

ANNO TRICESIMO NONO & QUADRAGESIMO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. XCII.

An Act for eſtabliſhing certain Regulations in the Offices of the Houſe of Commons.

[28th *July* 1800.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient that after the Intereſts, which the Perſons herein-after mentioned enjoy, by virtue of Letters Patent granted by His Majeſty, in the Office of Clerk of the Houſe of Commons, ſhall have expired, a different Diſtribution ſhould be made of the Fees and Emoluments now belonging thereto; and that for this Purpoſe further Regulations ſhould be eſtabliſhed in other Offices of the ſaid Houſe: And whereas by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, bearing Date at *Weſtminſter* the Third Day of *June*, in the Eighth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, the Office of Clerk of the Houſe of Commons, with an Annuity of Ten Pounds, and all other Rewards, Dues, Rights, Profits, Commodities, Advantages, and Emoluments whatſoever to the ſaid Office, after what Manner ſoever or howſoever then or thentofore anciently appertaining, incident, accuſtomed or belonging, was granted to *John Hatſell* Eſquire for and during his natural Life: And whereas alſo by certain other Letters Patent, bearing Date at *Weſtminſter* the Fourth Day of *July* in the Thirty-ſeventh Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, the ſaid Office was granted to *John Ley* Eſquire for and during his natural Life, to take Effect from and after the Deceaſe of the ſaid *John Hatſell*, in as full, ample, and beneficial a Manner as the ſame had been granted to the ſaid *John Hatſell* as aforeſaid: And whereas by certain other Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, bearing Date at *Weſtminſter* the Sixteenth Day of *November*, in the Sixteenth Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, the Office of Serjeant at Arms attending the Houſe of Commons, with a Salary and all other Fees, Perquiſites, and Emoluments to the ſaid Office belonging, was

Recital of Letters Patent to *John Hatſell* Eſquire, and *John Ley* Eſquire, Clerks of the Houſe of Commons, and to *Edward Colman* Eſquire, Serjeant at Arms.

was granted to *Edward Coleman* Eſquire: 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 the Speaker of the Houſe of Commons for the Time being, and the Secretary or Secretaries of State, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Maſter of the Rolls, and the Attorney and Solicitor General for the Time being, being alſo Members of the Houſe of Commons, ſhall be, and they are hereby nominated, conſtituted, and appointed Commiſſioners for the Purpoſes of this Act; any Three of the ſaid Commiſſioners, whereof the Speaker of the Houſe of Commons for the Time being ſhall be One, ſhall be, and they are hereby authorized to carry this Act into Execution.

The Speaker, the Secretaries of State, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Maſter of the Rolls, and the Attorney and Solicitor General, being alſo Members of the Houſe of Commons, ſhall be Commiſſioners.

II. And be it further enacted, That, from and after the Expiration of the ſaid Letters Patent ſo granted to the ſaid *John Hatſell*, *John Ley*, and *Edward Coleman* as aforeſaid, all Fees, Perquiſites, and Emoluments which would have been due and payable to any future Clerk or Clerk Aſſiſtant of the Houſe of Commons, or Serjeant at Arms attending the Houſe of Commons for the Time being, in caſe this Act had not been made, ſhall be paid into the Hands of the ſaid Commiſſioners, to be by them applied and diſtributed in the Manner herein-after directed; that is to ſay, the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall, and they are hereby directed to pay to the Clerk of the Houſe of Commons for the Time being, the nett annual Sum of Three thouſand Pounds, for and during the Firſt Five Years which the ſaid Clerk of the Houſe of Commons ſhall hold his ſaid Office; and from and after the Expiration of the ſaid Term of Five Years, to pay to ſuch Clerk of the Houſe of Commons, the further nett Sum of Five hundred Pounds annually, making together the Sum of Three thouſand five hundred Pounds; and to pay to the Clerk Aſſiſtant of the ſaid Houſe for the Time being, the nett annual Sum of One thouſand five hundred Pounds, for and during the Firſt Five Years which the ſaid Clerk Aſſiſtant ſhall hold his ſaid Office; and from and after the Expiration of the ſaid Term of Five Years, to pay to ſuch Clerk Aſſiſtant, the further nett annual Sum of Five hundred Pounds, making together the Sum of Two thouſand Pounds; and which Sums ſo paid by the ſaid Commiſſioners to the Clerk and Clerk Aſſiſtant of the Houſe of Commons reſpectively, ſhall be taken and accepted by them in full Satisfaction and Diſcharge of all Fees, Perquiſites, and Emoluments to which he or they might or could have been entitled, or which he or they may have been accuſtomed to receive, by virtue or in reſpect of his or their ſaid Office or Offices, previous to the paſſing of this Act, any Form, Practice, or Uſage to the contrary notwithſtanding: Provided always, That in caſe a Vacancy ſhall happen in the Office of Clerk of the Houſe of Commons, after the Expiration of the ſaid Letters Patent, and the Clerk Aſſiſtant for the Time being ſhall ſucceed thereto, and ſhall then have held the Office of Clerk Aſſiſtant more than Five Years, the Exceſs beyond Five Years ſhall be reckoned as Part or the Whole, as the Caſe may be, of the Five Years which the Clerk of the Houſe of Commons is herein required to have held his Office, before he ſhall be entitled to have and receive of the ſaid Commiſſioners the ſaid Sum of Three thouſand five hundred Pounds; any Thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

After Expiration of recited Letters Patent, the Fees and Emoluments of the Clerk and Serjeant of the Houſe of Commons ſhall be paid to the Commiſſioners, to be by them applied in Manner herein directed, in Payment of Salaries to the Clerk and Clerk Aſſiſtant.

