

ANNO NONO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

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CAP. XLI.

An Act to regulate the Care and Treatment of Insane Persons in *England*. [15th *July* 1828.]

WHEREAS the Laws now existing for licensing and regulating Houses for the Reception of Insane Persons in *England* are ineffectual: And whereas it is expedient that the several Statutes and Acts herein-after mentioned should be repealed, and some other Provision made in lieu thereof, for licensing and regulating such Houses, and for improving the Treatment of Insane Persons; be it therefore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of the same, That from and after the Commencement of this Act, the several Statutes and Acts following shall be repealed; viz. an Act passed in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for regulating Madhouses;* and also an Act passed in the Nineteenth Year of the Reign of His said Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act to continue an Act made in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled 'An Act for regulating Mad-houses,' for a further Time therein limited;* and also an Act passed in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for making perpetual an Act made in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled 'An Act for regulating Madhouses;'* and the same several Statutes and Acts are hereby repealed, and from and after the Commencement of this Act shall cease and determine, save only and except as to such Proceedings under any of the said recited Acts respectively as shall have commenced before the passing of this Act, and which shall and may be continued and proceeded in under the Authority of and according to the Provision of either of the said recited Acts or of this Act, as shall be most expedient.

Repeal of Acts

14 G. 3. c. 49.

19 G. 3. c. 15.

26 G. 3. c. 91.

Secretary of State for the Home Department to appoint Fifteen Commissioners within London, &c. of whom Five to be Physicians.

II. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department for the Time being, annually, on the First Day of *August* in every Year, or within Ten Days then next following, by an Instrument under his Hand and Seal, to appoint not less than Fifteen Persons to be Commissioners, during the Space of One Year, for licensing and visiting all Houses within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and within Seven Miles thereof, and within the County of *Middlesex*, for the Reception of Two or more Insane Persons, of which Commissioners Five at the least shall be Physicians; and the said Secretary of State shall cause the Names of such Commissioners to be published in the *London Gazette* within Ten Days after their Appointment: Provided always, that no Physician appointed as such Commissioner shall professionally attend upon the Patients in any House so to be licensed for the Reception of Insane Persons, unless he be specially directed to visit any Patient by any Relative or Friend, under whose Order such Patient has been admitted into such House, or by a Committee appointed by the Lord Chancellor, or Lord Keeper or Commissioners of the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, being intrusted, by virtue of the King's Sign Manual, with the Care and Commitment of the Custody of the Persons and Estates of Persons found Lunatic or Idiot, or of unsound Mind; and the aforesaid Commissioners are hereby empowered to grant Licences, if they shall think fit, in the Manner directed by this Act, for Persons to keep Houses for the Reception of Two or more Insane Persons, within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and within Seven Miles of the same, and within the County of *Middlesex*; and each and every such Commissioner, being a Physician, shall be allowed and paid the Sum of One Pound for every Hour he shall be employed in executing the Duties of the Office of Commissioner, exclusive of travelling Expences: Provided always, that the Number of Commissioners who shall be entitled to receive such Allowance shall never exceed Five at one and the same Time.

Proviso as to Physicians attending Patients in such Houses.

Commissioners to grant Licences for Houses.

Salary to Commissioners being Physicians.

In case of Death or Refusal of Commissioners, others to be appointed.

III. And be it further enacted, That as often as any of the Commissioners to be appointed as aforesaid shall die, or refuse to act, or become unable by Illness or otherwise, it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty's said Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, by an Instrument under his Hand and Seal, to appoint a Commissioner in the Room of every Commissioner who shall die or refuse or become unable to act; the Name of such Commissioner to be published within Ten Days after his Appointment in the *London Gazette*.

Commissioners to take the following Oath.

IV. And be it further enacted, That every Person who shall be appointed a Commissioner as aforesaid shall, before he shall act in the Execution of his Duty as a Commissioner, take an Oath, or if a Quaker, make a solemn Affirmation, to the following Effect; (that is to say),

'I *A. B.* do swear [*or* solemnly affirm], That I will faithfully and impartially execute all the Trusts committed unto me by virtue of an Act of Parliament made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act to regulate the Care and Treatment of Insane Persons in* England. So help me GOD.'

Which Oath or solemn Affirmation it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, or one of his Under Secretaries, to administer to every such Commissioner so to be appointed as aforesaid.

No Commissioner while in Office to keep any House for Patients.

V. And be it further enacted, That no Person shall be appointed Commissioner as aforesaid, who shall be, or who shall have been within the Two Years then next preceding, directly or indirectly interested in the keeping any House licensed for the Reception of Insane Persons; and if any Person shall after his Appointment become so interested, and continue to act as such Commissioner, he shall forfeit the Sum of Fifty Pounds, and his Appointment as Commissioner shall thenceforth become null and void, and it shall not be lawful for him to act as such Commissioner.

