ANNO TRICESIMO QUINTO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. CVI.

An Act for amending and rendering more effectual an Act, passed in the Twenty-eighth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled, *An Act to explain, amend, and enlarge, the Powers of so much of Two Acts, passed in the Eleventh and Fifteenth Years of the Reign of His present Majesty, 'for improving and completing the Navigation of 'the Rivers* Thames *and* Isis, *from the City of* 'London *to the Town of* Cricklade, *in the County* 'of Wilts,' *as relates to the Navigation of the said Rivers, from the Boundary of the Jurisdiction of the City of* London, *near* Staines, *in the County of* Middlesex, *to the said Town of* Cricklade; and for extending and enlarging the Powers of the said several Acts, passed in the Eleventh and Fifteenth Years of the Reign of His said present Majesty, so far as the same relate to the improving and completing of the Navigation of the said Rivers, from the Jurisdiction of the City of *London*, near *Staines*, in the County of *Middlesex*, to the Town of *Cricklade*, in the County of *Wilts*.

[22d *June* 1795.]

WHEREAS

Preamble. Acts 11 *Geo.* III,



WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Eleventh Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled, *An Act for improving and completing the Navigation of the Rivers* Thames *and* Isis, *from the City of* London, *to the Town of* Cricklade, *in the County of* Wilts; certain Powers and Authorities were granted to the Commissioners appointed for putting the said Act in Execution, for the amending and improving of the said Navigation: And whereas, by another Act, passed in the Fifteenth Year of the Reign of His said Majesty, for amending the aforesaid Act, certain Restrictions and Limitations were appointed as to the Depth of the Water that the Barges and Boats should be allowed to draw on the said Navigation; And whereas, by another Act, passed in the Twenty-eighth Year of the Reign of His said Majesty, to explain, amend, and enlarge, the Powers of so much of the said recited Acts as relate to the Navigation of the said Rivers from the Boundary of the Jurisdiction of the City of *London* near *Staines*, in the County of *Middlesex*, to the Town of *Cricklade*, in the County of *Wilts*, Powers and Authorities were given to the Commissioners appointed for putting the said Acts in Execution for the better and more effectually amending and improving of the Navigation of the said Rivers within the said Jurisdiction, and by the said Acts, or some of them, Power was given to the said Commissioners to borrow and take up at Interest, on the Credit of the Tolls arising and to arise by virtue of the said Acts, the Sum of Seventy-five thousand Pounds, for the improving and completing of the said Navigation: And whereas the Commissioners appointed for putting the said Acts in Execution have borrowed and taken up at Interest the Sum of Fifty-three thousand seven hundred Pounds on the Credit of the Tolls arising by virtue of the said Acts, and have expended the same, or the greatest Part thereof, in making and erecting necessary Pound Locks in such Parts of the River as the said Commissioners had Power by the said Acts to make and erect them, and in the purchasing of other Pound Locks, and in ballasting the Channel of the said Rivers, and making Horse Towing Paths, and other necessary Works for the Improvement and Amendment of the said Navigation, from the Boundary Stone of the City of *London*, near *Staines*, in the County of *Middlesex*, to or near *Lechlade*, in the County of *Gloucester*, and by Reason of the erecting of the said Pound Locks, and making the said Horse Towing Paths, and other Works, the Navigation of the said Rivers hath been much improved in Safety, Certainty, and Expedition, and the Price of the Carriage of Goods thereon hath been lessened within the Extent of the said Improvements: And whereas by a certain Clause in the said recited Act of the Twenty-eighth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, it is provided that no Lock or Pound Lock shall be erected on the said Navigation between the City Stone and *Boulter's Lock*: And whereas there are, in that Part of the River between the City Stone and *Boulter's Lock* aforesaid, divers rapid Streams, Shallows, or Shoals, and short Turnings, inconvenient and dangerous to the Navigation thereof; and upon Levels and Surveys having been taken of the said Part of the River, it has been proposed, for the amending, improving, and completing of the Navigation thereof, to make and erect Two Pound Locks, with all necessary Weirs, Cuts, and Towing Paths thereto, according to a Plan thereof made and lodged in the Offices of the Clerks

15 *Geo.* III, and

28 *Geo* III, recited.

Recital of Money borrowed and Works done.

Recital of Proviso to prevent erecting Pounds below *Boulter's Lock*.

of the Peace of the ſeveral Counties of *Berks* and *Bucks*: May it therefore pleaſe Your Majeſty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty, by and with the Advice and Conſent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this preſent Parliament aſſembled, and by the Authority of the ſame, That all and every the Powers, Authorities, Proviſoes, Reſtrictions, Clauſes, Penalties, Forfeitures, Matters, and Things, contained in the before recited Acts, made in the Eleventh, Fifteenth, and Twenty-eighth Years of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, ſhall be, and are hereby declared to be and continue in full Force and Effect, for executing and performing the ſeveral Works by the ſaid former Acts and this Act authorized and directed to be done and performed, except ſo much and ſuch Parts thereof as ſhall be altered, varied, or repealed, by this preſent Act, and the Commiſſioners conſtituted and appointed by this Act ſhall have full Power and Authority to execute the ſaid Acts, or ſo much thereof as ſhall remain in Force, and alſo this Act, and every Part thereof.

Old Acts confirmed.

