meeting of Overseers;

who are to account to the Vestry;

the Hands of any of the Poor to be wrought, and of all Monies paid by such Overseers or any of them, and of all other Things concerning their said Office; and the said Overseers shall, and they are also hereby severally authorized and required forthwith to pay and deliver over all Sums of Money, Goods, Chattles, Rates, Assessments, Books, Papers, and other Things concerning their said Office which shall be then in their or either of their respective Hands (or which they ought severally to be accountable for) unto such other Person or Persons as the major Part of the said Vestrymen so met as aforesaid, shall, by Writing under their Hands, authorize and appoint to receive the same, to be applied and made use of for the Purposes of this Act; which said Account shall be verified by Oath, before One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the City and Liberty of Westminster, who is and are hereby authorized and required to administer such Oath, and to sign and attest the Caption of the same.

and deliver over Money, &c.

Overseers neglecting to account,

And be it further enacted, That in case such Overseers of the Poor or any of them, shall refuse or neglect so to attend, or to deliver such Account verified as aforesaid, or shall refuse or neglect to pay and deliver over all such Sums of Money, Goods, Chattles, Rates, Assessments, Books, Papers, and other Things, as is hereby directed; then, and in any or either of the said Cases, it shall and may be lawful to and for any Two or more of the said Justices of the Peace, upon Proof of any such Refusal or Neglect, by the Oath of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, to commit every such Overseer or Overseers, who shall so refuse or neglect, to the Common Gaol, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, until he or they shall have delivered, or caused such Account as aforesaid to be delivered, to such of the said Vestrymen as shall be assembled at some future Vestry Meeting, to be held in pursuance of this Act, and shall have paid and delivered over all such Sums of Money, Goods, Chattles, Rates, Assessments, and other Things in their Hands as aforesaid, according to the Directions and true Intent and Meaning of this Act.

Justices may commit them.

Meetings of Rector, &c.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That on Easter Tuesday, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and sixty two; or on some Wednesday within the Space of Two Calendar Months next after the said Easter Tuesday; and on some Day in Easter Week in every ensuing Year, or oftener, from time to time, as Occasion shall require, the Rector, Vestrymen, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the Poor, of the said Parish of Saint James, shall, and they

they are hereby authorized and required to assemble and meet together, in the Vestry-Room of the Parish Church of the said Parish; Notice of such intended Meeting being previously given in the said Parish Church in such Manner as is herein after directed: And the said Rector, Vestrymen, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them so assembled, shall then and there ascertain the Monies to be assessed, within the Limits of the said Parish, for the Relief of the Poor, and for making the several Payments by the aforesaid Act of Parliament of the Twentieth Year of the Reign of his late Majesty King George the Second, directed to be made for the several Purposes therein and herein before mentioned, and likewise for defraying the Charges of cleansing the Streets, Lanes, and other open Passages and Places within the said Parish, as they, in their Discretion, shall think sufficient for those particular Purposes; and to answer all the Ends and Purposes of the several Statutes for the Relief of the Poor, cleansing the said Streets, Lanes, and other open Passages and Places, and for carrying this present Act into Execution.

for ascertaining the Poors Rates, &c.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Rector, Vestrymen, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the Poor, shall assemble and meet together in the said Vestry-Room, within Twenty Days next after the said several Sums of Money shall have been so ascertained as aforesaid, or oftener, from time to time, as Occasion shall require; Notice of such Meeting or Meetings being previously given in the said Parish Church in Manner aforesaid; and at such Meeting or Meetings the said Rector, Vestrymen, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them so assembled, shall, and they are hereby required to make and sign Two distinct and equal Pound Rates or Assessments; that is to say, One Rate or Assessment for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish, and for paying such other Sums of Money as are directed by the said Act of the Twentieth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the Second, to be paid as aforesaid; and another Rate or Assessment for cleansing the Streets, Lanes, and other open Passages and Places, within the said Parish (in lieu of the several Rates or Assessments directed by any former Act or Acts of Parliament to be made for those Purposes) upon all and every Person and Persons, who do and shall inhabit, hold, use, occupy, or enjoy, any Land, Ground, House, Shop, Warehouse, Coach-house, Stable, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament, within the said Parish, according to the yearly Rent or Value thereof, and on every other

Rates to be separate;

Person or Persons, who by Law is or are chargeable or rateable for and towards the Relief of the Poor within the said Parish, to be entered and kept in One or more of the same Book or Books to be provided for that Purpose, in which Book or Books there shall be Two distinct Columns, distinguished by the Title of each separate and distinct Rate or Assessment, and over against the Name of every Person charged in the said Rates or Assessments, shall be entered and set the particular Sum of Money charged and assessed upon such Person, to each of the said several Rates or Assessments in the said respective Columns; and a Third Column for the Sum Total of both the said Two Rates or Assessments, to which each and every Person shall be rated or assessed as aforesaid, for the more easy Collection thereof.

and entered in a Book.

Commencement of the Rates, &c.

And be it further enacted, That both the said Rates or Assessments shall be made for One whole Year, to commence from the Fifth Day of January, in that Year wherein the same shall respectively be made; and the Monies thereby charged and assessed shall be payable and recoverable Quarterly; that is to say, On the Fifth Day of April; the Fifth Day of July; the Tenth Day of October; and the Fifth Day of January next ensuing the Commencement of such respective Rates or Assessments; in equal Portions (except in such Cases where it is hereinafter otherwise provided).

Lessees, &c. subject to Payment of Rates,

And whereas there are divers Houses, Buildings, Lands, Grounds, Tenements, Hereditaments, and Premisses, in the said Parish, which are taken on Leases for Years, or otherwise, and, by the Lessees or Tenants, let out in Parcels or separate Apartments, to Undertenants, and there are other Houses let out ready furnished to Lodgers, by which means the Payment of all parochial Taxes for the same is evaded; for Remedy whereof, be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Lessee, Landlord, or Owner of each and every such House, Building, Land, Ground, Tenement, or Hereditament, so let out, or which shall be let out in Parcels, or separate Apartments, or ready furnished, to a Lodger or Lodgers, shall be deemed and taken to be the Occupier or Occupiers thereof, and shall be liable and subject to the Payment of the Rates or Assessments directed by this Act to be made, raised, and levied, according to the yearly Rent or Value of the Premisses.

and Persons occupying separate Apartments;

And, for the more easy Recovery of the said Rates or Assessments, be it further enacted, That each and every Person so renting or occupying any such Parcel or separate Apartment as aforesaid, shall be liable and compellable

pellable to the Payment of the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments, to be recovered in Manner herein-after directed.