Chairman of Meetings of Commissioners.

VI. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That at all Meetings of the said Commissioners the Majority present shall chuse a Chairman; and in case of an Equality of Votes, he shall have a Second or casting Vote.

Treasurer and Clerk to be appointed.

VII. And be it further enacted, That His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department is hereby empowered, by an Instrument under his Hand and Seal, to appoint during Pleasure a fit Person to be Treasurer for the Purposes of this Act, and Clerk to such Commissioners; and to allow such Person such Salary for his Trouble as His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department shall think reasonable, exclusive of the Fees to be received by him under this Act.

Clerk to take the following Oath.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That every such Clerk shall at the First Meeting of the said Commissioners next after he shall be appointed take the following Oath, to be administered by the Chairman of such Commissioners:

'I *A. B.* do swear, That I will faithfully execute all such Trusts as shall be committed to my Charge as Clerk to the Commissioners for executing an Act of Parliament made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act to regulate the Care and Treatment of Insane Persons in* England; and that I will keep secret all such Matters as shall come to my Knowledge in the Execution of my Office (except when required to divulge the same by legal Authority); and that I am not, nor have been at any Time within the last Two Years, directly or indirectly, concerned or interested in keeping any House for the Reception of Insane Persons. So help me GOD.'

Meetings of Commissioners to grant Licences.

IX. And be it further enacted, That the said Commissioners or any Five or more of them, Two of whom at the least shall not be Physicians or Surgeons, shall meet at such Place as His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department may direct, on the First *Wednesday* in the Months of *January*, *April*, *July*, and *October* in every Year, in order to receive Applications from Persons requiring Licences to keep Houses for the Reception of Two or more Insane Persons within the Cities of *London* or *Westminster*, and within Seven Miles of the same, and within the said County of *Middlesex*,

dlesex, and to grant the said Licences if they shall think fit; and in case on any such Occasion Five such Commissioners shall not be present, then the Meeting shall take place on the next succeeding *Wednesday*, and so on weekly, till such Quorum of Five shall be assembled for the above-mentioned Purpose; and the said Commissioners assembled at every such Meeting shall have Power to adjourn such Meeting from Time to Time, and to such Place, as they shall see fit.

Justices in Quarter Sessions (except in London and Westminster) to grant Licences.

Justices not to be interested.

X. And be it further enacted, That in all other Parts of *England* (except the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, or within Seven Miles thereof, and the County of *Middlesex*,) the Justices of the Peace assembled in General Quarter Sessions shall have Authority within their respective Counties to grant Licences, if they shall think fit, to Persons for keeping Houses for the Reception of Insane Persons, in the same Manner as the aforesaid Commissioners within their Jurisdiction: Provided always, that no Justice of the Peace shall act in granting such Licence, who shall directly or indirectly be interested in keeping any such House for the Reception of Insane Persons.

Justices at Sessions to appoint Visitors, &c.

XI. And be it further enacted, That the said Justices shall, at the *Michaelmas* General Quarter Sessions of the Peace in every Year, appoint Three or more Justices of the Peace, and also One or more Physician or Surgeon or Apothecary, to act as Visitors of each House of Reception for Two or more Insane Persons within the County; and the said Justices, Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, so appointed as Visitors for each House as aforesaid, or any Two of them, shall and are hereby authorized and empowered to visit such House, in manner directed by this Act; and such Visitor, being a Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, shall be allowed and paid, for every Day he shall be employed in executing the Duties imposed upon him by this Act, such Sum out of the County Rates as the Justices in General Quarter Sessions shall be pleased to direct: Provided also, that in case of the Death of any Justice, Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary so appointed Visitor as aforesaid, or of his Refusal or Inability by reason of Illness or otherwise to act as such, it shall and may be lawful for the said Justices, at any General or Adjourned Sessions of the Peace, to appoint a Visitor in the Room of such Justice, Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, who shall die, or refuse or become unable to act as aforesaid; and the Names of all such Visitors so appointed at the *Michaelmas* Quarter Sessions, or at any General or Adjourned Sessions of the Peace, shall, within Seven Days after the Appointment, be published in some Newspaper circulated in the County wherein such House shall be situate: Provided always, that no Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, interested in or employed in any such House, shall be appointed any such Visitor.

Clerk to the Visitors to be appointed by Justices at Quarter Sessions.

XII. And be it further enacted, That a Person duly appointed by the Justices of the Peace at the Quarter Sessions, shall act as Clerk to the Visitors so appointed as aforesaid, in the same Manner and for the same Purposes in the Execution of this Act as the Clerk to the said Commissioners is hereby directed to act; and shall at the First Meeting of such Visitors take the Oath required by this Act to be taken by the Clerk of the said Commissioners to be appointed under this Act *mutatis mutandis*, such Oath to be administered by one of such Visitors;

Visitors; and the said Clerk so appointed shall be paid out of the County Rate for his Services, as well in granting Licences as in attending the said Visitors, such Remuneration as the Justices in Quarter Sessions assembled shall think fit.