II. And be it further enacted and declared, That it ſhall be lawful for the Commiſſioners, or any Seven or more of them, aſſembled at any General Meeting ſpecially called and duly advertiſed for that Purpoſe, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to erect and make a Lock or Pound Lock at or near a certain Place called *Cuckoo Weir*, in the Pariſh of *Eton*, in the County of *Bucks*, and alſo another ſuch Lock or Pound Lock, at or near a Place called *Lower Romney*, in the Pariſh of *New Windſor*, in the County of *Berks*, with ſuch Towing Paths, Cuts, Channels, Weirs, and other Devices to the ſaid Locks or Pound Locks reſpectively, as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think neceſſary or requiſite for the Improvement of the ſaid Navigation, according to the ſaid Plan in like Manner, under the like Regulations, Reſtrictions, and Conditions, and with Power of collecting the ſame Tolls at the ſaid Locks or Pound Locks as the Commiſſioners are by the ſaid Acts, or any of them, enabled to do in other Parts of the ſaid River; any Thing in the ſaid Clauſe, or in the ſaid recited Acts, or any of them, to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding; and that all and every the Powers given and eſtabliſhed by the ſaid recited Acts, or any of them, for empowering and enabling the ſaid Commiſſioners to ſet out, aſcertain, and purchaſe, any Houſes, Meſſuages, Mills, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, and alſo for enabling all Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Huſbands, Guardians, Truſtees, Feoffees in Truſt, Committees, Executors, and Adminiſtrators to contract for, ſell, and convey, unto the ſaid Commiſſioners all or any Part of ſuch Meſſuages, Mills, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, for the Uſe of the ſaid Navigation, ſhall extend, and they are hereby extended and declared to extend, and to apply with full and the ſame Effect and Force, as to ſetting out, aſcertaining, purchaſing, contracting for, ſelling, and conveying, any Meſſuages, Mills, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, neceſſary or requiſite, or that by Order of the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall be deemed neceſſary or requiſite for the erecting or making of the ſaid Two Locks or Pound Locks, or either of them, or other Device, with the Towing Paths, Cuts, Channels, Weirs, and other Devices neceſſary for the Improvement of the ſaid Navigation, according to the ſaid Plan, from *Southhope*, in the Pariſh of *Eton*, in

Power to erect Pound Locks according to Plan.

Power of former Acts extended to this.

the County of *Bucks*, to *Black Potts Eyet*, in the Pariſh of *Eton* aforeſaid, as to the Locks or Pound Locks, Towing Paths, Ways, Cuts, Channels, Weirs, or other Devices, in other Parts of the ſaid River, which have been or which might have been erected, made, and ſet out, under the Authority of the ſaid recited Acts.

No Weir to be erected between *Boulter's Lock* and the Boundary Stone of the City of *London*, until Notice given to the Corporation of the ſaid City, and ſubject to the Advice of Engineers.

III. And whereas it is apprehended by the Corporation of the City of *London*, that the Erection of Weirs or other Devices acroſs the ſaid River *Thames*, between *Boulter's Lock*, near *Maidenhead Bridge*, and the Boundary Stone of the City of *London*, near *Staines* aforeſaid, may be prejudicial to the Navigation within the Juriſdiction of the City of *London*; be it therefore further enacted, That no Weir or Device ſhall be erected acroſs the ſaid River *Thames*, under the Authority of this Act, between the ſaid Boundary Stone of the City of *London* and *Boulter's Lock* aforeſaid, until the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall have given Notice in Writing to the Corporation of the City of *London* of their Intention to erect ſuch Weir or other Device, and the Place where the ſame is propoſed to be erected, and at the ſame Time ſhall have communicated to the ſaid Corporation a Plan of ſuch intended Weir or other Device, together with the Reaſons for erecting the ſame; and if the Corporation of the City of *London* ſhall not within One Month after the Receipt of ſuch Notice, ſignify in Writing to the General Clerk of the ſaid Commiſſioners their Diſapprobation of the erecting ſuch Weir or other Device, and alſo the Reaſons of ſuch Diſapprobation, then it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners to erect the ſame; but if the ſaid Corporation ſhall ſo ſignify their Diſapprobation as aforeſaid, then, and in that Caſe, the ſaid Corporation and the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall, within Two Months from the Date of ſuch Diſapprobation, each of them appoint Two Civil Engineers to meet and confer together upon the Neceſſity or Expediency of erecting ſuch Weir or other Device, taking into Conſideration the probable Effect ſuch Weir or other Device may have upon the Navigation of the River *Thames*, within the Juriſdiction of the City of *London*, and the Engineers ſo appointed ſhall make their Award and Determination thereon in Writing, to be delivered to each of the ſaid Parties within One Month after their Appointment; and if ſuch Engineers ſo to be appointed ſhall agree that it is neceſſary or expedient to erect ſuch Weir or other Device, and that the ſame will not be prejudicial to the Navigation of the ſaid River, within the Juriſdiction of the City of *London*, it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners forthwith to erect the ſame; but if ſuch Engineers ſo to be appointed ſhall agree that it is not neceſſary or expedient to erect ſuch Weir or other Device, or that the ſame will be prejudicial to the Navigation of the ſaid River, within the Juriſdiction of the City of *London*, then, and in that Caſe, it ſhall not be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners to erect the ſame; and if the ſaid Engineers ſhall differ in Opinion, they are hereby required, within One Month after their Appointment, to nominate and appoint ſome other Civil Engineer who has not made any Survey or Report upon the Navigation of the River *Thames*, to determine the Matter in Diſpute, whoſe Award or Determination thereon (which he is required to make in Writing, and deliver to each of the Parties in One Month from the Time he ſhall be ſo appointed), ſhall be final and concluſive, and the ſaid Weir or other Device ſhall and may be

erected, or ſhall not be erected, according to ſuch Award and Determination.

No higher Tolls to be taken at new than at old Locks.

IV. Provided always, That no higher Rates, Tolls, or Duties, ſhall be demanded or taken at any of the Pound Locks to be erected in purſuance and by virtue of the Powers of this Act, than are authorized to be taken at any other Pound Lock in and by the ſaid recited former Acts.

Barges, &c. paſſing by Pound Locks to pay ſame Tolls as if they had paſſed through ſuch Pounds.

V. Provided alſo, That if any Barge, Boat, or Veſſel, Float, or Raft of Timber, ſhall paſs by and not paſs through any Pound Lock on the ſaid Navigation, the ſame Tolls, Rates, and Duties, ſhall and may be demanded and taken for the Uſe of the ſaid Navigation for the Paſſage of ſuch Barge, Boat, or Veſſel, Float, or Raft, by ſuch Pound Lock, as if the ſame had paſſed through ſuch Pound Lock, and on Non-payment of the ſaid Tolls, Rates, or Duties, the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall and may recover the ſame by Diſtreſs or otherwiſe, in the ſame Manner as they are empowered to recover the Tolls by the ſaid former Acts or any of them.