Provided always, That each and every ſuch reſpective Occupier or Occupiers, who ſhall pay ſuch Rates or Aſſeſſments, or from whom the ſame ſhall be recovered in purſuance of this Act, ſhall and may deduct the ſame from and out of the next Rent due and payable from him, her, or them, to ſuch reſpective Leſſee, Landlord, or Owner; and the Receipt for ſuch Payment ſhall be a ſufficient Diſcharge for ſuch Tenant or Tenants, Occupier or Occupiers, to his, her, or their Landlord, for ſo much Money as he, ſhe, or they, ſhall pay, or ſhall be levied on him, her, or them, by virtue of this Act. and may deduct the ſame from their next Rent:

Provided alſo, That no ſuch Tenant or Occupier of any Part, Parcel, or ſeparate Apartment of any Houſe, Building, Land, Ground, Tenement, or Hereditament, ſhall, by Payment of any ſuch Rate or Aſſeſſment, in Manner aforeſaid, be deemed to acquire any Settlement in the ſaid Pariſh; but that the Leſſee, Landlord, or Owner, ſhall be deemed and conſtrued, to all Intents and Purpoſes, to have paid the ſame; any Law, Statute, or Uſage, to the contrary notwithſtanding. But no Tenant to gain a Settlement by ſuch Payment.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That all Rates and Aſſeſſments which ſhall be made by virtue of this Act, for and in reſpect of any Houſe or Houſes, or Tenements whatſoever, which any Ambaſſador or Reſident, Agent, or other publick Miniſter of a foreign Prince or State, now doth, or ſhall hereafter inhabit or occupy, ſhall be paid by the reſpective Landlord or Owner of ſuch Houſe, Houſes, or Tenements, who ſhall be liable and compellable to the Payment thereof, and to have the ſame recovered in Manner herein after directed. Landlords, &c. to pay for Houſes occupied by Ambaſſadors, &c.

And whereas Perſons frequently remove without paying the Monies rated and aſſeſſed on them, and other Perſons do enter and occupy their Lands, Houſes, Tenements, or Hereditaments, Part of the Year, by reaſon whereof great Sums of Money may be annually loſt; be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That where any Perſon or Perſons ſhall come into, or occupy any Land, Ground, Houſe, Shop, Warehouſe, Coach-houſe, Stable, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament, in the ſaid Pariſh, out of or from which any other Perſon, rated and aſſeſſed by virtue of this Act, ſhall be removed, or which, at the Time of making any Rates or Aſſeſſments in purſuance of this Act, was empty or unoccupied; that then every Perſon ſo removing from, and every Perſon ſo coming into, or occupying the ſame, ſhall Perſons removing, and others ſucceeding them, to pay due Proportions;

be

be liable to pay ſuch Rates or Aſſeſſments, in proportion to the Time that ſuch Perſons occupied the ſame reſpectively, in the ſame Manner, and under the like Penalty of Diſtreſs, as if ſuch Perſon ſo removing had not removed, or ſuch Perſon ſo coming in, or occupying, had been originally rated and aſſeſſed in ſuch Rate; Which ſaid Proportion ſhall, in caſe of Diſpute, be ſettled by any Two Juſtices of the Peace for the ſaid City and Liberty of Weſtminſter, whoſe Determination ſhall be final.

to be ſettled by Two Juſtices.

Manner of collecting the Rates.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the Rates or Aſſeſſments directed to be made by this Act, and alſo all Arrears due on any former Rates or Aſſeſſments made for the Relief of the Poor of the ſaid Pariſh, ſhall be collected, levied, and recovered, by the Collector or Collectors to be choſen and appointed in Manner herein after mentioned, on the Perſon and Perſons hereby directed, or by any former Act or Acts of Parliament made liable to pay the ſame reſpectively, in ſuch Manner as Rates made for the Relief of the Poor are directed to be levied and recovered by the Churchwardens and Overſeers of the Poor, by an Act paſſed in the Forty third Year of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, intituled, An Act for the Relief of the Poor; or by any ſubſequent Act or Acts relating to the Relief of the Poor: Which ſaid ſeveral Methods of levying and recovering the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments for the Relief of the Poor ſhall, and they are hereby declared to be legal Methods and Ways for enforcing the Payment of the Rates or Aſſeſſments directed to be made in purſuance of this Act, and all Arrears thereof, and of ſuch former Rates or Aſſeſſments as aforeſaid, as fully and effectually as if ſuch Methods were repeated and re-enacted in the Body of this Act.

Charges on Diſtreſs to be levied.

And be it further enacted, That when and as often as any Diſtreſs ſhall, by the Authority of this, or any of the Acts aforeſaid, be made for Nonpayment of any of the Rates or Aſſeſſments hereby directed to be made, or any Part thereof, or for any ſuch Arrears as aforeſaid, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the Perſon or Perſons making ſuch Diſtreſs, to raiſe and levy the reaſonable Charges of making ſuch Diſtreſs over and above the Sum of Money due upon the Rate or Aſſeſſment, or Rates or Aſſeſſments, for which ſuch Diſtreſs is or ſhall be taken.

Perſons aggrieved may appeal.

Provided nevertheleſs, and be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall find him, her, or themſelves aggrieved by any ſuch Rates or Aſſeſſments, he, ſhe, or they, ſhall firſt apply to any Two Juſtices of the Peace for the ſaid City and Liberty of Weſtminſter, reſiding in or near to the ſaid Pariſh; and

if

if not relieved, shall be obliged to pay such Rates or Assessments, and then upon an Appeal to the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held for the said City and Liberty, next after the Payment of such Rates or Assessments respectively, or next after making such Distress or Distresses for such Rates or Assessments, it shall and may be lawful for the Justices of the Peace, or the greater Number of them, in such Quarter Sessions assembled, to cause so much Money to be returned to such Person or Persons who shall appeal as aforesaid, as shall appear to the said Justices to have been over paid by such Person or Persons to the said Rates or Assessments respectively, and to make such Order therein as to them shall seem meet, which Order shall be final and conclusive to all the Parties.

