Anno quarto

Georgii III. Regis.

An Act for the more effectual Relief and Employment of the Poor within the City of *Glouceſter*; and for Lighting the Streets of the ſaid City.

WHEREAS by an Act of Parliament made in the Firſt Year of the Reign of Her late Majeſty Queen Anne, intituled, An Act for the incorporating certain Perſons for the better providing for, and ſetting at Work, the Poor in the City of *Glouceſter*, it was enacted, That from and after the Seventh Day of April, which was in the Year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and three, there ſhould be a Corporation to continue for ever within the City of Glouceſter, and County of the ſaid City, conſiſting of the Mayor for the time being, Three Aldermen of the ſaid City, and Twenty four other Perſons to be choſen out of the ableſt and diſcreeteſt Inhabitants of the ſaid City and County thereof, as in and by the ſaid Act is directed; and likewiſe of the Truſtees named in the Will of Timothy Nourſe Gentleman, in the ſaid Act mentioned, and of ſuch other Perſons as ſhould be elected in the Room Preamble.

of such of the Trustees named in the said Gift of the said Timothy Nourse as should happen to die, and also consisting of such other Persons as, upon Account of their Charity, should be elected Guardians of the Poor of the said City and County, in such Manner as in and by the said recited Act is directed; which said Corporation was to have a perpetual Succession, and to be called by the Name of The Governor, Deputy Governor, and Guardians of the Poor of the said City of *Gloucester*, and should have a Common Seal, and Power and Authority to purchase, buy, hold at a Rack Rent, build, or erect, One or more Hospital or Hospitals, Workhouse or Workhouses, and to provide what other Necessaries they should think fit and convenient, for the Maintenance and setting to Work the Poor of the said City and County thereof; and should for those Purposes, have Power and Authority from time to time, at their Courts or Assemblies thereby directed to be holden, to set down and ascertain such weekly, monthly, or other Sums or Payments, as should be needful for the Maintenance of the Poor in the said Workhouse, so that the same did not exceed in each Parish or Precinct within the said City, what had been paid in the same Parishes or Precincts, towards the Maintenance of the Poor thereof, in any One of the Three Years then last past, before the Twenty ninth Day of September, One thousand seven hundred and two; and to cause the Money so ascertained to be assessed, collected, levied, and paid to the Treasurer of the said Corporation for the time being, in such Manner, and by such Powers and Authorities, as in and by the said Act are mentioned and directed; And whereas in the said Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and three, by virtue of the said Act, an Election was made of Twenty four Guardians in the Manner as the said Act directed, out of the Inhabitants of the said City, and a Governor, Deputy Governor, and other Officers, were likewise elected, and were for some Years afterwards regularly chosen, according to the Directions of the said Act; and the said Corporation so erected, did afterwards set up and provide a convenient House for the Reception, Maintenance, and setting to Work, of the said Poor, and several charitable Persons gave several considerable Sums towards their Maintenance and Relief; and the said Corporation continued to take care of, provide for, and employ, the said Poor in the said Workhouse in pursuance of the said Act, until some Time in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and seven; when, by

reason of the Dearness of Provisions, the great Increase of the said Poor, and the Smallness of the Sums which they were by the said Act empowered to raise towards their Support and Maintenance, the Election of Guardians in pursuance of the said Act, was discontinued, and the Poor taken out of the said Workhouse, and were maintained by their respective Parishes; and whereas in and by One other Act of Parliament, made in the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the First, for repealing Part, and making more effectual the Residue of the above recited Act, so much of the said recited Act as appointed Twenty four Persons to be elected Guardians of the said Poor, and chosen out of the Inhabitants of the said City, and the County thereof, and as related to the Method of electing such Guardians and other Officers of the said Corporation, and also so much of the said Act as appointed the Mayor, and Three of the Aldermen of the said City, to be Guardians of the Poor in the Manner in the said Act also prescribed, and also so much of the said recited Act as was contrary to, or inconsistent with, the said Act of the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty, was repealed and made void; and it was in and by the said last mentioned Act enacted, that on the First Thursday which should be in the Month of June, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and twenty seven, there should be Thirty one of the ablest and discreetest Inhabitants of the several Parishes of the said City and County, and Precincts of the College there, elected and chosen out of the said Parishes and Precincts respectively, in Manner as by the same Act is directed, to be of the Number of the Guardians of the Poor of the said City, who should continue in their said Office for the Space of Six Years, and from thence until Thirty one new Guardians of the Poor of the said City should be elected to succeed them; and that upon the First Thursday, which should be in the Month of June in every Sixth Year successively, for ever after such First Election, there should be Thirty one Persons, of the ablest and discreetest Inhabitants of the said several Parishes and Precincts, from time to time, chosen and elected to be new Guardians of the Poor of the said City, who should also continue in their said Offices for the Space of Six Years, and until such new Election of Officers should be successively had as aforesaid; and it was by the same Act of the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty, further enacted, that the Mayor of the said City of Gloucester,

and the five senior Aldermen of the same City for the time being, and the said Thirty one Persons, from time to time elected out of the said several Parishes and Precincts as aforesaid, the Right Reverend the Bishop and the Reverend the Dean of Gloucester for the time being, the then surviving Trustees named in the Will of the said Timothy Nourse, and such other Persons who had since been elected Trustees pursuant to the said recited Act of the First of Her late Majesty, in the room of such of the said Trustees, in the said Timothy Nourse's Will named, as were deceased, and such other Persons as should then afterwards be so elected in the room of any of the said Trustees, pursuant to the said recited Act, the Worshipful the Chancellor of and for the Diocese of Gloucester, the Reverend the Archdeacon of Gloucester, and the Reverend the Subdean and Treasurer of the Cathedral Church of Gloucester for the time being, and such other Person or Persons as upon account of his or their Charity or Charities should be elected and constituted Guardians of the Poor of the said City, in such Manner as therein is mentioned, should be for ever afterwards One Body Politic and Corporate in Law, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, and should be incorporated by the Name of the Governor and Guardians of the Poor of the City of Gloucester, and were thereby impowered to have, use, exercise and enjoy all Authorities, Powers, Rights, Liberties, Privileges, and Jurisdictions, that were granted to and vested in the said Corporation, erected by the said Act of the First Year of Her said late Majesty Queen Anne, which were not by the said Act of the Thirteenth Year of His said late Majesty King George the First, altered or repealed; and it was in and by the said last mentioned Act further enacted, That the said Corporation thereby erected should, on the Second Thursday in the Month of June, One thousand seven hundred and twenty seven, meet and assemble themselves together, and elect, choose and constitute out of and amongst themselves, in manner as by the said Act is directed, the several Officers following; that is to say, One Governor, One Deputy Governor, One Receiver or Treasurer, and Six special Assistants, who should continue in their said Offices for Two Years, and until other Persons should be chosen to succeed them in their respective Offices, and also at the End of the said first Two Years, and for ever afterwards at the End of every succeeding Two Years, should in like manner elect, choose, and constitute new Officers to serve in the said respective Offices; and the