Tolls may be taken by Moieties on each Paſſage.

VI. And whereas Doubts have ariſen whether the ſaid Commiſſioners are authorized to take the ſaid Tolls at all the ſaid Pound Locks by equal Moieties on each Paſſage of each Barge, Boat, or Veſſel, be it therefore further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to collect and take the ſaid Tolls at all and every of the Pound Locks, as well thoſe already made as thoſe to be made, by equal Moieties, not exceeding Two-pence a Ton at any One Pound Lock, at and for every Paſſage of every ſuch Barge, Boat, or Veſſel.

Limiting the Toll to be taken on the Fifth or Sixth Diſtricts.

VII. Provided further, and be it enacted, That nothing in this or either of the former recited Acts contained ſhall enable the Commiſſioners to aſk, demand, or receive, a higher Rate of Tolls for the Paſſage of any Barge through any Pound Lock in either the Fifth or Sixth Diſtricts of the ſaid River, than the loweſt Rate that ſhall be taken in the other Diſtricts.

Tolls not to be laid higher at one Pound Lock than at another.

VIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That any Thing herein contained ſhall not empower or enable the ſaid Commiſſioners to lay, ſet, and appoint, a higher or greater Rate, Toll, or Duty, for the Paſſage of Barges, Boats, or Veſſels, or Floats or Rafts of Timber, at any One Pound Lock already erected or hereafter to be erected on the ſaid Navigation, than ſhall be laid, ſet, appointed, and taken, at any other Pound Lock on the ſaid Navigation.

Power to let Tolls.

IX. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Eleven or more of them, from Time to Time, by any Writing under their Hands and Seals, to aſſign, demiſe, leaſe, and to farm let, the ſaid Tolls or Duties collected upon the ſaid Navigation, or any Part of ſuch Tolls or Duties, by publick Auction, after Fourteen Days Notice to be given thereof in the *Reading* and *Oxford* Newſpapers, to any Perſon or Perſons, (except a Victualler or Retailer of Spirituous Liquors), who ſhall be willing to take or farm the

the ſame from Year to Year, or for any Term of Years, not exceeding Three Years, for the beſt Price ſuch Commiſſioners can get, payable at ſuch Times, and under ſuch Covenants, as they the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Eleven or more of them, ſhall think fit, and to be paid to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Eleven or more of them, or to ſuch Perſon or Perſons as they, or any Eleven or more of them, ſhall appoint to receive the ſame; which Money ſo to be paid ſhall be applied and diſpoſed of in the ſame Manner as the Tolls or Duties are to be applied and diſpoſed of, and to no other Uſe or Purpoſe whatſoever.

Appointment of Meeting in each District Annually.

X. And, for the better Management and Conduct of the Buſineſs, and Completion of the Works of the ſaid Navigation, and more effectually executing the Improvements and Alterations propoſed and proper to be made, and Works neceſſary to be done thereon; be it further enacted, That a Committee of Three of the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall be appointed yearly and every Year for each and every of the Five Diſtricts of the ſaid Navigation, within the ſaid Commiſſioners Juriſdiction, in Manner herein-after mentioned; namely, that the ſaid Commiſſioners, in their reſpective Diſtricts, ſhall yearly hold Diſtrict Meetings at the Times and Places after mentioned; (that is to ſay), For the Second Diſtrict of the ſaid Navigation, at *Windſor*, in the County of *Berks*, on the laſt *Saturday* in the Month of *October*; for the Third Diſtrict, at *Reading*, in the County of *Berks*, on the laſt *Saturday* in *October*; for the Fourth Diſtrict, at *Wallingford*, in the County of *Berks*, on the laſt *Friday* in *October*; for the Fifth Diſtrict, at *Abingdon*, in the County of *Berks*, on the laſt *Monday* in *October*; and for the Sixth Diſtrict, at the Town Hall, in the City of *Oxford*, on the laſt *Saturday* in *October*; and the reſpective Clerks to the ſaid Diſtricts are hereby required and directed to give Seven Days Notice in ſome publick Newſpaper, circulated in ſuch Diſtrict, of the Time and Place of holding ſuch Diſtrict Meeting, for the Purpoſe of nominating, electing, and appointing, Three of the Commiſſioners as a Committee for directing and managing the Execution of all ſuch Improvements, Alterations, and Works, as the General Meetings may order to be made and done on the ſaid Navigation in and for the enſuing Year; and at every ſuch Diſtrict Meeting, it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners then preſent, being not leſs than Seven, or the major Part of them, and they are hereby directed and required to nominate, elect, and appoint, Three of the ſaid Commiſſioners to be a Committee for the enſuing Year, for ordering and directing the Execution of all ſuch Works, Improvements, and Alterations, as the ſaid Commiſſioners, at their General Meetings, ſhall direct and order to be made or done; and the Clerk of each Diſtrict reſpectively is directed forthwith, after the ſaid Diſtrict Meetings, to return to the General Clerk a Liſt or Account, in Writing, of the Names of ſuch Three Commiſſioners ſo appointed, to be laid before the General Meeting of the ſaid Commiſſioners, which is hereby directed and appointed to be held at the Town Hall in *Wallingford*, in the County of *Berks*, on the Second *Friday* in the Month of *November* yearly.

District Meeting to appoint a Committee for ſuch District.