Collectors to be appointed;

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Vestrymen of the said Parish of Saint James, or the major Part of such of them as shall be assembled in Vestry (at any Meeting or Meetings to be held in pursuance of any such Summons or Notices in Writing as are herein after directed to be left at the Dwelling-house of each of the said Vestrymen) shall and may, from time to time, chuse and appoint any One or more of the Inhabitants, being substantial Householders in the said Parish, whom the major Part of the said Vestrymen so assembled shall think fit, to be a Collector or Collectors of the said Rates or Assessments, to be made, raised, and levied, by virtue of this Act, and shall and may also, from time to time, remove and displace such Collector or Collectors, and chuse and appoint any other Person or Persons to be such Collector or Collectors, in the Room or Stead of him or them who shall be so removed and displaced; and likewise shall and may out of such Rates or Assessments to be made, collected, and levied as aforesaid, make such Allowance or Allowances, to such Collector or Collectors, for his or their respective Trouble in collecting the same, as they, the major Part of the said Vestrymen assembled as aforesaid, shall think fit.

who are to levy the Rates,

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Collector or Collectors for the time being, is and are hereby authorized and required to collect, receive, levy, and get in the said Rates or Assessments, by Quarterly Payments, and also all such Arrears as aforesaid as the same shall grow due; and for the better enabling him or them so to do, it shall and may be lawful to and for such Collector or Collectors, and he or they are hereby authorized and required respectively, to execute all such Warrants of Distress as shall be granted or issued,

from time to time, by the Juſtices of the Peace, againſt any Perſon or Perſons neglecting or refuſing to pay the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments, in the ſame Manner, and as fully and effectually to all Intents and Purpoſes, as Overſeers of the Poor, by any Law or Laws now in being, can or may execute like Warrants for recovering any Rates duly aſſeſſed for the Relief of the Poor; and the major Part of the ſaid Veſtrymen, ſo aſſembled as aforeſaid, are hereby authorized and required, from time to time, to take ſuch Security or Securities of ſuch Collector or Collectors, ſo to be choſen and appointed as aforeſaid, for his or their faithfully accounting for, and paying all ſuch Monies as he or they ſhall receive by virtue of his or their ſaid Office, as to them the major Part of the ſaid Veſtrymen aſſembled as aforeſaid, ſhall appear to be a ſufficient Security or Securities for the Monies to be received by ſuch Collector or Collectors, from time to time; and ſuch Collector or Collectors ſhall, and he or they are hereby reſpectively impowered and required to pay over ſuch Monies as he or they ſhall, from time to time, collect, levy, and get in, by virtue of this Act, immediately after the Receipt thereof, to ſuch Perſon or Perſons as the major Part of the ſaid Veſtrymen ſo aſſembled as aforeſaid, ſhall, by Writing under their Hands, authorize and appoint to receive the ſame, to be applied for the Purpoſes of this Act; and the ſaid Collector or Collectors ſhall, and they are alſo hereby required to make up and render to the ſaid Veſtrymen ſo aſſembled as aforeſaid (as often as any Six or more of them ſhall, by Notice in Writing, require ſuch Collector or Collectors ſo to do) a full, true, and perfect Account in Writing, upon Oath (which Oath the ſaid Veſtrymen, or any Six or more of them, are hereby impowered to adminiſter) of all the Monies which ſhall have been collected, levied, and received, by him or them reſpectively, by virtue of this Act; and likewiſe forthwith pay over all ſuch Monies ſo collected, levied, and received, by him or them reſpectively, as ſhall be then remaining in his or their reſpective Hands, to ſuch other Perſon or Perſons as the major Part of the ſaid Veſtrymen ſo aſſembled as aforeſaid, ſhall, by Writing under their Hands, authorize and appoint to receive the ſame, to be applied for the Purpoſes of this Act; and if ſuch Collector or Collectors ſhall refuſe or neglect to make up and render to the ſaid Veſtrymen ſuch Account as aforeſaid, or to pay over all ſuch Monies as ſhall be then remaining in ſuch Collector or Collectors reſpective Hands,

and give Security.

Monies collected, to be paid to a Receiver.

Accounts to be verified on Oath.

In caſe of Neglect or Refuſal to pay the Monies collected,

in the Manner aforeſaid; it ſhall and may be lawful to and for any Two Juſtices of the Peace for the ſaid City and Liberty of Weſtminſter, upon Complaint made to them by any One of the Churchwardens, or any Two or more of the Veſtrymen of the ſaid Pariſh, and Proof thereof, by the Oath of any One or more of them (which Oath the ſaid Juſtices are hereby authorized and impowered to adminiſter) by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to commit ſuch Perſon or Perſons to the common Gaol, there to remain, without Bail or Mainprize, until he or they ſhall have made a true and fair Account, and until ſuch Money, as upon the ſaid Account ſhall appear to be remaining in his or their reſpective Hands, ſhall be paid over by ſuch Perſon or Perſons, or his or their reſpective Security or Securities, unto ſuch other Perſon or Perſons to be appointed to receive the ſame as aforeſaid. Collectors to be committed.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the major Part of the ſaid Veſtrymen ſo aſſembled as aforeſaid, ſhall and may, if they think fit, annually, or oftener, appoint One or more Treaſurer or Treaſurers for the Receipt of the Monies to be collected, levied, and raiſed, by the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments, and of all other Monies whatſoever, applicable to the Relief of the Poor within the ſaid Pariſh; and alſo for the iſſuing and paying, out of the Monies which ſhall by him or them be ſo received, all ſuch Sum and Sums of Money as he or they ſhall be directed, from time to time, to pay in purſuance of this Act; and the major Part of the ſaid Veſtrymen ſo aſſembled as aforeſaid, ſhall and may, and they are hereby impowered, from time to time, to remove and diſplace ſuch Treaſurer or Treaſurers, and appoint any other Perſon or Perſons to be a Treaſurer or Treaſurers in the room or ſtead of him or them who ſhall be ſo removed and diſplaced; and likewiſe ſhall and may, out of the Monies raiſed by the aforeſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments, make ſuch Allowance or Allowances to ſuch Treaſurer or Treaſurers, for his or their reſpective Care, Time, and Trouble, in executing his or their ſaid Office or Offices, as they, the major Part of the ſaid Veſtrymen aſſembled as aforeſaid, ſhall think reaſonable. Treaſurers to be appointed; who may be removed.

