ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO QUINTO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

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CAP. I.

An Act for the Encouragement and Reward of Petty Officers, Seamen, and Royal Marines, for long and faithful Service, and for the Conſolidation of the Cheſt at *Greenwich* with the Royal Hoſpital there. [26th *November* 1814.]

WHEREAS it is juſt, that Petty Officers, Seamen, and Marines, ſhould be rewarded for long and faithful Services: And whereas Doubts have ariſen whether the Commiſſioners and Governors of the Royal Hoſpital for Seamen at *Greenwich*, in the County of *Kent*, have, by virtue of the ſeveral Laws now in force, Power and Authority to grant Out Penſions for the Relief and Support of Petty Officers, Seamen, and Marines, ſerving, or who may have ſerved on board the Ships and Veſſels of His Majeſty, who, on account of the Length of their Service and their good and faithful Conduct, may be deſerving thereof, unleſs ſuch Seamen and Marines ſhall have become worn out or decrepit in His Majeſty's Service; and it is therefore expedient that ſuch Doubts ſhould be removed, and effectual Proviſion made for enabling the ſaid Commiſſioners and Governors to grant ſuch Penſions and Rewards: And whereas it is alſo expedient that the Funds belonging to the Cheſt at *Greenwich* ſhould be transferred to and incorporated with the Funds of *Greenwich* Hoſpital, and be hereafter adminiſtered by the Commiſſioners and Governors of the ſaid Hoſpital, for the Purpoſes aforeſaid, and the other Purpoſes of the ſaid Hoſpital; Be it therefore 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

Penſions to Seamen not diſabled.

the ſame, That it ſhall be lawful for the Commiſſioners and Governors of *Greenwich* Hoſpital, by and out of their preſent Funds, and by and out of any Funds which may be by this Act, or at any Time hereafter, given or transferred to or to the Uſe of the ſaid Royal Hoſpital, to grant Penſions, Remunerations, or Allowances, to Petty Officers, Seamen, and Marines, who on account of the Length of their Services and good and faithful Conduct may be deemed deſerving thereof, in like Manner as Penſions, Remunerations, and Allowances, are now granted to Petty Officers, Seamen, and Marines, who have been wounded or become diſabled or worn out in His Majeſty's Service.

Regulations for Penſions.

II. Provided always, and be it enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners and Governors of *Greenwich* Hoſpital ſhall, in granting Penſions, be hereafter guided by ſuch Rules and Regulations, and by ſuch Scale and Proportion, as His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, ſhall think fit by any Order in Council from Time to Time to order, direct, or eſtabliſh for that Purpoſe.

Cheſt at Greenwich diſſolved.

III. And be it further enacted, That from and after the Firſt Day of *January* One thouſand eight hundred and fifteen, the Body Politic and Corporate of the Superviſors of the Cheſt at *Greenwich* ſhall be and the ſame is hereby declared to be utterly and for ever diſſolved and extinguiſhed, any Law, Statute, or Charter, to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding; and that all Powers, Authorities, and Duties, now exiſting in or exerciſed by the Superviſors of the ſaid Cheſt at *Greenwich*, ſhall be and are hereby conveyed, transferred, and given to and impoſed upon the ſaid Commiſſioners and Governors of the ſaid Royal Hoſpital.

Funds of the Cheſt to be carried to the Funds of the Hoſpital.

IV. And be it further enacted, That all Defalcations, Deductions, and Abatements, heretofore or at the Time of paſſing this Act made, from and out of the Wages of Mariners, Seamen, and others, in His Majeſty's Navy, and all Fines and Mulcts impoſed by Naval Courts Martial, and the Per-centage from and out of the net Proceeds of all Prizes taken by any Ship or Veſſel of War in His Majeſty's Pay, and from and out of the Droits of Admiralty, and Bounty Bills, which are now paid and applied to and to the Uſe of the ſaid Inſtitution, called "The Cheſt at *Greenwich*," together with all other Arrears, Revenues, or Property of any Deſcription belonging to the ſaid Inſtitution, ſhall, from and after the Firſt Day of *January* One thouſand eight hundred and fifteen, be veſted in and for ever thereafter belong to the Commiſſioners and Governors of the ſaid Hoſpital, as Part of the Funds of the ſaid Hoſpital, and be paid, transferred, and made over to the Treaſurer of *Greenwich* Hoſpital, in Aid of the Purpoſes of this Act, and the General Funds of the ſaid Hoſpital.