said

said Corporation thereby erected, were thereby also empowered, in their Courts or Assemblies, from time to time, to set down, ascertain, and charge such weekly, monthly, or other Sums or Payments as should be needful for the Maintenance of the Poor in the said Workhouse, so that the same did not exceed in each Parish or Place what had been paid therein respectively towards the Maintenance of the Poor thereof, in any One of the Five Years last past, before the Twenty-ninth Day of September, One thousand seven hundred and twenty four, to be assessed, raised, collected, and levied, in manner as by the said last mentioned Act is directed: And whereas in and by the said Act of the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of his said late Majesty King George the First, it was further enacted, that the Poor of the several Hamlets of Littleworth, otherwise Lower Southgate Street, in or near the said City of Gloucester, and also the Poor of the Hamlets of the several Parishes of Saint Michael's, Saint Mary de Lode, and Saint Katherine's, otherwise Saint Oswald's, lying in the said County of Gloucester, should be received into the said Workhouse, and should be therein maintained, taught, and employed, in such manner as other the Poor of the said City should be maintained, taught, or employed, upon Payment of such weekly, monthly, or other Sums of Money as should by the said Corporation be set down and ascertained in manner as in the said Act is mentioned: And whereas in pursuance of the said last mentioned Act Thirty one Guardians were, and ever since have been, elected and chosen out of the Inhabitants of the said City and Precincts of the College there, according to the Directions of the same Act; and they and the other Members of the said Corporation have received, maintained, and employed, in the said Workhouse, not only the Poor of the several Parishes and Precincts within the said City, but the Poor also of the said Hamlets (except of the said Hamlet of Littleworth) until some Time in or about the Month of May, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty seven, when the said Corporation, by reason of the Remissness of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of some of the said several Parishes, Precincts, and Hamlets, in collecting and paying in the several Sums of Money by the said last mentioned Act to be collected and paid to the Corporation for the Maintenance of the said Poor, and for want of proper Powers and Authorities in the said recited Acts to compel and enforce the Assessment, Collection, and Payment, of the same several Sums of such

Money, were lost, and now remain unpaid, and thereby, and by Reason and Means of the great Increase of the Poor in the said City and Hamlets, and the Dearness of Provisions there, the Sums of Money which the said Corporation were by the said recited Acts enabled to raise, and which were by them received for and towards the Maintenance of the Poor in the said Workhouse, were, for some Years before the said Month of May, One thousand seven hundred and fifty seven, greatly insufficient for that Purpose; upon which Account the said Corporation not only expended some of the principal Money to them given for and towards the Maintenance of the said Poor, but contracted several large Debts for the necessary Support and Maintenance of the Poor in the said Workhouse, amounting together to the Sum of Eight hundred and thirty Pounds, Eight Shillings, and Eight Pence, which is yet unreplaced and unsatisfied; and the said Corporation, for the Reasons aforesaid, were, in or about the said Month of May, One thousand seven hundred and fifty seven, obliged to shut up and discontinue the said Workhouse, and the said Poor have ever since been supported and maintained by the several Parishes, Precincts, and Hamlets to which they respectively belonged, at a much greater Expence than they might have been in the said Workhouse, had the said Corporation been enabled to raise Money sufficient for that Purpose, and to have enforced the Collection and Payment of the same: And whereas it is conceived it will be more convenient, in case the Thirty one Persons who are to be chosen Guardians of the Poor of the said City, out of the Inhabitants of the said Parishes and Precincts, and the Governor, Deputy Governor, Treasurer, and other Officers of the said Corporation, were to be elected and chosen annually, and the Maintenance and Employment of the Poor in the said Workhouse were confined to the Poor of the several Parishes and Precincts within the said City, and the Poor of the said several Hamlets, videlicet, Saint Mary's, Wotton; Saint Mary's, Tuffley; Saint Mary's, Longford and Twigworth; Saint Mary's, Barton Street; Saint Catherine's, Longford and Wotton; and Saint Catherine's, Twigworth; Saint Michael's, Barton Street and Littleworth, otherwise Lower Southgate Street, in the County of Gloucester, were excluded therefrom, it being not only inconvenient for the Officers of the said Hamlets, by reason of their Distance from the said City, to pay their Money, and bring their Poor to the said Workhouse, but also difficult for the said Guardians

to

to discover whether the Poor of the said Hamlets, applying for Relief, are proper Objects of Relief or not: In order therefore to remedy the several Defects in the said recited Acts, and for making such Alterations therein, and for giving and vesting such further Powers and Authorities to and in the said Corporation by the said Act of the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of his said late Majesty erected, and by this present Act intended to be confirmed and established as are herein after mentioned; May it 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 so much of the said Act, made in the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of his said late Majesty King George the First, as directs that the Thirty one Persons thereby directed to be chosen out of the Inhabitants of the said City and Precincts of the College there, to be of the Number of the Guardians of the Poor of the said City, shall be chosen every Six Years, and shall continue and be Guardians thereof for the Term of Six Years, and as directs that the Governor, Deputy Governor, Receiver or Treasurer, and Six special Assistants, thereby directed to be chosen out of the Guardians of the Poor of the said City, shall be chosen every Two Years, and shall continue in their respective Offices for the Space of Two Years; and so much of the same Act as directs that the Poor of the said several Hamlets of Littleworth, otherwise Lower Southgate Street, Saint Michael's, Saint Mary de Lode, and Saint Catherine's, otherwise Saint Oswald's, in the County of Glocester, herein before particularly mentioned, shall be received into the said Workhouse, and shall be maintained, taught, or employed therein; and also so much of the aforesaid Two several recited Acts as is in any wise contrary to or inconsistent with this present Act, shall be and is hereby repealed.