Provided nevertheleſs, That ſuch major Part of the ſaid Veſtrymen ſo aſſembled, ſhall, and they are hereby authorized and required, from time to time, to take ſuch Security or Securities of ſuch reſpective Treaſurer or Treaſurers, for his or their faithfully accounting for and paying all ſuch Monies as he or they ſhall receive, by virtue of his Treaſurers to give Security.

his or their said Office or Offices, unto them, the major Part of the said Vestrymen assembled as aforesaid, shall appear to be sufficient for those Purposes.

Meetings for appointing Governors of the Poor.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Vestrymen of the said Parish of Saint James, shall assemble and meet in the Vestry Room of the said Parish, on Easter Tuesday, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and sixty two; or on some Wednesday within the Space of Two Calendar Months next after the said Easter Tuesday, and on some Day in Easter Week in every ensuing Year (previous Notice of such Meeting being given, as by this Act is directed) and they, or the major Part of such of them as shall be then and there assembled and met, shall nominate and appoint Twenty one substantial and discreet Persons, whom such major Part of the said Vestrymen so assembled shall think proper to make Choice of, out of their own Body of Vestrymen, or out of such Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex, or City and Liberty of Westminster, as shall then reside in the said Parish, or out of other creditable Inhabitants of the same Parish, or out of any of them the said Vestrymen, Justices of the Peace, or Inhabitants respectively; which said Twenty one Persons, so nominated and appointed, together with the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the time being, shall be, and be called Governors and Directors of the Poor of the said Parish, and shall and may make such Rules, Orders and Regulations for applying and disposing of such Monies as shall be raised and received for the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish, and for the better maintaining, governing, employing, and regulating the Poor of the said Parish, as to them, or any Seven or more of them, assembled together, shall appear necessary or expedient; but no such Rules, Orders, or Regulations, shall be in force, until confirmed by the major Part of the Vestrymen of the said Parish, who shall be present at a Vestry Meeting, to be assembled in pursuance of this Act; nor shall any such Rules, Orders, or Regulations, when made and confirmed as aforesaid, be repealed or altered, except at a like Meeting of the Vestrymen of the said Parish, to be assembled pursuant to this Act; which Vestrymen, or the major Part of them then present, are hereby impowered, from time to time, to repeal or alter the same in such Manner as they shall think proper.

And be it further enacted, That if any of the said Rules, Orders, or Regulations, when made and confirmed

firmed as aforesaid, shall contain any Order or Orders, whereby the Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the time being, or any of them, shall be ordered or required to do, perform, and execute any Acts, Matters, or Things, to be therein specified, relating to the relieving, taking Care of, or employing all or any of the Poor of the said Parish, that then the said Overseers of the Poor, and each and every of them, are hereby respectively authorized and required to do, perform, and execute all such Acts, Matters, and Things accordingly, as fully and effectually, to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same were herein particularly expressed and enacted: Provided always, That such Rules, Orders, and Regulations, be not repugnant to the Laws of this Realm.

No Orders to be made contrary to Law.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Governors and Directors of the Poor, or any Seven or more of them, assembled together, shall, and they are hereby impowered, by Writing under their Hands, to order and direct the said respective Treasurer or Treasurers, from time to time, to pay such Sum and Sums of Money as shall be by him or them received, by virtue of this Act, to any Person or Persons, at such Time or Times, and in such Manner and Proportions, as they the said Governors and Directors of the Poor, or any Seven or more of them, shall think necessary for the Uses and Purposes of this Act; and the said Treasurer or Treasurers are hereby respectively authorized and required to pay the same from time to time accordingly: All which Sum or Sums so paid, shall be allowed him or them in his or their Accounts respectively.

Governors to direct the Application of the Monies.

Provided nevertheless, That no such Order or Orders shall at any Time or Times be made by the said Governors and Directors of the Poor, or any Seven of them, for the paying of any Sum or Sums of Money for or on account of the erecting, building, hiring, altering, or repairing any Workhouse or Workhouses, or other House or Houses to be made use of for the keeping, lodging, maintaining, or employing therein any of the Poor of the said Parish; or for or on account of any Contract or Agreement, which shall at any Time or Times be made by the said Governors and Directors, with any Person or Persons, for the lodging, keeping, maintaining, or employing, any or all of the Poor of the said Parish; or for or on account of providing Houshold Furniture of any Kind or Kinds, to be used in any such Workhouse or other House; unless such erecting, building, hiring, altering,

No Monies to be paid for erecting Workhouses, &c. unless by Consent of a Majority of Vestrymen.

tering, or repairing, of any such Workhouse or Workhouses, or other House or Houses, by such Contract or Agreement with any Person or Persons, for the lodging, keeping, maintaining, or employing, any or all of the said Poor; or the providing such Houshold Furniture, shall have been first respectively approved of by the major Part of the said Vestrymen, who shall be present at a Vestry Meeting, to be held pursuant to this Act.

Treasurers to account;

And it is hereby further enacted, That the said Treasurer or Treasurers shall, and he or they are hereby respectively directed, annually (or oftener if thereunto required, by Notice in Writing under the Hands of any Six or more the said Vestrymen) to make up and render to such of the said Vestrymen as shall be assembled at a Vestry Meeting, to be held pursuant to this Act, a full, true, and perfect Account in Writing, of all such Sum and Sums of Money whatsoever, which such Treasurer or Treasurers shall have respectively received and paid, by virtue and in pursuance of this Act; and also forthwith to pay over all such Monies (if any) as, upon every or any such Account, shall appear to be remaining in his or their Hands respectively, to such Person or Persons as the major Part of the said Vestrymen, present at any such Vestry Meeting, shall, by Writing under their Hands, direct and require the said Treasurer or Treasurers to pay the same unto, to be applied to and for the several Uses and Purposes for which the same were raised:

and in case of Neglect, &c.

