Anno nono

Georgii III. Regis.

An Act to continue and render more effectual an Act passed in the Thirtieth Year of His late Majesty, for repairing the Road from *Hitchin*, in the County of *Hertford*, through *Shefford*, to the Turnpike Road from *Saint Albans* to *Bedford*, and other Roads therein mentioned; and for repairing and widening the Road from *Shefford* Way Post, to the Turnpike Road at *Henlow* in the County of *Bedford*.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Thirtieth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty, intituled, An Act for amending, widening, and keeping in Repair, the Road from the Town of *Hitchin*, in the County of *Hertford*, through the Town of *Shefford* and *Carrington Cotton End*, to a Lane opposite a Farm House called *Saint Leonard's*, leading into the Turnpike Road from *Saint Albans* to the Town of *Bedford*; and also the Road from the Turning out of the aforesaid Road into *Henlow Field* to *Gerford Bridge*; and also the Road from the Town of *Henlow*, over *Henlow Bridge*, to *Arlesey*, in the County of *Bedford*; several Tolls, Duties, and Powers, were granted for repairing and widening the said Roads: And whereas the Trustees appointed in and by virtue of the said Act have made a great Progress in the Execution thereof, and have borrowed a considerable Sum of Money upon the Credit of the Tolls or Duties thereby

Preamble, recit. citing Act 30 Geo. II.

granted, but find the said Roads cannot be effectually amended, widened, and kept in Repair, nor the said Sum of Money be repaid, unless the Term granted by the said Act be further continued, and the Powers thereof altered and enlarged: And whereas the High Road leading from a Post called the Way Post, in the Turnpike Road leading from Hitchin aforesaid, to Shefford aforesaid, to the South End of the Town of Clifton; and from thence to the Turnpike Road leading through the Town of Henlow, at the West End of Nornill Lane, in the County of Bedford, is in a ruinous Condition, narrow in some Places, and incommodious to Passengers, and cannot be effectually repaired and widened, without the further Aid of Parliament: 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 Trustees appointed in and by virtue of the said recited Act, shall be, and they are hereby appointed Trustees to put the said recited Act and this Act in Execution.

Trustees in the recited Act to put this in Execution.

Recited Act, &c. further continued for 21 Years.

And be it further enacted, That the said recited Act, and all and every the Authorities, Powers, Privileges, Provisions, and Clauses, therein contained (except such of them as are hereby varied, altered, or repealed) shall be and continue in full Force for and during all the Residue and Remainder of the Term now to come and unexpired of the said Act, and from and after the Expiration thereof, then for and during the further Term of Twenty one Years, and from thence to the End of the then next Session of Parliament; and shall extend and have Relation, not only to the repairing and widening the Roads in the said Act mentioned, but also to the repairing and widening the said High Road leading from a Post called The Way Post, in the Turnpike Road leading from Hitchin aforesaid, to Shefford aforesaid, to the South End of the Town of Clifton; and from thence to the Turnpike Road leading through the Town of Henlow at the West End of Nornill Lane, in the County of Bedford, in as full and ample a Manner as if the said Road had been inserted in, and directed to be repaired and widened by, the said Act, and as if the said Authorities, Powers, Privileges, Provisions, and Clauses were herein repeated and re-enacted in the Body of this present Act.

And

And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Trustees, or any Five or more of them, or such Person or Persons as they, or any Five or more of them, shall authorize and appoint, to ask, demand, receive, and take, the following Tolls or Duties at any Gate or Turnpike erected or to be erected, in, upon, across, or on the Sides of any Part of the Roads by the said recited Act and this Act directed to be repaired, instead of the Tolls laid and made payable by the said recited Act; that is to say, The Tolls following to be taken instead of those granted by the former Act.

For every Coach, Chariot, Landau, Berlin, Hearse, Chaise, Calash, Waggon, Wain, Cart, or other Carriage, drawn by Six or more Horses, or other Beasts of Draught, the Sum of Two Shillings. The Tolls.

For every Coach, Chariot, Landau, Berlin, Hearse, Chaise, Calash, Waggon, Wain, Cart, or other Carriage, drawn by Four Horses, or other Beasts of Draught, the Sum of One Shilling and Four Pence.

For every Coach, Chariot, Landau, Berlin, Hearse, Chaise, Calash, Waggon, Wain, Cart, or other Carriage, drawn by Three Horses, or other Beasts of Draught, the Sum of One Shilling.

For every Coach, Chariot, Landau, Berlin, Hearse, Chaise, Calash, Waggon, Wain, Cart, or other Carriage, drawn by Two Horses, or other Beasts of Draught, the Sum of Eight Pence.

For every Chaise, Chair, Cart, or other Carriage, drawn by One Horse, or other Beast of Draught, the Sum of Six Pence.

For every Horse, Mare, Gelding, Mule, Ass, or other Beast of Burthen, laden or unladen, and not drawing, the Sum of Two Pence.

For every Drove of Oxen, Cows, or Neat Cattle, the Sum of Ten Pence per Score; and so in proportion for any greater or less Number.

And for every Drove of Calves, Hogs, Sheep, or Lambs, the Sum of Five Pence per Score; and so in proportion for any greater or less Number.