Power for continuing Guardians and Governor repealed.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That on the First Thursday in the Month of June, which shall be in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty four, or within Six Days then after, in the Room and Stead of the Thirty one Persons of the Number of the Guardians of the Poor aforesaid, which were by the said recited Act of the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of King George the First, directed to be chosen by and out of the ablest and discreetest Inhabitants of the said City and Precincts of the College there,

Guardians to be chosen annually,

there, be, and for ever hereafter, on the First Thursday in the Month of June annually, shall be Thirty one Persons, to be of the Number of the Guardians of the Poor aforesaid, chosen out of the ablest and discreetest Inhabitants of the said City and Precincts of the College there, at the respective Vestries or Meetings of the said Parishes and Precincts, in Manner and Form as the Thirty one Guardians in and by the said last recited Act are directed to be chosen; which said Thirty one Persons, so to be annually chosen and elected out of the respective Parishes and Precincts in Manner aforesaid, to be Guardians of the Poor of the said City, shall continue in their said Office for the Space of One Year, and from thence until such Time as Thirty one new Guardians of the Poor of the said City shall be, from time to time, elected to succeed them, in Manner in the said recited Act directed.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Mayor of the said City of Gloucester, and the Five senior Aldermen of the said City for the time being, according to their Priority of Place, and the said Thirty one Persons to be from time to time elected out of the said several Parishes and Precincts as aforesaid, by virtue of this Act, the Right Reverend the Bishop, and the Reverend the Dean of Gloucester for the time being, the surviving Trustees named in the Will of the said Timothy Nourse, and such other Persons as, by virtue of the said recited Act of the First Year of the Reign of Her said late Majesty, have been, and hereafter shall be, elected or chosen Trustees to succeed them, the Worshipful the Chancellor of and for the Diocese of Gloucester for the time being, the Reverend the Archdeacon of Gloucester for the time being, the Reverend the Subdean and Treasurer of the Cathedral Church of Gloucester for the time being, and such other Persons as, by virtue of the said recited Act of the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty, have been, or hereafter shall be, on account of their Donations or Charities as therein is expressed, elected and constituted Guardians of the Poor of the said City, shall for ever hereafter, in Name and in Fact, be One Body Politick and Corporate in Law, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, and shall be incorporated, established, and confirmed, by the Name of The Governor and Guardians of the Poor of the City of *Gloucester*; and shall have, and are hereby impowered to have, use, exercise, and enjoy, all Authorities, Powers, Rights, Liberties, Privileges, and Jurisdictions, that were granted to,

and be a Body Politick, &c.

and vested in, the said Corporation erected by the said Act of the First Year of her said late Majesty Queen Anne, which are not repealed by the said recited Act of the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of his said late Majesty King George the First, and all the Authorities, Powers, Rights, Liberties, and Jurisdictions, granted to, and vested in, the said Corporation, so as aforesaid erected by the said last mentioned Act, which are not by this present Act repealed or altered.

Their Qualification.

Provided always, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the passing of this Act, no Person shall be capable of acting as a Guardian of the Poor under the said former Acts or this Act, unless he shall be, in his own Right, or in the Right of his Wife, in the actual Possession and Enjoyment of Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, within the said City or County of the same, of the clear yearly Value of Ten Pounds, or shall occupy a Messuage or Tenement therein of the yearly Value of Twelve Pounds: And if any Person, not being so qualified, shall nevertheless presume to act, every such Person shall, for every such Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds, to any Person or Persons who shall inform and sue for the same, to be recovered in any of his Majesty's Courts of Record at Westminster, by Action of Debt, or on the Case, wherein no Essoin, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance, shall be allowed; and the Person so prosecuted shall prove that he is qualified, or otherwise shall pay the said Penalty, without any other Proof or Evidence on the Part of the Prosecutor, than that such Person had acted as a Guardian in the Execution of this Act.

Their First Meeting.

And for the better Government of the said Corporation hereby erected and established, the said Mayor, Five senior Aldermen, and the surviving Trustees of the said Timothy Nourse's Will, and the several other Persons elected, or to be elected, in the Room of the said Trustees of the said Timothy Nourse's Will, pursuant to the said recited Act of the First Year of her said late Majesty Queen Anne, and the said Thirty one Guardians, so to be elected and chosen out of and by the said Parishes and Precincts as aforesaid, by virtue of this present Act; and the said Bishop, Dean, Chancellor, and Archdeacon of Gloucester for the time being, and the said Sub-Dean and Treasurer of the said Cathedral Church for the time being, or any Nine or more of the said Corporation, shall, and are hereby authorized and required to meet and assemble themselves together on the

Second

Second Thursday in the Month of June, which shall be in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty four, or within Seven Days thereafter, and so on the Second Thursday, which shall be in the Month of June, for ever afterwards, or within Seven Days thereafter, in a House in the said City formerly called The New Bear, some Years since purchased for, and lately used as, the Workhouse of the said City, or in some other convenient Place in the said City, as they shall think fit; and shall then and there, by the Majority of their Votes, or of the Votes of such of them as shall be then present, elect, choose, and constitute, out of and amongst themselves, the several Officers following; that is to say, One Governor, One Deputy Governor, One Receiver or Treasurer, and Six special Assistants, all which said Officers shall continue in their Offices for One Year, and until such Time as other Persons shall be duly chosen to succeed them in their respective Offices, unless they, or any or either of them, happen to die or remove out of the said City before the End of the said Year, or shall be duly removed or displaced therefrom, as in the said recited Act of the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of his said late Majesty is directed.