III. Provided

III. Provided always, and be it enacted, That if the Clerk Aſſiſtant who ſhall be in Poſſeſſion of that Office at the Expiration of the ſaid Letters Patent, ſhall continue in ſuch Office after the Expiration of the ſaid Letters Patent, or ſhall then or at any Time thereafter be appointed Clerk of the Houſe of Commons, the Amount of his Salary or Allowance agreeably to the Proviſions herein-before contained, ſhall be eſtimated according to the whole Number of Years, as well before as after the Expiration of the ſaid Letters Patent, during which he ſhall in any of the ſaid Caſes have held the ſaid Office; any Thing herein contained to the contrary in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

If the Clerk Aſſiſtant ſhall continue in Office after Expiration of Letters Patent, the Amount of his Salary to be eſtimated according to the Number of Years he had held the Office.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall, and they are alſo hereby further authorized and directed from and after the Expiration of the Intereſt of the ſaid *Edward Coleman* in the ſaid Office of Serjeant at Arms, to pay to the Serjeant at Arms attending the Houſe of Commons for the Time being, the nett annual Sum of Two thouſand three hundred Pounds, which ſaid Sum of Two thouſand three hundred Pounds ſhall be taken and accepted by the ſaid Serjeant at Arms for the Time being, in full Satisfaction and Diſcharge of all Fees, Perquiſites, and Emoluments to which he might or could have been entitled, or which he may have been accuſtomed to receive, by virtue or in reſpect of his ſaid Office, previous to the paſſing of this Act; any Form, Practice, or Uſage to the contrary notwithſtanding: Provided always, That in caſe the ſaid Serjeant at Arms for the Time being ſhall have or employ any Deputy, he ſhall make an Allowance to ſuch Deputy, at the Rate of not leſs than Three hundred Pounds *per Annum*, out of the ſaid Sum of Two thouſand three hundred Pounds; but if he ſhall not have or employ any ſuch Deputy, he ſhall account to the ſaid Commiſſioners for the ſaid Sum of Three hundred Pounds *per Annum*, or ſuch Part thereof as ſhall not have been paid to ſuch Deputy in any One Year.

Salary to be paid the Serjeant at Arms and his Deputy, &c.

V. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall, and they are hereby authorized and required to prepare and lay before the Houſe of Commons, within the Firſt Twenty ſitting Days after the Expiration of the ſaid Letters Patent, and ſo within Twenty ſitting Days after the Commencement of every ſubſequent Seſſion of Parliament, a Plan of the Manner in which the Reſidue (if any, or ſo much thereof as to them ſhall ſeem ſufficient for the Purpoſes herein-after mentioned) of the Monies ſo to be by them received, or which it ſhall appear to them, from an Average of the Three preceding Years, will probably be received by them, ſhall be applied and diſpoſed of towards making a more certain and regular Proviſion for the Support of ſuch Officers in the Departments of the Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, and of the Clerk of the ſaid Houſe, and Serjeant at Arms, as may from caſual Circumſtances appear to require the ſame, and for affording Relief to ſuch Perſons belonging to, or who may have belonged to the ſaid Departments, and who may have been diſabled by Age or Infirmity from the Diſcharge of their reſpective Duties, which ſaid Plan ſhall be binding and concluſive on the ſaid Commiſſioners, and they are hereby authorized and directed to carry the ſame into Effect, unleſs the ſaid Houſe, within Twenty ſitting Days after the ſaid Plan ſhall have been ſo laid before them, ſhall have otherwiſe ordered and directed; and then and in ſuch Caſe, with ſuch Variations as ſhall have been ſo made therein, and ſo from Time to Time

A Plan of the Manner of applying the Reſidue of the Money received by the Commiſſioners, for the Support of ſuch Officers as appear to require the ſame, to be laid before Parliament.

Time as often as ſuch Plan ſhall as above required be laid before the Houſe.

An Account of the Money received and diſburſed under this Act, to be laid before the Houſe of Commons annually, who may direct the Application of the Balance.

VI. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall prepare and lay before the Houſe of Commons, within Twenty ſitting Days after the Commencement of every Seſſion of Parliament, an Account of the Monies ſo received by them, by virtue of this Act, and of the Manner in which the ſame ſhall have been applied and diſpoſed of; and that in caſe it ſhall appear from the ſaid Account that there is in the Hands of the ſaid Commiſſioners a Surplus remaining, after carrying into Effect the Plan or Orders herein-before mentioned, it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid Houſe to direct ſuch a Diſpoſition to be made thereof, as to them ſhall appear moſt proper towards providing, in caſe the Houſe ſhall ſee fit, a Remuneration for the Perſon or Perſons by whom the Duties of Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means ſhall have been diſcharged during the then Seſſion of Parliament, and for the better Support of Perſons belonging to any of the Departments herein-before mentioned, thoſe Perſons belonging thereto excepted, whoſe Salaries may have been or may be fixed by the Authority of Parliament, and ſo in ſuch Caſe, from Time to Time, in every ſubſequent Seſſion of Parliament, as Circumſtances ſhall admit of and require.

On Expiration of either of the recited Letters Patent, the Commiſſioners may carry this Act into Execution, &c.

VII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained ſhall be taken or conſtrued to prevent the ſaid Commiſſioners, upon the Expiration either of the ſaid Letters Patent granted to the ſaid *John Hatſell* and *John Ley* Eſquires, or of the ſaid Letters Patent granted to the ſaid *Edward Colman* Eſquire, whichever may firſt happen, from carrying the Purpoſes of this Act into Execution, as far as the Nature of the reſpective Caſes will admit; and that thereupon, all Fees, Perquiſites, and Emoluments which would have been due and payable to ſuch of the ſaid Officers, whoſe Patents or Patent ſhall have ſo expired, ſhall be paid into the Hands of the ſaid Commiſſioners in the Manner herein-before directed.

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