If District Meeting do not appoint a Committee, General

XI. Provided always, That if any of the ſaid Diſtrict Meetings ſhall not have appointed Three of the Commiſſioners as a Committee for ſuch Diſtrict for the enſuing Year, or if a Liſt or Account thereof ſhall not be delivered at the ſaid General Meeting to be held at *Wallingford* as

aforeſaid, it ſhall and may be lawful for the Commiſſioners preſent at ſuch General Meeting, being not leſs than Eleven, or the major Part of them, and they are hereby directed and required to nominate, elect, and appoint, Three Commiſſioners for the ſaid Diſtrict, for which ſuch Appointment ſhall not have been made, or Liſt returned; or if any Diſtrict Meeting ſhall appoint only One or Two of the ſaid Commiſſioners on ſuch Committee, or having appointed Three, if any One or more of them ſhall die or refuſe to act at any Time before ſuch General Meeting, then, and in every of the ſaid Caſes, the ſaid General Meeting may and ſhall appoint ſo many of the Commiſſioners for ſuch Diſtrict reſpectively as ſhall make up a Committee of Three Commiſſioners to act for each and every of the ſaid Five Diſtricts of the ſaid Navigation for the Year enſuing, which ſaid Committees, when appointed, or filled up, ſhall have the ſame Powers and Authorities as the Committees appointed by the ſaid Diſtrict Meetings as aforeſaid, and ſhall conjunctively be, and are hereby appointed, a General Committee. Meeting to appoint ſuch Committee.

XII. And be it further enacted, That in all and every of the ſaid Caſes of the Appointment of ſuch Committee as aforeſaid, the Clerk to the General Meetings of the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall and is hereby directed forthwith to ſend Notice in Writing to each and every of the Perſons appointed on the ſaid Committee of his Appointment, and of the Time and Place of the Firſt Meeting of the ſaid Committee, which is hereby directed to be held at the ſame Time and Place as the then next General Meeting of the ſaid Commiſſioners is to be held by Appointment or by Adjournment. Notice to Committee Men of their Appointment and Firſt Meeting of Committee.

XIII. And, for the more effectually appointing the ſaid Committees for the ſaid Diſtricts yearly as aforeſaid, be it further enacted and declared, That in caſe there ſhall not be Eleven of the ſaid Commiſſioners preſent at the ſaid General Meeting to be held at *Wallingford* as aforeſaid, or in caſe of Eleven Commiſſioners then being preſent, if they, or the major Part of them, ſhall not then appoint or make up the Appointment of a Diſtrict Committee of Three Commiſſioners for each of the ſaid Diſtricts for the enſuing Year as aforeſaid, then, and in either of the ſaid Caſes, the ſaid General Meeting ſhall be adjourned, and is hereby directed to be held at the ſame Place on that Day Fortnight, and ſo on, from Fortnight to Fortnight, until a Committee ſhall be appointed of Three Commiſſioners of and for each and every of the ſaid Five Diſtricts of the ſaid Navigation for the Year then enſuing, Notice of the Time, Place, and Occaſion, of holding every ſuch General Meeting being given by the General Clerk in ſome Newſpaper circulated in the ſaid Counties of *Berks*, *Bucks*, and *Oxford*. General Meeting to be adjourned from Fortnight to Fortnight till Committee are appointed.

XIV. Provided always, That no Buſineſs whatſoever ſhall be done, nor any Proceedings or Orders be had, made, or taken, or be valid and effectual, at any of the ſaid General Meetings to be held at *Wallingford*, for the ſpecial Purpoſe of appointing Committees as aforeſaid, until all ſuch Committees ſhall be elected, nominated, and appointed, for all and every of the ſaid Five Diſtricts of the ſaid Navigation for the Year then next enſuing as aforeſaid. General Meeting not to do other Buſineſs till Committees are appointed.

XV. Provided always, That after the ſaid Committees are appointed as aforeſaid, if any Vacancy ſhall happen in any of them by the Death or Refuſal Vacancies in Committees how to be filled up.

Refuſal to act of any of the Members thereof, the Commiſſioners, at the next General Meeting to be held after ſuch Vacancy happens, may and ſhall elect and appoint a Commiſſioner or Commiſſioners for the ſaid Diſtrict, to make up the ſaid Committee of Three Commiſſioners for the ſaid Diſtrict, ſo as to keep the ſaid Committees for the ſaid Five Diſtricts of the ſaid Navigation at all Times full.

Creditor of Navigation, or former Committee Man, may ſerve on Committee.

XVI. Provided alſo, and it is hereby declared, That any of the ſaid Commiſſioners elected and named as proper to be on the ſaid Committees, ſhall in nowiſe be diſqualified from being or acting thereon, on account of his and their being a Subſcriber to or Holder of the Loans of Money raiſed for the Uſe of the ſaid Navigation, or any Part thereof, or on account of being a Subſcriber to or Holder of any Share or Part in any Canal or Canals whatſoever, or on account of having been named or ſerved on the Committee in any preceding Year; any Thing herein contained to the contrary notwithſtanding.

General Committee to appoint Sub-committees.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Committee (at any General Meeting thereof, Seven of them being preſent) to nominate and appoint out of their own Body One or more Sub-Committee or Sub-Committees (every ſuch Sub-Committee to conſiſt of Three Perſons at leaſt) who ſhall have Power and Authority to manage and direct the Execution of any ſuch Works as ſhall be delegated to their Care and Management by the ſaid General Committee.

General Committee may ſurvey and report Works neceſſary in each Diſtrict;

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That all or any of the Meetings of the ſaid Committees (any Five of the Committee ſo appointed being preſent) ſhall have Power to ſurvey and take a View of the ſaid River, or any Part thereof, and to hear and examine any Evidence they may think needful as to the State and Condition of the ſaid Navigation, and the Want of Repairs, Amendments, Alterations, and Improvements therein, and alſo to employ and adviſe with the Clerks, Surveyors, or other Officers, employed by the ſaid Commiſſioners, and from Time to Time to make ſuch Reports and Recommendations to the General Meetings of the ſaid Commiſſioners, of all Alterations, Improvements, Repairs, and other Works, which they ſhall think needful or proper to be done at any Place or Places for the Benefit and Improvement of the ſaid Navigation, and alſo to cauſe Eſtimates to be made and laid before the ſaid General Meetings of the Expences of doing ſuch Works; and when the ſaid Commiſſioners, at any of their ſaid General Meetings, ſhall have ordered and directed any Works to be done or executed in any Diſtrict of the ſaid Navigation, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Committee, ſo appointed or to be appointed in ſuch Diſtrict, or any Five of them, meeting together as ſuch Committee, to take on themſelves the Management and Direction of the Execution of ſuch Works, and forthwith to give Orders and Directions to the Surveyors of the ſaid Commiſſioners (or other Perſons authorized by a General Meeting of the Commiſſioners), to proceed in the Execution of ſuch Works, and from Time to Time to report the State, Condition, and Progreſs thereof, to the General Meetings of the ſaid Commiſſioners, and to inſpect, examine, and certify, the Reaſonableneſs of all Bills and Accounts for the Coſts, Charges, and Expences, occaſioned thereby or incurred therein, which, after being allowed by the ſaid Commiſſioners at any General Meeting,