Corporation to elect Officers annually;

Provided always, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the Corporation hereby erected, or the major Part of them, who shall be present at any Court or Assembly to be by them holden according to the Directions of and in the said recited Act of the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of his said late Majesty, for just Cause, to remove and displace any Officer or Officers who shall, by virtue of this Act, be elected or chosen from his or their respective Office or Offices; and that in case any such Officer or Officers shall be so removed or displaced, or shall happen to die, or remove out of the said City, and dwell in any other Place before the End of the Year for which he or they shall be so elected into his or their Office or Offices, that then the said Corporation, or the major Part of them, who shall be present at their Court or Assembly to be holden as aforesaid, next after such Displacing, Dying, or Removal, may and are hereby required, at such next Court or Assembly, to elect and constitute another Officer or other Officers out of the said Corporation, in the Place or Places of such of them who shall so die, remove, or be displaced as aforesaid; and that such new Officer or Officers, so to be elected, shall continue in such Office or Offices into which he or they shall be so elected, until the next General Election

may remove them, and elect new ones.

of Officers by this Act directed to be made, unless he or they shall happen so to die, remove, or be displaced as aforesaid.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That until the Thirty one Guardians by this Act directed to be elected out of the Inhabitants of the Parishes and Precincts of the said City shall be so elected, it shall and may be lawful for the Corporation erected by the said recited Act of the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of his said late Majesty, or the major Part of them, who shall be present at their Courts or Assemblies to be by them holden according to the Directions of the same Act, and they are hereby required to put the said recited Acts and this Act in Execution; and from and after the Election of the said Thirty one Guardians, then for the Corporation hereby established, or the major Part of them, who shall be present at their Courts or Assemblies to be by them holden as aforesaid, from time to time for ever afterwards, at such their respective Court or Courts, Assembly or Assemblies, to set down, ascertain, and charge, what and how many weekly, monthly, or other Sums or Payments shall be needful for and towards the Maintenance of the Poor, in the said Hospital or Hospitals, Workhouse or Workhouses, House or Houses of Correction, provided for, and hereby and by the said recited Acts intended to be provided for, or within the Care of the Corporation hereby established and constituted, so that the same do not exceed in any One Year in each Parish or Precinct the Sums or Payments for a Year which have been by them respectively made, for the Maintenance of their respective Poor within the last Five Years before the Twenty fifth Day of March, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty seven, and One Third Part thereof more; and also to set down, ascertain, and charge, what further quarterly or other Sums of Money shall be proper and necessary to be raised and paid by each of the said Parishes or Precincts respectively, for and towards defraying the Charges of the passing of this Act, and for raising the aforesaid Sum of Eight hundred and thirty Pounds, Eight Shillings, and Eight Pence, for Payment of the Debts so as aforesaid contracted, and for replacing the Money which hath been so as aforesaid expended in and for the Maintenance of the Poor in the said Workhouse; and also for paying such Sum or Sums of Money as shall necessarily be laid out and expended in the first buying and erecting of Lamps within the said several Parishes of the said City, so that the said Monies,

Guardians to ascertain what Money will be necessary for Maintenance of the Poor,

and paying the Expences of this Act.

to be raised for the said Purposes, shall and may be paid off, cleared, and discharged, within the Space of Seven Years next ensuing the Commencement of this present Act, by equal annual Proportions, and be assessed upon the said respective Parishes and Precincts in Proportion to the annual Payments made by them as aforesaid; and the said Corporation shall and may and are hereby authorized from time to time under their Common Seal to certify the Sums and Payments which shall be by them so as aforesaid set down, ascertained and charged for the several Purposes aforesaid, to the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City for the time being; which said Mayor and any One of the Aldermen, or any Three of the said Aldermen without the Mayor, may and are hereby required within the Space of Ten Days next after such Sums or Payments shall be so as aforesaid to them certified from time to time, to cause the same to be raised and levied by Taration of every Inhabitant, and of all Lands, Houses, Tythes Impropriate, Appropriation of Tythes, and all Stocks and Estates in the several and respective Parishes and Precincts of the said City and County of the same, and in the County of Gloucester adjoining, which have been usually rated therewith, not being Part of the Out-Hamlets herein before particularly mentioned, in equal Proportion according their respective Worth and Values, and in order thereunto the said Mayor and any One of the said Aldermen, or any Three of the said Aldermen without the Mayor, shall have Power and are hereby required by Warrant or Warrants under their Hands and Seals to authorize and require the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of each respective Parish and Precinct, to rate and assess the same respectively, and after such Assessment made, by like Warrant or Warrants under their Hands and Seals, or by Warrant or Warrants under the Hands and Seals of Two or more Justices of the Peace for the said County of Gloucester, which they are hereby authorized and impowered to grant, to authorize and require the said respective Churchwardens and Overseers to demand, gather, collect, and receive the same within their respective Jurisdictions, and on Non-payment thereof (being lawfully demanded) to levy the same, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattles of the Person or Persons so making Default, together with the Charges of such Distress or Distresses, rendering the Overplus (if any) to the Party or Parties so distrained, and if no Distress or Distresses can be had or found sufficient to pay the said Mo-

Money how to be raised and recovered.

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ney and Charges of such Distress as aforesaid, that then it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Mayor and any One of the said Aldermen, or any Three of the said Aldermen without the Mayor, or such Justices, by a Warrant or Warrants under their Hands and Seals, to cause the Person or Persons so making Default to be committed to Prison, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until the Whole of the said Money and all Charges occasioned by the Non-payment thereof, and of the said Commitment or Commitments, shall be fully satisfied and paid to the said Corporation, and within Ten Days after the same shall be so received, to pay the same to the Treasurer of the said Corporation for the time being.

Rates to be raised.