Which said Tolls or Duties shall be demanded and taken in the Manner following; that is to say, Three Fourth Parts thereof at the first Gate or Turnpike through which any Carriage drawn by any Number of Horses or other Beasts of Draught, or any Horse, Mare, Gelding, Mule, Ass, or other Beast of Burthen, shall pass; and the other Fourth Part at the second Gate or Turnpike through which the same Carriage drawn by Proportion of Tolls at each Gate.

any Number of Horſes or other Beaſts of Draught, or any Horſe, Mare, Gelding, Mule, Aſs, or other Beaſt of Burthen, ſhall paſs; and the Whole of the ſaid Tolls or Duties upon Oxen, Cows, or Neat Cattle, Calves, Hogs, Sheep, or Lambs, at the firſt Gate or Turnpike, through which ſuch Oxen, Cows, or Neat Cattle, Calves, Hogs, Sheep, or Lambs, ſhall paſs:

Tolls veſted in Truſtees.

And the ſaid ſeveral Tolls herein before mentioned are and ſhall, from and after the paſſing of this Act, be veſted in the ſaid Truſtees; and they, or any Five or more of them, or ſuch Perſon or Perſons as they, or any Five or more of them, ſhall authorize and appoint, ſhall and they are hereby declared reſpectively to have the ſame Powers, Authorities, and Remedies, for demanding, collecting, recovering, and levying the Tolls hereby made payable, as are in and by the ſaid recited Act given and preſcribed; and the Tolls hereby granted and made payable, and every Part thereof, ſhall, after paying the Charges of paſſing this Act, be ſubject and liable to the Payment of all Sums of Money now due and owing upon the Credit of the ſaid recited Act, and alſo all Sums of Money which ſhall be borrowed upon the Credit of the ſaid recited Act and this Act; and ſhall be paid, applied, and diſpoſed of, and aſſigned to and for the Uſes, Intents, and Purpoſes, in and by the ſaid recited Act, and this Act, directed and appointed, and to no other Uſe or Purpoſe whatſoever.

Truſtees may leſſen the Tolls,

And be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid Truſtees, or any Nine or more of them, from time to time, at any Meeting or Meetings, whereof Ten Days Notice in Writing ſhall be given upon all the Turnpikes then erected by virtue of the ſaid recited Act and this Act, to reduce all or any of the Tolls hereby granted; ſo as ſuch Reduction be made with the Conſent of the Perſons who ſhall have advanced the greater Part of the Money upon the Credit of the ſaid recited Act, and this Act; and to raiſe the ſame again, or any Part thereof, ſo as the ſame do not exceed the ſeveral and reſpective Tolls herein before granted; and ſuch Tolls, ſo reduced or raiſed again, ſhall be collected, recovered, and applied, in the ſame Manner as the Tolls herein before granted are to be collected, recovered, and applied.

and raiſe them again.

Ditches may be made to prevent evading the Tolls.

And, to prevent Perſons evading the Payment of the Tolls or Duties by the ſaid recited Act, and this Act granted, be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid Truſtees, or any Five or more of them, to make, or cauſe to be made, ſuch Ditches or

other Fences as they shall think necessary, in, over, or across, any Lands or Grounds adjoining to, or situate near any Gate or Turnpike to be erected by virtue of this Act.

Trustees may lease, &c. the Tolls.

And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees, or any Seven or more of them, upon One Month's Notice to be given in Writing, under the Hand of the Clerk to the said Trustees, to be affixed on all the Turnpikes erected or to be erected by virtue of the said recited Act, or this Act, may, at any Time during the Continuance thereof, let the Tolls hereby granted, or any Part thereof, on Lease, to any Person or Persons, for any Term not exceeding Three Years, for such Sum or Sums of Money as the said Trustees, or any Seven or more of them, shall think reasonable; which Sum or Sums of Money shall be paid to the said Trustees, or any Five or more of them, or to such Person or Persons as they shall appoint to receive the same, and shall be applied as the said Tolls are directed to be applied, and to no other Use or Purpose whatsoever.

Charges of passing this Act how to be paid.

And be it further enacted, That the Charges and Expences of obtaining and passing this Act, shall be paid as soon as conveniently may be after the passing hereof, out of the Tolls or Duties granted by the said recited Act, and this Act, or any Money borrowed or to be borrowed upon the Credit thereof.

Limitation of Actions.

And be it further enacted, That if any Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall be brought against any Person or Persons for any thing done or to be done by virtue or in pursuance of this Act, or in relation to the Matters herein contained, such Actions and Suits, and every of them, shall be commenced within Six Calendar Months next after the doing the Matter or Thing for which such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall be so brought, and not afterwards; and shall be brought, laid, and tried, in the County or Place where such Matters and Things respectively shall be committed or done, and not in any other County or Place; and that the Defendant or Defendants in such Actions and Suits, and every of them, may plead the General Issue, and give this Act, and the Special Matter, in Evidence on any Trial or Trials which shall be had thereupon, and that the Matter or Thing for which such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall be so brought, was done in Pursuance and by the Authority of this Act; and if the said Matter or Thing shall appear to have been so done, or if any such Action or Suit shall not be commenced within the Time before for that Purpose limited, or

General Issue.

shall

shall be laid in any other County or Place than as aforesaid, then the Jury or Juries shall find for the Defendant or Defendants therein; and if a Verdict or Verdicts shall be found for such Defendant or Defendants, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs in such Action or Actions, Suit or Suits, shall become Nonsuited, or suffer a Discontinuance of such Action or Actions, or if upon any Demurrer or Demurrers, in such Action or Actions, Judgement shall be given for the Defendant or Defendants therein; then, and in either of the Cases aforesaid, such Defendant or Defendants shall have Treble Costs, and shall have such Remedy for recovering the same as any Defendant or Defendants may have for his, her, or their Costs, in any other Cases by Law.

Treble Costs.

Publick Act. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be adjudged, 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.