and execute Works ordered by General Meetings.

shall be paid and discharged out of the Monies raised, collected, or received, by virtue of the said Acts, or any of them.

On Dissatisfaction at Work ordered, General Meeting of all the Committees to be called.

XIX. Provided always, That if it shall happen that any Seven of the said Commissioners, not being on the said Committee, or any Three of the Creditors or Holders of the Loans on the said Navigation (being each of them Creditors for Five hundred Pounds at the least), shall be dissatisfied with the Execution of any Work so ordered to be made or done by the said Commissioners at their General Meetings as aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful to and for such Seven Commissioners, or Three such Creditors, by Writing under their Hands, to direct the General Clerk forthwith to summon and call a General Meeting of the said Committee, to be held as near to the Place where such Works are intended to be made or done, as conveniently may be, and at such Time as the Persons requesting such Meeting shall appoint, Ten Days Notice thereof being given as herein-after mentioned; and the General Clerk is required forthwith to acquaint every Member of all and every of the said District Committees of the Time, Place, and Occasion, of such intended Meeting, and also to give Ten Days Notice thereof in some Newspaper circulated in the Counties of *Berks*, *Bucks*, and *Oxford*, and the General Clerk, or his Deputy, is required to attend all General Meetings of such Committee; and at such General Meetings of such Committee, they, or the major Part of the Commissioners, Members of the said Committee, then present, upon their View, or upon Information or Examination of the Matter in Dispute or Doubt, shall and are hereby impowered or authorized to employ any Engineers, Surveyors, or other Persons usually employed in or conversant with Navigations as to them shall seem necessary or expedient, and shall and are hereby impowered forthwith to make Order for suspending such Work, or for carrying on the same, in any Manner consistent with the Orders which had been given by a General Meeting of the said Commissioners; provided that if a Majority of Commissioners of the said Committee, being not less than Seven, shall think it proper to vary and alter such Work, they shall have Power to call a General Meeting of the said Commissioners for the express Purpose of considering such Work, who shall make such Order thereon as to them shall seem expedient, Ten Days Notice of the Time, Place, and Occasion of such General Meeting, being given in the usual Newspaper by the General Clerk.

General Meeting of all the District Committees to order Work to be suspended or continued.

Majority of Committee may call General Meeting to vary Work.

Quarterly General Meeting to be held at *Windsor* instead of late ordinary One.

XX. And whereas, by the said Act made in the Eleventh Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, the Commissioners thereby appointed were directed to hold One of the Four Quarterly or Ordinary General Meetings in every Year, on the First *Saturday* after the Twenty-ninth Day of *September*, at the Town Hall of *Kingston*, in the County of *Surrey*, and by another Act, made in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, so much of the said Act, made in the Eleventh Year of His said Majesty's Reign, as vests the Commissioners thereby appointed with any Power or Powers for improving the Navigation of the River *Thames*, between the City of *London*, and the City Stone above *Staines Bridge*, is repealed, and since the passing of the said last-mentioned Act, the Quarterly or Ordinary General Meetings, at the Town Hall of *Kingston-upon-Thames*, in the County of *Surrey*, have been discontinued, and not held; now, for the better putting the Intention of the

the ſaid Acts into Execution, it is hereby enacted and declared, That the ſaid Commiſſioners, or any Seven or more of them, without any previous Notice, ſhall meet at the Town Hall in *New Windſor*, in the County of *Berks*, on the *Saturday* next after the Twenty-ninth Day of *September* in every Year, and that the ſaid Meeting ſhall be and be called a Quarterly or Ordinary General Meeting of the ſaid Commiſſioners, and the ſaid Commiſſioners then and there preſent are hereby authorized and impowered to have, uſe, and exerciſe, all and every ſuch and the ſame Powers and Authorities, given and eſtabliſhed to the ſaid Commiſſioners by the ſaid Acts, or any of them, at any of their Quarterly or Ordinary General Meetings thereby authorized and appointed to be held as aforeſaid.

General Meeting to be held annually in *Weſtminſter*.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall, and they are hereby required to hold a General Meeting in the Year within the City of *Weſtminſter*, and that the ſame be held annually on the Third *Thurſday* in the Month of *February*, at the *Crown and Anchor* Tavern, or ſome other proper Place within the ſaid City, of which Ten Days Notice at leaſt ſhall be publiſhed in the *Reading* and *Oxford* Newſpapers.

Method of recovering Damages.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall think himſelf, herſelf, or themſelves, aggrieved, damaged, or injured by any Work made by the ſaid Commiſſioners, or by the Operation or Effect of any ſuch Work, and ſhall make Complaint thereof in Writing to the ſaid Commiſſioners at any Diſtrict Meeting, or at any General Meeting, under his or their Hand or Hands, the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall hear and report on ſuch Complaint to the next or ſome other ſubſequent General Meeting, and at ſuch next or ſubſequent General Meeting, the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall make ſuch Order, Determination, and Judgement thereon as to them ſhall ſeem juſt, and give ſuch Satisfaction to the Party complaining as they ſhall think reaſonable, and if the ſaid Party ſhall be diſſatisfied with ſuch Order, Judgement, or Determination, it ſhall and may be lawful to appeal to the next General Quarter Seſſion of the Peace of the County in which the Cauſe of Complaint ſhall ariſe, giving at leaſt Ten Days Notice to the General Clerk of the ſaid Commiſſioners of the Intention of making ſuch Appeal, and the ſaid Court of Quarter Seſſion ſhall and may entertain and take Cognizance of ſuch Appeal, and make ſuch Order and Adjudication thereon as to the Juſtices then preſent ſhall ſeem juſt, and award ſuch Coſts to either Party as they ſhall think reaſonable, which Order and Determination ſhall be final and concluſive to all Intents and Purpoſes whatſoever.