And be it further enacted, That if the said Mayor and Aldermen or Justices shall refuse or neglect by the Space of Ten Days next after such Certificate made to them as aforesaid, to issue forth their Warrant or Warrants to the said respective Churchwardens and Overseers to make such Assessments as aforesaid, or after such Assessments made and approved of by the Space of Ten Days next after, to issue forth their Warrant or Warrants for the receiving, levying, and paying of the several Sums or Payments which shall be so as aforesaid to them certified or tared, rated, and assessed, on the Inhabitants of the said Parishes and Precincts respectively, that then the Corporation hereby constituted, shall and hereby have Power by their Warrant or Warrants under their Common Seal, to authorize and require the said Churchwardens and Overseers, to tax, rate, assess, levy, and collect the same; and if the said Churchwardens and Overseers shall neglect or refuse by the Space of Ten Days next after the issuing forth of such Warrant or Warrants by the said Mayor and Aldermen, or Justices as aforesaid, or on their Neglect or Refusal by the said Corporation hereby constituted to make such Assessments, or after such Assessments made to collect, levy, receive, and pay the Monies so rated and assessed, that then and in either of the said Cases, it shall be lawful for the said Corporation for the time being, and they are hereby impowered to tax, rate, and assess the same, and by Warrant or Warrants under their Common Seal, to cause the Monies which shall be so by them tared, rated, and assessed, to be collected and received by such Person or Persons as they shall for that Purpose appoint, and for Non-payment thereof (the same being lawfully demanded) by a like Warrant or Warrants under their Common Seal, to be directed to the

Constable of the Parish or Precinct where the Person or Persons so making Default shall live, or to such other Person or Persons as they shall for those Purposes approve of or appoint, to cause the said Money to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattles of the Person or Persons so making Default, together with the Charges of such Distress or Distresses, rendering the Overplus, if any there shall be, to the Party or Parties distrained, and if no Distress or Distresses can be had or found whereon to levy the same, then by a Warrant or Warrants under their Common Seal, to be directed as aforesaid, to cause the Person or Persons so making Default, to be committed to Prison, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, until the said Monies and the Charges of the said Commitment or Commitments, and other the Charges occasioned by the Non-payment thereof, shall be fully paid and satisfied to the Treasurer of the said Corporation for the time being.

10 *l.* Penalty on Churchwardens, *&c.* neglecting to make Assessments:

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parishes and Precincts respectively, being so authorized as aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to make any such Assessment or Assessments as is or are by this Act directed to be by them made, by or within the Time herein before limited for the making thereof, or if after such Assessment or Assessments shall be so made, shall refuse or neglect to collect, receive, or levy the Monies which shall be thereby rated or assessed, or any Part thereof, by or within the Time herein before for that Purpose mentioned, or shall after the collecting or receiving the said Money, or any Part thereof, refuse or neglect to pay the same to the Treasurer of the said Corporation for the time being, within the Time herein before limited for the Payment thereof; that then, and in every such Case, the said Churchwardens and Overseers, and every of them, shall, for every such Neglect and Default, forfeit and pay to the Treasurer of the said Corporation for the time being, the Sum of Ten Pounds, to be applied towards the Maintenance and Support of the Poor in the said Workhouse.

They are to account for Money collected by them.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Churchwarden or Overseer of the Poor of the said Parishes or Precincts respectively shall collect or receive any Money which shall be so rated, tared, or assessed, for the Purposes aforesaid, and doth not or shall not pay the same to the said Corporation, or their Treasurer for the time being, by or within the

Time

Time herein before limited for the Payment thereof; that then, and in such Case, the said Corporation for the time being, may, and are hereby impowered and required by a Warrant or Warrants under their Common Seal, to be by them directed to the Constable of the Parish or Precinct where such Churchwarden or Overseer, Churchwardens or Overseers shall live, or to such other Person or Persons as the said Corporation shall, for that Purpose, approve of or appoint, to cause such Money to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattles of such Churchwarden or Overseer, together with the Charge of such Distress or Distresses, rendering the Overplus thereof, if any there shall be, to the Owner or Owners thereof; and if no Distress or Distresses can be had or found sufficient to answer and satisfy the same, then by a like Warrant or Warrants, to be in like manner directed, to cause the said Churchwarden or Churchwardens, Overseer or Overseers, so making Default, to be committed to Prison, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until the said Money and the Charges of the said Commitment or Commitments; and other the Charges occasioned by the Nonpayment of the said Money, shall be fully satisfied and paid to the said Corporation, or their Treasurer for the time being; and in case any Churchwarden or Churchwardens, Overseer or Overseers, or other Person or Persons, who shall have gathered, collected, or received, from any Parish or Precinct in the said City, for the Use of the Poor, by virtue of this Act, shall happen to break, or become or die insolvent, whereby such Money, or any Part thereof, shall be lost, that then, and in such Case, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Corporation, under their Common Seal, from time to time, and as often as such Loss shall happen, to certify, assess, collect, levy, and inforce, the Payment of so much Money as shall be sufficient to make up such Loss, upon, by, and from, the Inhabitants of such Parish or Precinct wherein such Loss shall happen, in such Manner, and by such Ways, Powers, and Authorities, as they are by this Act impowered to assess, collect, levy, and inforce, the Payment of the Money by this Act provided to be raised and paid for the Maintenance of the Poor in the said Workhouse.

Money lost by Insolvency, to be made good by the respective Parish.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every the Clauses, Articles, and Things, in the said recited Act of the First Year of the Reign of Her said late Majesty contained, and not repealed or altered, in or by the said recited Act of the Thirteenth

Powers of former Acts not repealed, to be in Force, &c.

Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty, and all and every the Clauses, Articles, and Things, in the same last-mentioned Act contained, and not repealed or altered in or by this present Act, shall and are hereby declared to be in full Force; and that all and every the Act and Acts, Duty and Duties, Service and Services, in and by the said recited Act of the First Year of the Reign of Her said late Majesty, directed or required to be done, and which is not or are not repealed or altered, in or by the said recited Act of the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty, and all and every the Act and Acts, Duty and Duties, Service and Services, in and by the same last-mentioned Act, directed or required to be done, and which is not or are not repealed or altered in or by this present Act, shall be done and performed by the Corporation hereby erected, and by all and every other Person and Persons, at such Times, and in such Manner, and subject to such Penalties and Forfeitures, as in and by the said Two several recited Acts, is and are in those Respects particularly laid, mentioned, and directed.

The Poor in certain Cases may be relieved out of the Workhouse.