Notice of Application for Licence and Plan of House to be given to the Clerk of the Commissioners or Justices 14 Days previous to their Meeting.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That all Persons who shall apply for a Licence for keeping a House for the Reception of Two or more Insane Persons, shall give Notice to the Clerk for the Time being of the said Commissioners, or to the Clerk of the Peace for the County, Fourteen Days at the least prior to any of the Quarterly Meetings of the said Commissioners, or to any General Quarter Session for the County, which Notice shall contain the true Christian and Surname of the Person so applying for a Licence, and the Place of Abode of every such Person; and in case such Person so applying does not propose to reside himself in the said House, the Name and previous Occupation of the Superintendent who is to reside therein; and such Notice, when given, upon Application for a Licence being first made, shall be accompanied by a Plan of every such House proposed to be licensed, to be drawn upon a Scale of not less than One Eighth of an Inch to a Foot, with a Description of the Situation thereof, and of every Room and Apartment therein, and a Statement of the greatest Number of Patients proposed to be received into such House; such Notice and Plan to be left with the said Clerk of the Commissioners or Clerk of the Peace, and to be by him laid before the said Commissioners at their Meeting, or before the Justices at their next General Quarter Sessions.

Upon Alteration of House, Notice and amended Plan to be given to Commissioners.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That Notice of any Additions or Alterations that shall have been made to any House licensed under this Act, shall be given to the Clerk of the Commissioners or to the Clerk of the Peace within One Calendar Month next after the Completion thereof, and a Plan of all such Additions and Alterations, to be drawn upon the Scale aforesaid, shall be within the same Time transmitted to the Clerk of the Commissioners, or the Clerk of the Peace of the County wherein such House shall be situate, by the Person to whom the Licence shall have been granted; and if any Person shall wilfully and with Intention to deceive omit giving a full and complete Plan of the whole of the House to be licensed, or of any and all such Additions and Alterations as shall have been made, he shall be guilty of a Misdemeanor.

Licences to be made out by the Clerk, and to be renewed yearly.

Charge for Licences.

Application of Monies.

XV. And be it further enacted, That every such Licence shall be made out by the Clerk of the Commissioners or the Clerk of the Peace, as the Case may require, and the same shall be renewed every Year; and for the first and every annual Licence to be granted to any Person for keeping a House for the Reception of Two or more Insane Persons, there shall be paid to the Clerk of the Commissioners or Clerk of the Peace, exclusive of the Sum to be paid for the Stamp, the Sum of Two Shillings and Sixpence for every Parish Patient, and the Sum of Ten Shillings for every other Insane Person specified therein as proposed to be received into such House: Provided always, that for no Licence to be so granted shall be paid less than Fifteen Pounds; and that all Monies to be received for such Licences shall be retained by the Clerk of the Commissioners or

Clerk of the Peace, and from such Monies all the Expences required to be disbursed in the Execution of this Act shall be paid and defrayed, upon the Order of the said Commissioners or Visitors; and such Clerk of the Commissioners or Clerk of the Peace shall keep a true and correct Account of all such Receipts and Payments, which Account shall be made up, by the Clerk of the Commissioners, to the Thirty-first Day of *May*, and by the Clerk of the Peace, to the Day before the *Michaelmas* Quarter Sessions in every Year, and shall be signed by Five or more Commissioners and Two or more Visitors, as the Case may be; and the said Account, when made out by the Clerk of the said Commissioners, shall be transmitted to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, who shall thereupon, if they shall deem it necessary, direct the Balance to be paid into the Exchequer, to the Account of the Consolidated Fund; and if there shall be any Balance due to the said Clerk to the Commissioners, it shall be lawful for the Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, or any Three or more of them, and they are hereby empowered, to cause the same to be issued and paid from Time to Time out of any Money in the Exchequer applicable to the growing Produce of the Consolidated Fund; but the said Account, when made out by the Clerk of the Peace in any County, shall be laid before the Justices at their *Michaelmas* Quarter Sessions; and if it shall appear by the said Account that there is a Balance in the Hands of the Clerk of the Peace, the same shall forthwith be paid, by an Order of the said Visitors, to the Treasurer of the County, in aid of the County Rate; and when there shall be found to be any Balance due to such Clerk of the Peace, such Balance shall be paid to him by the Treasurer of the County out of the County Rate, an Order for such Payment being made and signed by Two or more Justices.

Clerk to keep an Account of Receipt and Expenditure, which shall be made up yearly.

Such Account to be transmitted to the Lords of the Treasury, who may apply or make up the Balances.