Power to make Towing Paths.

XXIII. And whereas it would greatly conduce to the Benefit and Advantage of the ſaid Navigation if a free, continued, uninterrupted, and publick, Horſe Towing Path were made and eſtabliſhed throughout and on the Whole of the ſaid Navigation, ſo that Barge Maſters, or other Perſons might employ their own Horſes or Cattle in the Towing of Barges, Boats, and Veſſels, on the ſaid Navigation, either upward or downward, without Interruption or Impediment; now be it further enacted and declared, That it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid Commiſſioners to purchaſe and make any ſuch Horſe Towing Paths, Roads, and Ways, for the Haling of Barges, Boats, and Veſſels, or for paſſing from any publick Road to any Horſe Towing Path, as the ſaid Commiſſioners

ſhall think convenient and neceſſary for the Uſe of the ſaid Navigation, over and through any Lands or Grounds whatſoever, (except thoſe on which ſome Meſſuage or Tenement is erected and built, or which is reſpectively uſed as a Garden, Orchard, Yard, Park, Paddock, incloſed Lawn, or planted Avenue to any Houſe, at the Time the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall make an Application, and give Notice for the taking the ſame), for the making a Horſe Towing Path, Way, or Road, for the haling or towing of the Barges, Boats, and Veſſels, on the ſaid River, or for a Way or Road for the Towing Horſes paſſing to or from ſome publick Road to ſuch Horſe Towing Path, any Thing in the ſaid Acts, or any of them, to the contrary notwithſtanding; the ſaid Commiſſioners paying and allowing unto all and every Perſon or Perſons full Recompence or Satisfaction for all ſuch Loſſes or Damages as he or they ſhall or may ſuſtain or be put unto by reaſon of the taking of ſuch Lands or Grounds for the making of a Towing Path, Way, or Road, for the Uſe of the ſaid Navigation; ſuch Damages (if not agreed between the Commiſſioners and Owners of the ſaid Lands) to be aſcertained and ſettled by a Jury, in the ſame Manner as other Damages are directed to be ſettled in and by the ſaid Acts, or any of them: Provided always that nothing herein contained ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend, ſo as to make it lawful for the Commiſſioners to raiſe or make, or cauſe to be raiſed or made, any Kempſhot, or other ſuch Work, for the Purpoſe of haling Barges or Veſſels paſſing on the ſaid Navigation, before or againſt the Park, Paddock, incloſed Lawn, or planted Avenue, at *Purley*, belonging to *Anthony Morris Storer* Eſquire.

Commiſſioners under old Acts to act till 25th *December* next.

XXIV. And, for the better executing the ſaid Acts and this Act, be it further enacted and declared, That all and every the ſeveral Perſons who have taken the Oath appointed by the ſaid Acts, and acted as Commiſſioners for putting the ſame in Execution, and who ſhall alſo take and ſubſcribe the Oaths herein-after mentioned, ſhall be and are hereby appointed Commiſſioners for putting in Execution the ſaid Acts, and alſo this Act, until the Twenty-fifth Day of *December* next after the paſſing of this Act; and that, from and after the ſaid Twenty-fifth Day of *December* next, the ſaid Commiſſioners before mentioned (except thoſe that ſhall have taken and ſubſcribed the Oaths herein-after mentioned) ſhall no longer act or have any Power or Authority to act in the Execution of this Act, or any of the ſaid former Acts.

Appointment of new Commiſſioners.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That, from and after the Twenty-fifth Day of *December* next, the Repreſentatives in Parliament for the Counties of *Wilts*, *Glouceſter*, *Oxford*, *Berks*, and *Bucks*, and for all Cities and Towns within the ſame, and for the Univerſity of *Oxford*, the Repreſentatives in Parliament for the Counties of *Middleſex* and *Surrey*, and for the Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, and the Borough of *Southwark*, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of *London*, the Vice Chancellor and Heads of Colleges and Halls in the Univerſity of *Oxford*, the Dean and Canons of *Chriſt Church*, the Dean and Canons of *Windſor*, the Provoſt and Fellows of *Eton* College, the Rectors and Incumbents of the ſeveral Pariſhes that border on the *Thames* and *Iſis* on both Sides from *Staines* to *Cricklade*, the Mayors and Recorders of *Oxford*, *Abingdon*, *Wallingford*, *Reading*, *Henley*, *Maidenhead*, and *Windſor*,

for, the Senior Bridgewarden of *Great Marlow*, and the Clerk of His Majeſty's Board of Works reſiding at *Windſor* Caſtle, for the Time being, and alſo every Perſon being ſeiſed in his own Right, or in Right of his Wife, of Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, being Freehold or Copyhold, of the Value of One hundred Pounds *per Annum*, in the Counties of *Wilts*, *Glouceſter*, *Oxford*, *Berks*, and *Bucks*, or being Heir Apparent of ſome Perſon having ſuch Eſtate of the clear Yearly Value of Two hundred Pounds, and every Perſon who does or ſhall reſide in either of the ſaid Counties of *Wilts*, *Glouceſter*, *Oxford*, *Berks*, and *Bucks*, being ſeiſed of Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments as aforeſaid, to the Value of One hundred Pounds *per Annum*, in *Great Britain*, or being Heir Apparent of ſome Perſon having ſuch Eſtate of the Yearly Value of Two hundred Pounds, or poſſeſſed of Perſonal Eſtate to the Value of Three thouſand Pounds, or being a Holder of Loans on the ſaid Navigation to the Amount of Five hundred Pounds, ſhall be and are hereby appointed Commiſſioners for putting in Execution the ſaid ſeveral Acts, and alſo this Act, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to execute the ſame, and every Part of each of the ſaid Acts, according to the true Intent and Meaning thereof.