And whereas it may frequently happen that many poor People by the said recited Acts, and by this present Act, intended to be provided for, may, by reason of sudden Illness of themselves, or in their Families, and various other Accidents and Infirmities, be more conveniently and easily relieved by temporary pecuniary Payments, or some other small Assistance or Allowance out of the said Workhouse, than by being taken therein; be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Corporation for the time being, at their Court or Courts, Assembly or Assemblies, to be by them, from time to time, so holden as aforesaid, to grant any such temporary, pecuniary, or other Relief, to such poor Persons or Families out of the said Workhouse, as they shall think proper.

Lists of Persons relieved to be produced at Elections.

And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Corporation shall, and they are hereby directed and required Weekly, or every Week in every Year, to cause a true and perfect List or Lists to be made, wrote, and entered, in some Book or Books to be kept by them for that Purpose, of the Names of all the poor Persons who shall, from time to time, for ever hereafter, be brought into the said Workhouse, to be kept, maintained, or relieved there, or by the said Corporation, and the Places from whence, together with the Times of their being brought or relieved; which said List or Lists shall and are hereby required to be signed at the

End of every Month, by the Governor, or Deputy Governor, or Three or more of the said Guardians, attesting the same to be a true List or Lists; and shall, together with the Book or Books wherein the same shall be entered as aforesaid, be produced, if required by any Candidate, at any Election of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament for the said City and County of the same, and shall be admitted as Evidence sufficient to prove any Person or Persons therein named, having received Alms, or having been maintained or relieved there; and in case the said Governor and Guardians shall neglect or refuse to produce such List or Lists, and the Book or Books wherein the same shall be wrote or entered as aforesaid, at any such Election, when thereto required as aforesaid; that then, and in such Case, the said Governor and Guardians, shall, for every such Neglect or Refusal, forfeit and pay to such Candidate the full Sum of One hundred Pounds, to be recovered by Action or Actions, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at Westminster, wherein no Essoin, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance shall be allowed, together with Full Costs of Suit, provided the same be brought and commenced within Six Calendar Months afterwards; and that such Action or Actions be laid in the City of Gloucester, or County of the same, or in the County of Gloucester.

Guardians not to supply the Workhouse, or Poor, with Cloaths, &c.

And whereas great Inconveniencies have already happened, and may hereafter happen, to the said Corporation, by reason of some of the Guardians of the said Poor supplying the said Workhouse with Goods and other Necessaries for the Support, Maintenance, Entertainment, and Provision of and for the Poor, intended to be provided for and maintained therein, and by contracting for their Labour there; be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Corporation for the time being, shall not directly or indirectly, at any Time hereafter, contract for, buy, or receive, any Goods or Necessaries for or towards the Support, Maintenance, Entertainment, Cloathing, or other Provisions, of or for the said Poor in the said Workhouse, or within the Care of the said Corporation, or contract for the Labour of the Poor thereof, from or with any Person or Persons during the respective Times of his or their being a Guardian or Guardians of the Poor of the said City.

Lamps to be erected:

And whereas by reason of the want of Powers for raising Money for the providing, setting up, keeping and

and lighting of publick Lamps in the said City of Gloucester, and of providing Materials for that Purpose, the paſſing of the Streets of the ſaid City in the Winter Seaſons is very often not only inconvenient but dangerous, as well for the Inhabitants of the ſaid City, as for Strangers who come there: For Remedy whereof, be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the Twenty ninth Day of September, which ſhall be in the Year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty four, ſuch a convenient and ſufficient Number of Glaſs Lamps of ſuch Sort and Faſhion, and put up in ſuch Parts and Places of the ſaid City of Gloucester, and County of the ſame City, (the Precincts of the College there only excepted) as to the Corporation hereby erected, or the major Part of them, who ſhall be preſent at the Court or Courts, Aſſembly or Aſſemblies to be holden as aforeſaid, ſhall from time time ſeem meet and expedient, ſhall be with all convenient Speed erected, ſet up and fixed in the Streets of the ſaid City, or to or near any Houſe or Building, Place or Places whatſoever; and that the ſame ſhall be duly lighted and kept burning, from Sun-ſetting to Sun-riſing, from the Twenty ninth Day of September, to the Twenty fifth Day of March in every Year; and that the ſaid Corporation, or the major Part of them, who ſhall be preſent at their Court or Courts to be holden as aforeſaid, ſhall and may, and are hereby required, authorized, and impowered to contract and agree for the Number of Lamps, which ſhall be by them from time to time, deemed neceſſary to be erected and ſet up within the ſaid City and County of the ſame, except the ſaid College Precincts, on Poſts or Irons, as they ſhall reſpectively think beſt to order, and ſhall be moſt effectual and convenient for the Purpoſes hereby intended; and alſo ſhall or may contract with any Perſon or Perſons for the lighting, trimming, ſnuffing, cleanſing, ſupplying, maintaining and repairing ſuch Number of Lamps as ſhall be deemed neceſſary for the Purpoſes aforeſaid; provided that ſuch Contract be not made for any Space exceeding One whole Year at One Time; and provided alſo, that no Guardian of the Poor, Churchwarden, or Overſeer of the Poor, in the ſaid City, during his Continuance in ſuch Office, or any Perſon or Perſons in Truſt for him, them, or any of them, ſhall be concerned or intereſted in any ſuch Contract for lighting the ſaid City, or any Part thereof, or providing or fixing any of the ſaid Lamps, Poſts, or Irons, or other Materials neceſſary thereto.

But Guardians not to furniſh them.

And

And, for defraying the Expence of buying and erecting of such Lamps or Lights, and also the yearly Charges of supplying, maintaining, and repairing the same; be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the said Twenty ninth Day of September, One thousand seven hundred and sixty four, it shall and may be lawful for the Corporation hereby erected, or the major Part of them who shall be present at their Court or Courts, Assembly or Assemblies, to be so holden as aforesaid, and they are hereby impowered to set down, ascertain, and charge what yearly, quarterly, monthly, or other Sums or Payments, shall be from time to time necessary to be paid by each of the Parishes within the said City (the Precincts of the College there only excepted) for the providing, setting up, keeping, lighting and repairing the said Lamps, and to certify the same under their Common Seal to the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City, and the said Mayor and any One of the said Aldermen, or any Three of the Aldermen without the Mayor, may and are hereby required by Warrant or Warrants under their Hands and Seals to authorize and cause the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parishes respectively, to tax, rate, and assess, the said respective Sums upon the Inhabitants of their respective Parishes, in respect only of the Messuages or Tenements wherein they shall inhabit or dwell, provided that the same shall not exceed, in any One Year, the Sum of Six Pence in the Pound upon such Messuages or Tenements, and the said Churchwardens and Overseers are hereby required and authorized to collect, levy and receive the same, and to pay the said Monies, when so collected and received, to the said Corporation, or their Treasurer for the time being, by and within such Times, and in such Manner and Proportions, and to enforce the Payment thereof, by the same Methods, Powers, and Authorities, as the Monies provided by this Act for the Maintenance of the Poor in the said Workhouse, are herein and hereby so as aforesaid directed to be taxed, rated, assessed, collected, levied, and paid.

