Anno ſeptimo

Georgii III. Regis.

An Act for the better and more effectual Maintenance and Relief of the Poor of the Borough and Pariſh of *Queenborough*, in the County of *Kent*.

WHEREAS the Borough and Pariſh of Queenborough, in the County of Kent, are of very narrow Extent, containing only a ſmall Common or open Green and the Site whereon the Houſes and Buildings of the Town ſtand, which together, in the Whole, are of very inconſiderable annual Value: And whereas the ſaid Town is burdened with many neceſſitous Poor, and from the ſmall Ability of the Eſtates in the ſaid Pariſh to raiſe a competent Sum of Money for the Maintenance and Relief of the Poor of the ſaid Borough and Pariſh, a Uſage hath immemorially obtained within the ſame, for the Overſeers of the Poor of the ſaid Pariſh, by Taxations allowed by the Preamble.

Justices of the Peace of the said Borough, to make Rates upon the several resident Members of the Corporation of the said Borough and other the Inhabitants within the said Parish, by admeasuring and imposing the said Rates and Assessments according to the Degree and Ability of the respective Inhabitants; which, from the apparent Necessity and acknowledged Propriety of the said Assessments, have, till very lately, been assented to, and willingly paid by all the Inhabitants of the said Borough and Parish: And whereas the Payment of such Rates and Assessments cannot be enforced by the Laws now in being, and there is not an Ability in the said Parish to raise a sufficient Fund for the Maintenance and Relief of the necessitous Poor within the same by the Methods they prescribe, and it is not in the Power of the Justices of the Peace of the said Borough to assess other Parishes in Aid thereof, and from the present general Burden of the Poor in all Places highly inconvenient, if not totally impracticable so to do; 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 from and immediately after the passing of this Act, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Borough and Parish of Queenborough, in Conformity with and pursuant to the Directions of an Act made in the Forty third Year of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, intituled, An Act for the Relief of the Poor, to take, order, and ascertain such Weekly or other Sum or Sums of Money as shall be needful for the Maintenance and Relief of the Poor of the said Borough and Parish, and shall and may indifferently assess, levy, and raise, the said Sum and Sums of Money, or so much thereof as conveniently may be, by Taxation of every Inhabitant and of every Occupier of Lands, Houses, and other Tenements within the said Borough and Parish, and of every Person having and using Stock and Personal Estate within the same, in equal Proportion, according to the several and respective Values thereof.

Churchwardens and Overseers, for the Relief of the Poor,

may assess the Inhabitants of the Borough and Parish;

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And,

And, in order to ſupply the Deficiency of ſuch Rates and Aſſeſſments, be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Churchwardens and Overſeers to aſſeſs, levy, and raiſe, by Taration of every reſident Member of the Corporation of the ſaid Borough, and every other Inhabitant within the ſaid Borough and Pariſh, according to the reſpective Degree and Ability of ſuch reſident Members and other Inhabitants, by the Meaſures and Proportions following; that is to ſay, That as often as Need ſhall be, the Churchwardens and Overſeers of the Poor of the ſaid Pariſh, ſhall rate and aſſeſs the Magiſtrates and other Members of the Bench of the ſaid Corporation in every Aſſeſſment for the Maintenance and Relief of the Poor of the ſaid Borough and Pariſh, at a Sum not exceeding Twelve Shillings each, and the reſt of the principal Inhabitants, and all Perſons reſident and exerciſing any Trade or Calling within the ſaid Borough and Pariſh, at a Sum not exceeding Eight Shillings each; and every other Inhabitant or Perſon dwelling within the ſaid Borough and Pariſh, who in the Diſcretion of the ſaid Churchwardens and Overſeers ſhall be deemed of Ability ſo to contribute (Widows excepted) at a Sum not exceeding Five Shillings each; and every Widow dwelling within the ſaid Borough and Pariſh, by the like Diſcretion, at a Sum not exceeding Two Shillings each; and that all Rates and Aſſeſſments ſo made and admeaſured according to the Degree and Ability of the Inhabitants of the ſaid Borough and Pariſh, whether a greater or leſs Sum ſhall be neceſſary, ſhall, from time to time, be made and impoſed in the Manner and according to the Proportions aforeſaid: All which ſaid ſeveral Rates ſhall be ſigned by the ſaid Churchwardens and Overſeers of the Poor of the ſaid Pariſh, and duly ſigned and allowed by Two or more of the Juſtices of the Peace of the ſaid Borough.

To ſupply Deficiencies may tax the Members of the Corporation, &c.

Rates to be ſigned by the Churchwardens and Overſeers, and allowed by Two Juſtices;

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That all the ſaid Rates and Aſſeſſments ſo to be made and aſſeſſed for the Relief of the Poor of the ſaid Borough and Pariſh, ſhall be collected, levied, and recovered, with all and every the Arrears thereof, which ſhall or may at any Time or Times hereafter remain unpaid, in ſuch and the ſame Manner as Rates and Aſſeſſments made for the Relief of the Poor, and the Arrears thereof, are directed to be collected, levied, and recovered, by the ſaid Act made in the Forty third Year of the

and to be recovered as by Act 43 *Eliz.*

Reign of Queen Elizabeth, or by any other ſubſequent Act or Acts relating thereto; and that every Perſon aggrieved by any ſuch Rate or Aſſeſſment ſhall have like Remedy by Appeal as in the ſaid Act, or in any other ſubſequent Act or Acts, is for that Purpoſe given and provided, and that as fully and effectually, to all Intents and Purpoſes, as if ſuch Remedies in the like Caſes were herein at large repeated and ſet forth.

Charges of paſſing this Act to be firſt paid.

Provided always, That the Charges and Expences of procuring and obtaining this preſent Act ſhall be, in the firſt Place, paid out of and diſcharged by the Monies to be raiſed, collected, and received by virtue of this Act.

Publick Act.

And it is hereby further enacted and declared by the Authority aforeſaid, That this Act ſhall be deemed, adjudged, and taken to be, a Publick Act; and all Judges, Juſtices, and other Perſons, are hereby required to take Notice thereof as ſuch, without ſpecially pleading the ſame.

FINIS.