Commiſſioners to take and ſubſcribe Oaths of Qualification and for duly executing this Act.

XXVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That all and every of the ſaid Perſons (except thoſe qualified to act as Commiſſioners by virtue of holding the ſeveral Offices aforeſaid) ſhall, before he or they act, or preſume to act, as a Commiſſioner for executing this Act, and the ſaid former Acts, at ſome General or Diſtrict Meeting of the ſaid Commiſſioners, take and ſubſcribe the Oath following, or, being One of the People called *Quakers*, take and ſubſcribe an Affirmation to the ſame Effect; *(videlicet)*,

'I *A. B.* do ſwear, [*or* affirm], That I am ſeiſed in my own Right [*or* in the Right of my Wife] of ſuch an Eſtate of Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, [*or* of ſuch a Perſonal Eſtate, *or* am a Holder of ſuch Part of the Loans of Money lent on One or more of the Five Upper Diſtricts of the Navigation of the *Thames* and *Iſis*], as is required to qualify me to act as a Commiſſioner for putting in Execution the ſeveral Acts of Parliament made for improving and completing the Navigation of the ſaid Rivers from the Juriſdiction of the City of *London*, near *Staines*, in the County of *Middleſex*, to the Town of *Cricklade*, in the County of *Wilts*.

'So help me GOD.'

Commiſſioner to ſpecify Place where his Qualification is.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That each and every of the ſaid Perſons ſhall and is hereby required, at the Time of taking and ſubſcribing the ſaid Oath, in his own Hand Writing, or by ſome other Perſon by his Direction, againſt his Subſcription to the ſaid Oath, to ſpecify and ſet down in Writing an Account of the Townſhip, Pariſh, or Place, and County, in which the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, are ſituate, lying, or being, that he is poſſeſſed of, as a Qualification to act as a Commiſſioner as aforeſaid.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted and declared, That all and every of the ſaid Commiſſioners, as well thoſe qualified by Offices as others, before he ſhall act, or preſume to act, as a Commiſſioner to execute the ſaid Acts, or any of them, ſhall take and ſubſcribe the following Oath, or

or being One of the People called *Quakers*, shall take and subscribe an Affirmation to the same Effect; (*videlicet*),

'I *A. B.* do swear, [*or* affirm], That I will, without Favour or Affection, truly, faithfully, and impartially, execute, perform, and discharge, the Office and Duty of a Commissioner, according to the Powers, Authorities, and Directions, given and established in and by the several Acts of Parliament made for improving, amending, and completing, the Navigation of the Rivers *Thames* and *Isis*, from the Jurisdiction of the City of *London*, near *Staines*, in the County of *Middlesex*, to the Town of *Cricklade*, in the County of *Wilts*, and that I will execute the said Acts, according to the best of my Skill and Knowledge.

'So help me GOD.' Oath.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for any Two of the said Commissioners acting under the said former Acts, or appointed by this Act, at any General or District Meeting of the said Commissioners to be held at any Time after passing this Act, to administer and give the said Oaths or Affirmations, hereby directed to be taken, to any of the said Commissioners appointed for executing this Act, and the said former Acts, notwithstanding the said Commissioners so administering the said Oaths may not previously have taken or subscribed the same. Two Commissioners may administer Oaths.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any Person or Persons, (except those qualified to act as Commissioners by holding Offices as aforesaid), to act or vote as a Commissioner or Commissioners in the Execution of this Act, or any of the said recited Acts, after the Twenty-fifth Day of *December* next after the passing of this Act, unless such Person or Persons shall have taken and subscribed the Oath or Oaths appointed by the said Acts for the due Execution thereof, at some General or District Meeting of the said Commissioners, held at least Six Months previous to and before the Time of such Persons acting and voting as a Commissioner for executing the said Acts, or any of them, any Thing herein or in the said Acts contained to the contrary notwithstanding: Provided always, that the Commissioners who had taken the Oath of Office under the former Acts may at any Time be at Liberty to act as Commissioners under this Act upon taking the Qualification Oath above required. No Commissioner to vote unless he has qualified Six Months previously:

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That in case any Person shall presume to act as a Commissioner before he has taken the said Oath or Oaths, or if he shall have acted, not being duly qualified, or whilst he was under any Disqualification by this Act, he shall, upon Conviction thereof, forfeit the Sum of Two hundred Pounds, to be recovered by the General Treasurer of the said Navigation, by Action of Debt, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, and the Defendant shall prove that he is qualified as aforesaid, or otherwise shall forfeit the Sum of Two hundred Pounds; which Sum, when recovered, after deducting all Costs and Charges attending the Recovery thereof, shall be applied to and for the Purposes of this Act. If disqualified shall forfeit Two hundred Pounds.

XXXII. And

The Commiſſioners to preſent their Accounts to Parliament annually.