Rate to be made to defray Expences.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if the said Mayor and Aldermen shall refuse or neglect to authorize or cause the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said respective Parishes to tax, assess, collect, receive, or levy the said last mentioned Sums so as aforesaid to them certified, or if the said Churchwardens or Overseers, being so authorized

Mayor, &c. neglecting to give necessary Orders to the Churchwardens, &c. Corporation may do it.

aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to tax, assess, collect, receive, or levy the same, or any Part thereof, upon the Inhabitants of their said respective Parishes, in respect of their said Messuages or Tenements, or to pay the same, or any Part thereof, to the said Corporation, Poor, their Treasurer for the time being, by or within the respective Times aforesaid; that then, and in either of the said Cases, the said Corporation hereby erected, or the major Part of them, who shall be present at any such Court or Courts, Assembly or Assemblies, to be by them holden as aforesaid, shall have the same Powers and Authorities for raising, levying, and enforcing the Payment of the same, in all Respects as are by this Act given to and vested in them for the raising, levying, and enforcing the Payments of the Monies provided and directed to be paid for the Maintenance of the Poor in the said Workhouse.

51. Penalty on Parish Officers refusing to produce Poors Rates.

And, in order to enable the said Corporation to make such Charges and Assessments, as they are by this Act impowered to make, be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the respective Churchwardens and Overseers of the several Parishes and Precincts aforesaid, for the time being, do and shall, upon Ten Days Notice in Writing to him or them for that Purpose given by the said Corporation for the time being, deliver to them the said Corporation, upon Oath, which Oath the Governor of the said Corporation for the time being is hereby impowered to administer, full, true, and exact Copies of all the Poors Rates which have been made for the Relief of the Poor of such Parishes and Precincts respectively; and of all the Sums of Money and Charges therein contained, for the Two Years last past, before the passing of this Act, and shall, upon the like Notice to him or them for that Purpose given yearly and every Year, produce, upon Oath as aforesaid, the original Rates made for Relief of the Poor of their respective Parishes to the said Corporation, at some or One of their Court or Courts, Assembly or Assemblies, upon Pain of every of the said Churchwardens and Overseers making Default therein, or in delivering the said Copies, to forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds.

Penalty for destroying Lamps, &c.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person or Persons, shall wilfully or maliciously pull or throw down, break, destroy, cut, or injure, or cause or procure to be pulled or thrown down, broke, destroyed, cut, or injured, or shall assist in or encourage the pulling or throwing down, destroying, breaking, cutting, or injuring any or either of the Lamps, by this Act

Act provided to be set up to light the Streets, or wilfully or maliciously damage the Posts, Irons, or Furniture thereof, or shall extinguish or put out, or cause or procure to be extinguished or put out, or assist in or encourage the extinguishing or putting out of any or either of the said Lamps; every Person or Persons so offending therein, shall, for the First Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Shillings for each Lamp so broken, thrown down, extinguished, or otherwise damaged; and for the Second Offence, the Sum of Forty Shillings; and for the Third, and every other Offence, the Sum of Five Pounds; to be recovered and levied in such Manner as in this Act is mentioned.

Witnesses may be summoned, and examined upon Oath.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Mayor, or any One or more of the Aldermen of the said City for the time being, and they are hereby authorized and required, either upon his and their own View, or upon any Information exhibited, or Complaint made, before him or them, of any such Offence or Offences, to summon the Party or Parties accused, and the Witnesses on either Side, to come and appear before him or them, at such Time and Place as he and they shall, in such Summons, direct and appoint; and upon the Appearance or Contempt of the Party accused in not appearing, and upon the Proof of Notice given to appear, to proceed to the Examination of the Witness or Witnesses, upon Oath (which Oath they are hereby required and authorized to administer) and in case the Party accused shall be convicted of such Offence, either by view of the said Mayor and Aldermen, or any of them, or upon Proof made as aforesaid, or on Confession of the Party accused, then to give such Judgement, Sentence, or Determination, as shall be just and conformable to the Tenor and true Meaning of this Act.

Persons aggrieved may appeal to the Quarter Sessions.

Provided also, That if any Person or Persons shall find him, her, or themselves, unequally tared, or assessed, or aggrieved, by any such Conviction or Judgement of the said Mayor, Aldermen, or Justices; then such Person or Persons shall and may appeal against such Judgement or Conviction, to the Justices of the Peace, at their then next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the said City of Gloucester, and County of the same City, who may and are hereby required to summon and examine Witnesses, concerning the Matters of such Judgement or Conviction, and, as they shall see Cause, may confirm or discharge the same, whose Judgements, Order, and Determination therein, shall

be

be final and conclusive to all Parties; and no Certiorari shall be had or allowed for removing the Conviction or Convictions of the said Justices, or the Order or Orders of Sessions thereupon made, into any superior Court.

Application of the Fines.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all the Penalties which shall be recovered or levied by virtue of this Act, for the pulling, throwing down, breaking, destroying, injuring, or extinguishing the said Lamps, or any or either of them, or for the assisting in, or encouraging the doing thereof, shall be paid and applied in manner following; that is to say, One Half thereof to the Person or Persons who shall inform and prosecute for the same, and the other Half thereof to the Corporation hereby erected, or their Treasurer for the time being, to be by them applied for and towards the providing, lighting, and repairing, the Publick Lamps within the City of Gloucester aforesaid, and the Liberties thereof.