And if any such Treasurer or Treasurers shall refuse or neglect to make up and render any such Account or Accounts, or to pay the Monies remaining in his or their respective Hands in Manner aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful, upon Complaint made thereof by Two or more of the said Vestrymen to Two or more Justices of the Peace for the said City and Liberty of Westminster, and also on Proof thereof by the Oath or Oaths of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses before the same Justices, for them the said Two Justices of the Peace, by Warrant or Warrants under their Hands and Seals, to

to be committed.

commit such Offender or Offenders to the Common Gaol, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, until he or they shall have made up and rendered such Account or Accounts, and until such Money, as shall thereupon appear to be remaining in his or their respective Hands, shall be paid over by such Person or Persons, or his or their respective Security or Securities, unto such other Person or Persons, to be appointed to receive the same as

as aforesaid; which last-mentioned Oath or Oaths, and Warrant or Warrants, the said Justices of the Peace are hereby authorized and impowered to administer and grant accordingly.

Treasurers removing,

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, in case any Person or Persons, by virtue of this Act appointed a Treasurer of Treasurers, or a Collector or Collectors, shall be willing to remove out of the said Parish before the Expiration of his or their respective Office or Offices, that then he or they shall, and are hereby respectively required, before his or their so removing, to give Twenty Days Notice in Writing of his or their Intention so to remove, to One of the Churchwardens for the time being of the said Parish, to the end that a Meeting of the said Vestrymen may be held, pursuant to this Act, for taking the Account or Accounts of such respective Treasurer or Treasurers, or Collector or Collectors, who shall be willing so to remove; and for directing and causing all the Monies which, upon such respective Account or Accounts, shall appear to be remaining in his or their Hands, to be forthwith paid over to such other Person or Persons as the major Part of the said Vestrymen present at such Meeting, shall, by Writing under their Hands, authorize and appoint to receive the same, to be applied for the Uses and Purposes of this Act; and the said Treasurer or Treasurers, and Collector or Collectors, are hereby accordingly required to make up and render such his or their respective Account or Accounts, in such Manner as is herein before directed, to the said Vestrymen present at such last-mentioned Meeting, and to pay over all the Monies then remaining in the Hands of such respective Treasurer or Treasurers, Collector or Collectors, to such other Person or Persons as aforesaid: And in case any such Treasurer or Treasurers, Collector or Collectors, shall remove out of the said Parish, before the Expiration of his or their respective Office or Offices, without conforming to, and performing what is hereby required to be performed by him or them respectively, before such Removal as aforesaid; it shall and may be lawful, in any such Case or Cases, to and for any Two Justices of the Peace for the said City and Liberty of Westminster, and they are hereby required, upon Proof thereof by the Oath or Oaths of any One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, to commit the Party or Parties so offending to the Common Gaol, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, until he or they shall have respectively submitted to

to give 20 Days Notice;

and make up their Accounts:

In case of Neglect, to be committed.

account, and to pay over the Monies remaining in his or their Hands as aforesaid (which Oath or Oaths the said Justices are hereby impowered to administer)

Treasurers, &c. dying, their Executors, &c. to account.

And be it further enacted, If any such Treasurer or Treasurers, Collector or Collectors, shall happen to die before the Expiration of his or their Office or Offices, That then his or their respective Executors or Administrators shall, within Forty Days next after his or their respective Death or Deaths, make up and render to the said Vestrymen assembled at a Vestry-meeting pursuant to this Act, an Account in Writing of all Monies received and paid by such respective deceased Treasurer or Treasurers, Collector or Collectors, and also pay, as the major Part of the said Vestrymen so assembled shall direct, out of the Assets left by the said Treasurer or Treasurers, Collector or Collectors respectively, all Sums of Money remaining due, which he or they respectively received by virtue of his or their said Office or Offices, before any of such deceased Treasurer or Treasurers, Collector or Collectors, other Debts shall be paid and satisfied.

No Governor, &c. to furnish Materials, &c.

And be it further enacted, That no Governor, Director, or Overseer of the Poor for the time being, either in his own, or any other Person's Name, shall provide, furnish, or supply, for his or their own Profit, any Goods, Materials, or Provisions, for the Use of the Workhouse or Workhouses erected or hired, or to be erected or hired in the said Parish, for the Support and Maintenance of the Poor, or be concerned in any Contract or Contracts relating thereto, during the Time of his being such Governor, Director, or Overseer.

Governors to employ the Poor, &c.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Governors and Directors of the Poor to be appointed as aforesaid, or any Seven or more of them, assembled together, shall, and they are hereby impowered to keep, maintain, and employ all or any of the Poor of the said Parish, in any Workhouse or Workhouses erected or hired, or to be erected or hired, in the said Parish, and to purchase Materials for that Purpose, and to take the Benefit of the Work, Labour, and Service of every such Person or Persons who shall be kept and maintained in such House or Houses, to be applied towards the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parish.

No Workhouse to be built, without Consent of a Majority of the Vestry.

Provided nevertheless, That no Workhouse or Workhouses, or any other House or Houses, for the keeping, maintaining, or employing therein, any of the said Poor (other than the present Workhouse now belonging to the

said

ſaid Pariſh) ſhall be erected, built, or hired, without the Conſent and Approbation of the major Part of the ſaid Veſtrymen who ſhall be preſent at a Veſtry-meeting to be held in purſuance of this Act.

Governors may contract for the Maintenance of the Poor.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the ſaid Governors and Directors of the Poor, or any Seven or more of them, ſhall, and they are hereby impowered to contract and agree from time to time, if they think fit, with any Perſon or Perſons, for the lodging, keeping, maintaining, or employing, any or all the Poor of the ſaid Pariſh, and to pay the Monies due, or to become due, upon ſuch Contracts and Agreements, to the Perſon or Perſons intitled to receive the ſame, out of the Monies to be raiſed and collected by Authority of this Act.

But not without Conſent of a Majority of the Veſtry.

Provided always, That ſuch Contract and Agreement, before the ſame ſhall be concluded and perfected, ſhall be approved of by the major Part of the ſaid Veſtrymen, who ſhall be preſent at a Veſtry-meeting to be held in purſuance of this Act.

Churchwardens, &c. refuſing to act, or agree to ſuch contract, Governors, &c. may perform the ſame.