Transferring Stock in Hands of other Perſons.

V. And be it further enacted, That all and every Perſon and Perſons in whoſe Name or Names any Stock Annuities or other Monies ſhall, upon the Firſt Day of *January* One thouſand eight hundred and fifteen, be ſtanding or being in Truſt for or for the Uſe or Benefit of the ſaid Cheſt, or in whom any Stock Annuities or other Monies hath or have been inveſted for or for the Uſe or Benefit of the ſaid Cheſt, and the Survivors and the Survivor of them, or the Executors or Adminiſtrators of ſuch Survivor ſhall, as ſoon as conveniently may be after the ſaid Firſt

Day of *January* One thouſand eight hundred and fifteen, aſſign and tranſfer ſuch Stock Annuities or other Monies as aforeſaid unto the ſaid Commiſſioners and Governors, to be applied by them under the Proviſions of this Act; and the ſaid Stock Annuities or other Monies when ſo transferred, and the Perſon or Perſons employed by the ſaid Commiſſioners and Governors in carrying this Act into Execution, ſhall be under and ſubject to the ſame Checks, Controul, and Directions, as the other Funds of the ſaid Hoſpital now are.

Compenſation to Officers.

VI. And be it further enacted, That in order to make Compenſation to ſuch Perſon or Perſons as may happen to be removed under and by virtue of this Act from any Offices, Places, or Employments in the Affairs of the ſaid Cheſt, now held and enjoyed by them with Salaries annexed thereto, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Commiſſioners and Governors, and they are hereby directed and required, to pay and allow to all and every ſuch Perſon and Perſons (not being again appointed to the like or any other Offices, Places, or Employments in the Affairs of the ſaid Hoſpital under and by virtue of this Act, not vacating ſuch their ſaid Offices, Places, or Employments on any Account which would have vacated the ſame before the paſſing of this Act) ſuch Sum and Sums of Money, and payable at ſuch Time or Times, as and for Compenſation for the Loſs of any ſuch Offices, Places, or Employments to each of ſuch reſpective Perſons, as to the ſaid Commiſſioners and Governors, or the major Part of them, in their Diſcretion ſhall ſeem fit; and that all ſuch Allowances ſhall be defrayed and paid out of the general Funds of the ſaid Hoſpital.

Appointment of Accountant and Paymaſter.

VII. And be it further enacted, That one fit and proper Perſon ſhall, as ſoon as conveniently may be after the paſſing of this Act, be nominated and appointed to be the Accountant and Paymaſter of Penſions in the ſaid Royal Hoſpital, and with ſuch Clerks under him, with ſuch Salaries and ſubject to ſuch Rules and Regulations as the ſaid Commiſſioners and Governors ſhall direct; which ſaid Accountant or Paymaſter and Clerks ſhall be appointed to and removable from their ſaid Offices reſpectively, under the ſame Rules and Regulations as at preſent exiſt with regard to the other Officers of the ſaid Hoſpital, except the Governor and Treaſurer thereof.