Officers to account.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every of the Receivers, Treasurers, and other Officers, of the said Corporation for the time being, and all and every other Person and Persons, who shall receive or have in his or their Hands or Possession, any Money, Goods, or Effects, of or belonging to, or which is, are, or ought to be paid or delivered to, the said Corporation; shall, and is and are hereby required to account for with, and pay and deliver the same Money, Goods, and Effects, to, the said Corporation, or with or to such other Person or Persons, and at such Times as the same Corporation, or the major Part of them, shall, at their Court or Courts, Assembly or Assemblies, to be by them so holden as aforesaid for those Purposes, order or appoint; and if the said Receivers, Treasurers, Officers, or other Person or Persons, or any or either of them, shall refuse or neglect so as aforesaid, to account for, pay, or deliver the said Money, Goods, or Effects, which shall be so as aforesaid received by, or shall be in his, her, or their respective Hands or Possession, then the said Receivers, Treasurers, Officers, and other Person or Persons respectively, and every of them, shall, for every such Refusal, Neglect, or Default, forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds; and then, and in either of such Cases, the Money and the said Goods and Effects, or the Values thereof, which shall have been received by, or shall be in the Hands or Possession of, such Receivers, Treasurers, Officers, or other Person or Persons respectively, shall be levied by Distress and Sale of the

Goods

Goods and Chattles of the Person or Persons so making Default, by Warrant or Warrants under the Hand and Seal of any Justice of the Peace of the said City of Glouceſter, rendering the Overplus, if any there shall be, after Payment of the said Money, and the Value of the said Goods and Effects, and the Charges of such Diſtreſs or Diſtreſſes, to the Owner or Owners thereof; and in case no Diſtreſs or Diſtreſſes can or may be had or found sufficient to satisfy the same, that then the Receiver or Treasurer, Officer, or other Person or Persons so making Default, shall by a like Warrant or Warrants be committed to Priſon, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, until the said Money, and the said Goods and Effects, or the Values thereof, together with the Charges of such Commitment or Commitments, and other the Charges occaſioned by the not accounting for, or not paying or delivering over the said Money, Goods, or Effects, as aforesaid, shall be fully satisfied or paid to the said Corporation, or to their Treasurer for the time being; which said Warrant or Warrants, for the Purposes aforesaid, the Justices of the said City, and every of them, is and are hereby authorized and required to grant.

Manner of recovering Penalties.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all the Penalties and Forfeitures by this Act, and by the said recited Acts, or either of them, laid and made payable, and which shall or may be incurred, for the Recovery whereof no Provision hath herein before been made, shall and may be levied by Diſtreſs and Sale of the Goods and Chattles of the Person or Persons by whom the same respectively shall be forfeited or incurred, by virtue of a Warrant or Warrants under the Hand and Seal of any Justice or Justices of the Peace of the City of Glouceſter aforesaid, rendering the Overplus, if any there shall be, after the Payment of such Penalties and Forfeitures respectively, and the Charges of such Diſtreſs or Diſtreſſes, to the Owner or Owners thereof; and in case no Diſtreſs or Diſtreſſes can be had or found sufficient to satisfy such Penalties or Forfeitures respectively, together with the Charges of such Diſtreſs or Diſtreſſes, then the Person or Persons, by whom such Penalties or Forfeitures shall be incurred, shall and may, by a like Warrant or Warrants, be committed to Priſon, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, until the said Penalties and Forfeitures by them respectively incurred, and the Charges of such Commitment or Commitments, and all other the Charges occaſioned by the Nonpayment of the said Penalties or Forfeitures respectively,

respectively, shall be fully satisfied and paid to the said Corporation, or their Treasurer for the time being; which said Warrant or Warrants, the Justices of the said City, and every of them, are hereby authorized and required to grant; all which said Penalties and Forfeitures, to be levied by virtue of this and the said recited Acts, or either of them, and which are not herein otherwise particularly appropriated or disposed of, shall be paid to the said Corporation, or their Treasurer for the time being, and shall be by them applied to and for the respective Uses and Purposes in this present Act, and in and by the said recited Acts, intended to be provided for, as in respect whereof such Penalties and Forfeitures shall be incurred.

Guardians may compound with Persons incurring Penalties.

Provided always, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Corporation, at any or either of their Meetings or Assemblies to be by them so holden as aforesaid, to compound with any Person or Persons who shall, by virtue of this Act, be committed to Prison for the Nonpayment of any of the Penalties or Forfeitures by this Act made payable, and which shall have been by such Person or Persons incurred, or for Nonpayment of any Sum or Sums with which they shall by virtue of this Act be rated or charged, at or for such Sum or Sums of Money as they, or the major Part of them, shall, at such Meeting or Meetings, Assembly or Assemblies, think proper; and thereupon, and upon Payment of the Sum or Sums of Money, at which such Penalties or Forfeitures, Sum or Sums of Money respectively shall be compounded, to order and cause such Person or Persons to be discharged from his, her, or their Imprisonment.

Limitation of Actions.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Action or Actions shall be brought against any Person or Persons, for or by reason of any Matter or Thing by him, her, or them done, by virtue or in the Execution of this Act, or of the said recited Acts, or either of them, such Action or Actions shall be brought and commenced within Six Calendar Months next after the Cause or Causes of such Action or Actions shall arise, and not afterwards; and shall be laid in the County of Gloucester, and not elsewhere; and the Defendant or Defendants therein may plead the General Issue, and give this and the said recited Acts, or either of them, and the Special Matter in Evidence, on the Trial of such Action or Actions; and in case the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall become nonsuited, or discontinue his, her,

General Issue.

ber, or their Action or Actions, Suit or Suits; or if, upon Demurrer, Judgement shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant and Defendants shall and may recover Treble Costs, and have such Remedy for the same as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have in any Cases by Law. Treble Costs.

And be it further enacted, That the said Two recited Acts, and this present Act, shall be deemed, adjudged, and taken to be, Public Acts, and be judicially taken Notice of as such in all Courts, and by all Judges, Justices, and other Persons whatsoever, without specially pleading the same. Public Act.

FINIS.