Provided alſo, That in caſe the Churchwardens or Overſeers of the Poor of the ſaid Pariſh, or any of them, ſhall refuſe to meet or join in ſuch Contracts and Agreements, then it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Governors and Directors, or any Seven or more of them aſſembled together, to make and enter into any ſuch Contracts and Agreements, and to perform the ſame; any Law, Statute, or Uſage, to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Puniſhments on Poor refuſing to work, &c.

And whereas many Perſons maintained in publick Workhouſes refuſe to work, or are guilty of profane Curſing and Swearing, Drunkenneſs, or other Miſbehaviour, and, by the Laws now in being, no Puniſhment can be inflicted on them, without committing them to the Houſe of Correction or Common Gaol, which Commitments have not been found to anſwer the Purpoſe thereby intended; be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any poor Perſon maintained in any Workhouſe or Workhouſes belonging to the ſaid Pariſh ſhall refuſe to work, or ſhall embezzle or purloin the Goods or Proviſions thereof, or Materials for Work, or be guilty of profane Curſing or Swearing, Drunkenneſs, or any lewd, immoral, or indecent Behaviour, or refuſe to perform the Work or Service which he or ſhe ſhall be required to do, or ſhall be remiſs therein, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for any Seven Governors and Directors aſſembled

assembled together, to cause such Person or Persons so offending to be punished in such Workhouse, either by moderate Correction, Confinement, Distinction in Dress, or such other Method as may best tend to remedy such Offences for the future, without committing such Offenders to the House of Correction or other Prison; any Law, Statute, or Usage, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Persons taking Apparel, &c. of the Poor into Pawn, to forfeit 5*l.* or be committed.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person or Persons shall knowingly buy, receive into Pawn, or secrete any of the Cloaths or Wearing Apparel of any of the Poor, who at the Time of passing this Act, or at any Time after, shall be received into and maintained in the Workhouse or Workhouses of the said Parish, or any of the Goods or Materials carried into the said Workhouse or Workhouses to be wrought up, manufactured, or used by the Poor there, or any of the Goods and Furniture of the said Workhouse or Workhouses, or shall buy or receive any of the Provisions allotted to or provided for the Poor in the said Workhouse or Workhouses, every Person so offending, shall forfeit for every such Offence the Sum of Five Pounds upon Conviction by the Oath of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, before any One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the said City and Liberty of Westminster; which Penalty of Five Pounds shall be levied by Warrant under the Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals of the said Justice or Justices, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattles of the Offender; One Moiety of the said Penalty to be paid to the Informer, and the other Moiety to the Treasurer or Treasurers aforesaid, or One of them, for the Use of the Poor of the said Parish; and if no Goods or Chattles can be found whereon to make such Distress, or that the said Penalty shall not be forthwith paid, then, and in such Case, such Justice or Justices shall and may, by Warrant under his and their Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals, commit such Offender or Offenders to the House of Correction, there to be kept to hard Labour, for any Time not exceeding Three Months.

Vagrant Children to be sent to the Workhouse.

And whereas divers Children, deserted by their Parents, are frequently found wandering and begging, and not able to give an Account of themselves, or the Place of their legal Settlement: And whereas if such Children were properly employed and inured to a Habit of Industry, they might be furnished with Means for their future Maintenance, and instead of a Nuisance, be rendered useful to

the Publick; be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, and Governors, or any One or more of them, to cause such Child or Children, as he or they shall judge to be under the Age of Ten Years, who shall be found wandering or begging in the said Parish of Saint James, if he or they think proper, to be taken and sent to any of the Workhouses belonging to the said Parish, there to be detained and employed till he or she shall attain (or in case his or her Age cannot be ascertained, till he or she shall be adjudged to have attained) the Age of Twenty one Years (or Day of Marriage, if a Female) unless sooner discharged by the said Officers or Governors, or any Seven or more of them, or by due Course of Law.

Governors to contract with Scavengers, &c.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Twenty fifth Day of March, One thousand seven hundred and sixty two, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Governors and Directors of the Poor of the said Parish for the time being, and they, or any Seven or more of them, being assembled together, are hereby impowered to contract and agree, from time to time, in such Manner as they shall think proper, with any fit Person or Persons, for the cleansing of all the Streets, Squares, Lanes, Alleys, and other open Passages and Places in the said Parish of Saint James (except as herein after is otherwise provided) and for carrying away from those Streets and other Places respectively (except as aforesaid) all the Dust, Dirt, Ashes, Filth, and Soil thereof, and which shall or may, from time to time, be found lying in or upon the same Streets and other Places, or any Part or Parts thereof, and for the conveying, laying, and disposing of all such Dust, Dirt, Ashes, Filth, and Soil, to, in, or upon One or more proper Laystall or Laystalls, or other convenient Place or Places to be provided for those Purposes; and to pay to the Person or Persons so contracted with, such Sum and Sums of Money for cleansing the said Streets and other Places, and for performing the other Services above-mentioned, as they the said Governors and Directors, or any Seven or more of them, assembled together, shall so contract and agree for, out of the Monies that shall be raised by the Rates or Assessments to be made by virtue of this Act, for cleansing the Streets, Lanes, and other open Passages and Places within the said Parish.

Provided

No Contract, &c. ſhall be valid, unleſs the Majority of the Veſtry be preſent.

Provided always, That no ſuch laſt mentioned Contract or Agreement ſhall be valid in Law, until confirmed by the major Part of the Veſtrymen of the ſaid Pariſh, who ſhall be preſent at a Veſtry Meeting to be aſſembled in purſuance of this Act.

No Rate to exceed 4*d.* in the Pound.

And provided alſo, That none of the ſaid Rates or Aſſeſſments for cleanſing the ſaid Streets, ſhall in any One Year exceed the Proportion of Four Pence in the Pound, according to the yearly Rent or Value of the Premiſſes to be therein rated and aſſeſſed.