XXXII. And whereas the Navigation of the Rivers *Thames* and *Iſis* has long been a very uſeful Channel of Conveyance for cumbrous and heavy Goods between ſeveral inland Counties, and the Commerce of the ſaid River has of late increaſed, and is ſtill increaſing, by Means of ſeveral Canals which communicate with the Rivers *Thames* and *Iſis*, between *Cricklade* and the Port of *London*, ſo that it is become eſſentially neceſſary for theſe Purpoſes, and to accommodate the general Commerce of the Kingdom, that the Navigation of the ſaid Rivers ſhould be rendered ſafe, eaſy, certain, at as little Expence as poſſible, and that the ſeveral Perſons intereſted by Reſidence or mercantile Undertakings, as well as the Publick at large, ſhould be thoroughly informed, from Time to Time, of the Meaſures taken, and the Sums expended, for the Preſervation and Improvement of the ſaid Navigation; be it therefore enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall and are hereby required to make out every Year a true and faithful Account, in Abſtract, of all the Money borrowed or received for Tolls, Towing Paths, or Paſſage Boats, or any other Matters touching the Navigation, and alſo an Account of all the Diſburſements made for Intereſt, Salaries, Rents, Purchaſes, Surveys, Ballaſting, Repairs, or new Works, which Account ſo ſtated and made up to the Thirty-firſt of *December* in every Year, and ſigned by Seven or more of the ſaid Commiſſioners, as alſo by their Comptroller, Treaſurer, or General Clerk, ſhall be preſented to both Houſes of Parliament, (if they are then ſitting), on ſome Day between the Firſt and Tenth Days of *February* of the Year enſuing, or if the Houſes are not then ſitting, within the next Ten Days after they ſhall aſſemble, and a Copy of the ſaid Accounts ſhall at the ſame Time be inſerted in the *Oxford* and *Reading* Newſpapers, and a Copy thereof ſhall be preſented to the Epiphany Quarter Seſſion to be held for the Counties of *Oxford*, *Berks*, and *Bucks*.

In what Manner the Orders of former Meetings are to be reſcinded.

XXXIII. And whereas, by a Clauſe in the ſaid firſt mentioned Act, paſſed in the Eleventh Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, it is enacted, that no Order, Rule, or Regulation, made by the Commiſſioners at any General or Quarterly Meeting ſhall be altered, annulled, or repealed, unleſs under certain Proviſions therein recited; be it therefore enacted, That the ſaid Clauſe be, and the ſame is hereby repealed; and that, from and after the paſſing of this Act, it ſhall not be lawful at any General Meeting of the ſaid Commiſſioners, to reſcind, repeal, or make void, any Order or Reſolution made by the ſaid Commiſſioners at any of their General Meetings, unleſs Twenty-one Days Notice of the Time and Place of the holding ſuch ſubſequent General Meeting, and of the Intent and Purpoſe then and there of conſidering ſuch former Order or Reſolution, and, if found expedient, of reſcinding and repealing the ſame, ſhall be given by the General Clerk in ſome Newſpaper circulated in the ſaid Counties of *Oxford*, *Berks*, and *Bucks*, and unleſs alſo there ſhall be Twenty-one Commiſſioners preſent at ſuch ſubſequent General Meeting.

Application of Purchaſe Money for Lands in Settlement.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That all Sums of Money which are to be paid to any Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Feoffees in Truſt, Executors, Adminiſtrators, Huſbands, Guardians, Committees, or other Truſtees whatſoever, for or

on the Behalf of any Infants, Lunaticks, Idiots, Femes Covert, or other Ceſtuique Truſts, or to any Perſon or Perſons whoſe Lands or Eſtates are limited in ſtrict Settlement, for the Purchaſe of, or for the Damage to be done to, any Lands, Grounds, Tenements, or Hereditaments, for the Purpoſes of or by virtue of this Act, (except in Caſes where the Conſideration ſhall be paid by an Annual Rent), in caſe the ſame ſhall exceed the Sum of Twenty Pounds, ſhall be laid out, as ſoon as conveniently may be, by ſuch Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, Feoffees in Truſt, Executors, Adminiſtrators, Huſbands, Guardians, or Committees, or other Truſtees, Perſon or Perſons, as aforeſaid, in the Purchaſe of Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments in Fee Simple, which ſhall be conveyed to or to the Uſe of ſuch Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, or ſuch other Perſon or Perſons as aforeſaid, and for ſuch Eſtates, and to, for, upon, and ſubject to, ſuch Uſes, Truſts, Limitations, Remainders, and Contingencies, as the Lands, Grounds, Tenements, or Hereditaments, for or in reſpect whereof ſuch Monies ſhall be paid, were limited, ſettled, and aſſured, to, for, upon, and ſubject to, at the Time ſuch Monies were ſo agreed for, aſcertained, or aſſeſſed, reſpectively as aforeſaid, or to, for, upon, and ſubject to, ſuch and ſo many of them as ſhall be then exiſting or capable of taking Effect, the Conveyances of ſuch Lands to the Commiſſioners to be made at the Expence of the ſaid Commiſſioners; and in the mean Time, and until ſuch Purchaſe or Purchaſes ſhall be made, the ſaid Monies, and alſo ſuch other Sum or Sums of Money to be paid for any ſuch Purchaſe or Damage as aforeſaid, as ſhall not amount to the Sum of Twenty Pounds, ſhall be placed out by ſuch Bodies Politick, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, or other Perſon or Perſons as aforeſaid, in ſome of the Publick Stocks or Funds, or on Government or Real Securities, producing an Annual Intereſt; and the Intereſt ariſing or to be produced from ſuch Stocks, Funds, or Securities, ſhall be paid to ſuch Perſon or Perſons reſpectively as would, for the Time being, have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, reſpectively ſo to be purchaſed or damaged by the ſaid Commiſſioners as aforeſaid, in caſe ſuch Purchaſe or Damage had not been made or done.

Juſtices of adjacent Counties to the River to have Juriſdiction thereon.

XXXV. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for His Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace reſiding in and acting for the ſeveral Counties adjoining to the ſaid Rivers *Thames* and *Iſis*, to take Cognizance of any Complaint that ſhall be made to him or them reſpecting any Offence committed on the ſaid Rivers, or any Part thereof, and upon ſuch Complaint, and Warrant of ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices in purſuance thereof, it ſhall and may be lawful to apprehend the Perſon or Perſons ſo complained of, if found on the ſaid Rivers, or any Part thereof, and to take him or them before ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices, who ſhall and may thereupon proceed to examine into and determine on the ſaid Offence, and order ſuch Puniſhment for the ſame, in ſuch Manner and Form as if the ſaid Offence had been committed, and the Offender or Offenders apprehended within the County for which ſuch Juſtice or Juſtices is or are empowered to act.

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

FINIS.