Duty of Paymaſter of Penſions.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That the ſaid Paymaſter of Penſions is hereby required, authorized, and empowered to do and perform all Acts and Duties relating to or concerning all Out Penſions heretofore or hereafter to be granted from the ſaid Royal Hoſpital at *Greenwich*, which Acts and Duties are at preſent performed or required by Law to be performed with regard to ſuch Penſions, or with regard to Penſions now granted from the Funds of the ſaid Cheſt by the ſaid Treaſurer of *Greenwich* Hoſpital, or the ſaid Accountant of the Cheſt at *Greenwich* reſpectively; and that the Signature, Acts, and Deeds of the ſaid Paymaſter, with regard to all ſuch Penſions as aforeſaid, ſhall be of as full Value and Effect for all Purpoſes whatſoever, as if ſuch Signature, Act, or Deed were the Signature, Act, or Deed of the ſaid Treaſurer or Accountant reſpectively.

Paymaſter not to draw Money out of the Bank, &c.

IX. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend to enable or authorize the ſaid Paymaſter to draw any Monies out of the Bank of *England*, or to receive or give Receipts or Acquittances for any Monies on Account

of the ſaid Hoſpital, or to exerciſe any Power or Authority now veſted in the ſaid Treaſurer for the Receipt and Cuſtody of any Funds belonging to the ſaid Hoſpital, except as may regard ſuch Sums as may be by the ſaid Treaſurer transferred, delivered, or paid to the ſaid Paymaſter for the Payment or Diſcharge of the ſaid Out-Penſions; for all which Sums of Money the ſaid Paymaſter ſhall be accountable, and ſhall account in ſuch Manner, and according to ſuch Regulations and Reſtrictions as are at preſent enforced with regard to Allowances now iſſued for the ſaid Purpoſes, or which may be hereafter laid down and eſtabliſhed by the ſaid Commiſſioners and Governors, or other ſufficient Authority.

Paymaſter's Letters to be free.

X. And be it further enacted, That from and after the paſſing of this Act, all Letters and Packets addreſſed to the ſaid Paymaſter for the Time being, upon any Buſineſs or Affairs relating to the ſaid Hoſpital ſhall, from and after the paſſing of this Act, be free from the Duty of Poſtage; and alſo, that all Letters or Packets ſent by the ſaid Paymaſter of the ſaid Hoſpital, relating to Out Penſions, ſhall be ſent free from the ſaid Duty of Poſtage, and all Letters and Packets relating to Out Penſions ſhall be under Cover, with the Words "Out Penſions, purſuant to Act of Parliament Fifty-fifth *George* Third" printed upon the ſame; and the ſaid Paymaſter or his Chief Clerk ſhall write his Name under the ſame; and if any ſuch Paymaſter or Chief Clerk ſhall ſend or convey under any of the Covers aforeſaid, any Writing, Paper, or Parcel, other than thoſe relating to the Out Penſions of the ſaid Hoſpital, the Perſon ſo offending ſhall for every ſuch Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of One hundred Pounds.

Calling in Penſion Tickets.

XI. And be it further enacted, That it ſhall and may be lawful for the Commiſſioners and Governors of *Greenwich* Hoſpital, as ſoon as conveniently may be after the Firſt Day of *January* One thouſand eight hundred and fifteen, to call in and retain ſuch Penſion Tickets as ſhall have been granted by the Directors of the Cheſt, and in lieu thereof grant other Tickets to the ſame or greater Amount, as the Caſe may require, in the Form now by Law eſtabliſhed for the Out Penſion Tickets of the ſaid Hoſpital.

Proviſions extended to the Purpoſes of the Act.

XII. And be it further enacted, That all the Clauſes, Proviſions, Rules, Regulations, Powers, Pains, as well of Death as otherwiſe, and all Penalties, Forfeitures, Matters, and Things, contained in any Act or Acts now in force relating to Out Penſions granted by the Commiſſioners and Governors of *Greenwich* Hoſpital, ſhall be applied and put in force for the Purpoſes of this Act, and with reſpect to the Penſions to be granted in purſuance hereof, and for carrying the ſame into full Execution and Effect.

Act may altered.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That this Act may be altered, amended, or repealed, by any Act or Acts to be made in this preſent Seſſion of Parliament.

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