Perſons removing Aſhes, without Conſent of the Owner,

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall, at any Time or Times, after the paſſing of this Act (without the Privity and Conſent of the Owner) take away from any of the Inhabitants of the ſaid Pariſh, chargeable to or with any Rate or Aſſeſſment for cleanſing the ſaid Streets, and other Places in the ſaid Pariſh, any Coal-duſt or Aſhes, he or they ſo taking away the ſame not being the real or proper Agent or Servant, Agents or Servants, of or belonging to the Perſon or Perſons who ſhall have contracted and agreed with the ſaid Governors and Directors as aforeſaid; then, and in every ſuch Caſe, upon Oath made thereof by One credible Witneſs, before any Juſtice of the Peace for the ſaid City and Liberty of Weſtminſter, he or they ſo taking away any ſuch Coal-duſt or Aſhes, ſhall be, by ſuch Juſtice of the Peace, committed to the Houſe of Correction, there to be kept to hard Labour, for any Time not exceeding Ten Days.

to be committed.

No Agreement for Cleanſing, &c. to extend to *St. James's* Square.

Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That no Contract or Agreement to be made by virtue of this Act, for cleanſing the Streets, Squares, Lanes, Alleys, and other open Paſſages and Places in the ſaid Pariſh of Saint James, and for carrying away from thence the Duſt, Dirt, Aſhes, Filth, and Soil thereof, ſhall in any wiſe extend, or be conſtrued to extend to the cleanſing of Saint James's Square in the ſaid Pariſh, or any of the Grounds or Pavements lying before any of the Houſes ſituate on the Eaſt, North, and Weſt Sides, or Lines of that Square, or to the carrying away from thence any of the Duſt, Dirt, Aſhes, Filth, or Soil thereof; and that no Owner, Inhabitant, or Occupier, of any Houſe or Houſes ſituate on the Eaſt, North, or Weſt Sides or Lines of the ſaid Saint James's Square, ſhall, in reſpect of ſuch Houſe or Houſes, be in any Manner chargeable to, or liable to pay any Rate or Aſſeſſment to be made by virtue of this Act, for cleanſing

the

the Streets, Lanes, and other open Passages and Places in the said Parish; any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

Determination of Offices of Scavengers.

And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Twenty fifth Day of March, One thousand seven hundred and sixty two, the Offices of Scavengers in the said Parish of Saint James shall cease and determine.

Former Laws relating to Scavengers,

Provided, That this Act, or any Thing herein contained, shall in no wise extend to alter or make void any former Laws in being, so far as the same relate to the Duties or Punishments of all or any of the Persons who were chosen, nominated, and appointed Scavengers for the several Wards and Divisions of the said Parish of Saint James, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and sixty one, or to the Rate that was made in that Year for Payment of the said Scavengers for cleansing the Streets of the same Parish.

and to Overseers, to continue.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the several Laws relating to the Office of Overseer of the Poor, and for the Relief of and providing for the Poor, shall still continue in Force within the said Parish of Saint James, except where the same are declared to be altered by this present Act; any thing in this Act contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

No other Poor's Rates to be made.

Provided always, That no Rate or Rates, or Assessment or Assessments, shall be made for the Relief of the Poor, and cleansing the Streets of the said Parish, other than is in and by this Act directed.

Notice to be given of Meetings for Assessments.

Provided also, and be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That publick Notice shall be given in the Parish Church of the said Parish of Saint James, by One of the Sextons of the same Parish, immediately after Divine Service, in the Forenoon of the Lord's Day next before every respective Meeting which shall be held for ascertaining the Sums to be assessed, and for the making and signing the Rates and Assessments to be made and signed, and for nominating and appointing Governors and Directors of the Poor, in pursuance of this Act; and (with respect to such other Vestry Meetings as shall be requisite to be held from time to time by the said Vestrymen, for executing the Powers and Trusts reposed in them by this Act) that the Vestry Clerks for the time being, of the said Parish, shall cause a Summons or Notice in Writing to be previously left at the Dwelling-house of each of the said Vestrymen, to request them severally to be present

at each and every such last mentioned Meeting and Meetings.

And whereas His late Majesty King George the Second was graciously pleased, by Letters Patent under the Seal of his Court of Exchequer, bearing Date the First Day of April, in the Eleventh Year of His Reign, for the Considerations therein mentioned, to demise, grant, and to farm-let, unto John Johnson and William Brotherton, Churchwardens of the Parish of Saint James, within the Liberty of Westminster, in the County of Middlesex, in Trust to and for the sole Use and Benefit of the Inhabitants of the said Parish (by the Description of, The Inhabitants of the Parish of Saint James in the Fields, in the County of Middlesex) for the time being, all that Piece or Parcel of Ground situate on the South Side of Piccadilly, containing in Front from East to West Thirty eight Feet, and in Depth from North to South Thirty two Feet and Nine Inches, abutting East on the Rectory-house of the said Parish of Saint James, West on the Watch-house of the said Parish, North on Piccadilly, and South on the Church Yard of the said Parish; with all those Two small Tenements or Houses erected and standing thereon, then of late in the Tenures of Ann Cunningham Widow, and Robert Aunger, together with all Ways, Passages, Waters, Water-courses, Lights, Easements, Profits, Commodities, Advantages, and Appurtenances whatsoever to the same belonging, or in any wise appertaining, to have, hold, and enjoy, the said Piece or Parcel of Ground, together with the said Two small Messuages or Tenements, and all and singular the Premisses in and by the said Letters Patent demised and granted, with their and every of their Appurtenances, unto the said John Johnson and William Brotherton, their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns (in Trust to and for the sole Use and Benefit of the Inhabitants of the said Parish of Saint James for the time being) for and during, and until the full End, Term, and Time, of Forty seven Years, to begin, commence, and be computed, from and after the Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel, which would come and be in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and forty, at the yearly Rent of Three Pounds and Ten Shillings, and under the Covenants and Conditions therein mentioned, reserved, and contained, as by the said Letters Patent may more fully appear: And whereas His present Majesty is now seised in his Demesne, as of Fee, in the Right of his Crown,

of and in all that the said Piece or Parcel of Ground, and the said Two small Tenements or Houses erected and standing thereon, and all and singular other the Premisses, with their and every of their Appurtenances, which were so demised and granted to the said John Johnson and William Brotherton, in and by the said Letters Patent, as is herein before mentioned: And whereas the said Parish of Saint James is very large and populous, and the Church Yard belonging to it is too small for the Burial of the Dead, and it would be of great Benefit and Advantage to the Inhabitants of the said Parish, if the said Piece or Parcel of Ground, in and by the said Letters Patent demised and granted as aforesaid, was united to the said Church Yard as an additional Burial Ground to enlarge the same, and the said Two small Tenements or Houses erected and standing on the said Piece or Parcel of Ground, and which are now very old and ruinous, were to be pulled down, and the Materials thereof, which are of a very trivial Value, were to be removed and carried away: But as the same cannot be done without the Aid and Authority of Parliament; therefore, on the humble Petition of Samuel Nicholls Doctor of Laws, the present Rector, and the Vestrymen of the said Parish of Saint James, on the Behalf of themselves and the rest of the Inhabitants of the same Parish, by and with the Consent of the Right Reverend Father in God, Richard Lord Bishop of London, Ordinary of that Diocese, be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Vestrymen of the said Parish of Saint James, at a Vestry Meeting assembled, with all convenient Speed, after the Twenty fifth Day of March, One thousand seven hundred and sixty three, to order and direct any Workman or Workmen whom they shall think proper, to pull down the said Two small Tenements or Houses (Part of the Premisses demised by the aforesaid Letters Patent) and to cause all the old Materials thereof to be removed and carried away.

Two Tenements to be pulled down, and the Materials sold;

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Twenty fifth Day of March, in the said Year One thousand seven hundred and sixty three, all the above mentioned Piece or Parcel of Ground, situate on the South Side of Piccadilly, containing in Front from East to West Thirty eight Feet, and in Depth from North to South Thirty two Feet and Nine Inches, and abutting East on the Rectory-house of the said Parish, West on the Watch-house of the same Parish, North on Piccadilly

the Ground to be annexed to the Church Yard.

Piccadilly aforesaid, and South on the present Church Yard of the said Parish (being all the same Piece or Parcel of Ground which was in and by the said Letters Patent demised and granted, or meant, mentioned, and intended to be therein and thereby demised and granted, to the said John Johnson and William Brotherton, in Trust as aforesaid) shall be annexed and united to the present Cemetery or Church Yard of the said Parish of Saint James; and shall also for ever be, and be deemed, taken, and used, as and for an additional Part of the Cemetery or Church Yard of the said Parish of Saint James, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever; any thing in any former Act or Acts of Parliament contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Saving of Rights.

Saving to all and every Person and Persons (other than and except the King's Majesty, his Heirs, and Successors) all their Right, Title, Interest, Claim, and Demand, to the said last mentioned Piece or Parcel of Ground, or any Part thereof.

Fees of Rector, &c.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Rector and Clerk, Sextons and Churchwardens, of the said Parish of Saint James for the time being, shall be respectively intitled, from time to time, to have and receive the like Dues, Fees, Perquisites, and Profits, on account of Burials in any Part or Parts of the said last mentioned Piece or Parcel of Ground, as they, or any of them, are or have been at any Time heretofore intitled to on account of Burials in any other Part of the said Cemetery or Church Yard.

Churchwardens to account.

Provided always, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Churchwardens of the said Parish of Saint James for the time being shall, from time to time, be accountable for all Monies which they shall receive, or which shall come to their Hands respectively, as Churchwardens, by virtue of this Act, on account of the said Burials, in such Manner as Churchwardens of other Parishes within the City and Liberties of Westminster are or ought to be accountable for Parish Monies.

Charges of the Act to be paid by the Treasurers.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Charges of passing this Act, and of pulling down the aforesaid Two small Tenements or Houses, and causing the old Materials thereof to be removed and carried away, and of inclosing the said Piece or Parcel of Ground hereby directed to be annexed and united to the said Cemetery or Church Yard, and other Charges incident thereunto,

thereunto, ſhall be paid by the ſaid Treaſurer or Treaſurers out of any Monies which ſhall be raiſed by the Rates or Aſſeſſments to be made by virtue of this Act, for the Relief of the Poor, according to any Order or Orders which ſhall be made by Six or more of the ſaid Veſtrymen, in Writing under their Hands for thoſe Purpoſes.

Aſſeſſments to be entered in a Book.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That an Account of the Total Sums aſſeſſed, collected, and received, within each diſtinct Ward of the ſaid Pariſh, and of all the Monies paid and diſburſed for all or any of the Purpoſes mentioned in this Act, ſhall be fairly entered in a Book or Books to be provided for that Purpoſe, by the Veſtry Clerk or Veſtry Clerks of the ſaid Pariſh for the time being; and on or before the Twelfth Day of June yearly, the ſame ſhall be examined, adjuſted, and ſigned, at a Meeting of the ſaid Veſtry duly aſſembled; which ſaid Book and Account, together with the Minute Book or Books of the Proceedings of the ſaid Veſtrymen, in purſuance of this Act, ſhall remain in the Hands of One of the ſaid Veſtry Clerks for the time being, and ſhall and may at all ſeaſonable Times be inſpected and peruſed by any of the Inhabitants of the ſaid Pariſh, who ſhall deſire the ſame, without Fee or Reward.

Limitation of Actions.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Action or Suit ſhall be brought or commenced againſt any Perſon or Perſons for any Thing done in purſuance of this Act, or in relation to the Premiſſes; that in every ſuch Caſe the Action ſhall be commenced within Six Months after the Fact committed, and not afterwards; and ſhall be laid and brought in the County of Middleſex, and not elſewhere; and the Defendant or Defendants, in ſuch Action or Actions, ſo to be brought, 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 Authority of this Act; and if it ſhall appear to be ſo done, or if any ſuch Action or Suit ſhall be brought after the Time before limited for bringing the ſame, or ſhall be brought in any other County, City, or Place, than the County of Middleſex; that then, and in ſuch Caſe, the Jury ſhall find for the Defendant or Defendants: And upon ſuch Verdict, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs ſhall become Nonſuited, or diſcontinue his, her, or their Action or Actions; or if a Verdict ſhall paſs againſt the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs; or if, upon Demurrer, Judgement ſhall be given againſt the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs;

General Iſſue.

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Plaintiffs; the Defendant or Defendants ſhall and may recover Treble Coſts, and have the like Remedy for the ſame as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have for Coſts of Suit in other Caſes by Law.

Treble Coſts.

Public Act.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That this Act ſhall be deemed and taken to be a Public Act; and ſhall be judicially taken Notice of as ſuch, by all Judges, Juſtices, and other Perſons whatſoever, without ſpecially pleading the ſame.

FINIS.