Balances in Hand of or due to Clerk of the Peace.

Licences to be stamped, and to contain certain Particulars.

XVI. Provided always, and it is hereby enacted, That all Licences to be granted by the said Commissioners or Justices shall be duly stamped with a Ten Shilling Stamp, and shall be under the Hands and Seals of Five or more of the said Commissioners, Two of whom shall not be Physicians or Surgeons, or of Three or more of the said Justices, as the Case may require; and every such Licence shall contain, as well the Christian and Surname and the Profession or Occupation of the Person to whom the same shall be granted, as also the Christian and Surname of the Superintendent or Head Keeper of the House so proposed to be licensed, in case the Person so applying does not intend to reside therein; and also the said Licence shall specify the greatest Number of Patients, distinguishing Parish from other Insane Patients, to be received under the Authority thereof, in the House so licensed.

Revoking of Licences.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That if at any Time a Majority of any Five of the Commissioners appointed under this Act, (One whereof not being a Physician or Surgeon,) or any Three Visitors appointed under this Act, shall recommend to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department for the Time being, that any Licence or Licences granted by virtue of this Act should be revoked, it shall and may be lawful for such Secretary of State, after making such Inquiries as he shall think necessary, to revoke the same by an Instrument under his Hand and Seal; such Revocation to take Effect at a Period not exceeding Three Calendar Months from the Time

Time Notice thereof shall have been given in the *London Gazette;* and a Copy of such Instrument of Revocation shall be transmitted to the Person to whom such Licence shall have been granted, his or her Executors or Administrators, by the Clerk of the Commissioners or Visitors in their respective Jurisdictions, before any such Publication shall take place: Provided always, that in case of such Revocation being proposed to such Secretary of State, Notice in Writing shall be given to the Parties so complained of, Seven Days previous to the Transmission of such Recommendation to such Secretary of State.

When Commissioners or Justices shall refuse to renew any Licence, Notice thereof to be given to the Secretary of State.

XVIII. Be it further enacted, That in case the said Commissioners or Justices shall refuse to renew any Licence for keeping a House for Insane Patients, Notice of such Refusal shall be given in manner herein-before mentioned in the Case of revoking any such Licence, and His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department for the Time being shall be empowered, upon the Representation of the said Commissioners or Justices respectively, by an Instrument under his Hand and Seal, to be delivered within One Month after receiving such Representation, to sanction and confirm the Refusal of the said Commissioners or Justices to renew such Licence: Provided nevertheless, that the original Licence of such House shall remain in force until His Majesty's said Secretary of State shall have confirmed as aforesaid the Resolution of the said Commissioners or Justices not to renew such Licence.

No House to be kept without a Licence.

Limitation of Licence.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That from and after the Expiration of Three Calendar Months next after the Commencement of this Act, it shall not be lawful for any Person to keep a House for the Reception of any Two or more Insane Persons, without a Licence for that Purpose first had and obtained in the Manner directed by this Act, and every Person so keeping such House as aforesaid, without having such Licence, shall be deemed guilty of a Misdemeanor: Provided always, that no One Licence for the Reception of Insane Persons shall authorize any Person to keep more than One House for such Purpose, nor shall any Licence granted by virtue of this Act continue in force for any longer Time than Thirteen Calendar Months: Provided also, that all Licences which shall have been heretofore granted, or which shall hereafter be granted under this Act, for keeping Houses for the Reception of Two or more Insane Persons, and notwithstanding the Death of any Person to whom any such Licence shall have been granted respectively, shall remain in full Force until the Period for which they shall have been granted shall have expired, any thing in this Act to the contrary thereof notwithstanding, unless terminated by Revocation by His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department for the Time being, as herein mentioned.

Houses to be inspected by Commissioners or Visitors; but not by their Clerk.

XX. And be it further enacted, That every House licensed for the Reception of Two or more Insane Persons shall be visited by Three at least of the said Commissioners, One of whom shall not be a Medical Practitioner, within their Jurisdiction, or by Two at the least of the said Visitors appointed at Quarter Sessions, at least Four Times in every Year, on such Days and at such Hours of the Day between the Hours of Eight in the Morning and Six

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in the Evening from the Twenty-first of *September* to the Twenty-first of *March*, and between the Hours of Six in the Morning and Eight in the Evening from the Twenty-first of *March* to the Twenty-first of *September* in each Year, and with or without Notice, and for such Length of Time as they shall think fit; and they are hereby empowered to examine the Persons confined therein in such Manner as they shall see fit: Provided always, that it shall not be lawful for the Clerk of the said Commissioners or of the said Visitors to inspect or visit any of the Patients confined in such House.

Concealing any Insane Person from the Inspection of Commissioners to be deemed a Misdemeanor.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That if the Keeper or Superintendant of any such licensed House, or any Keeper or Servant employed in the same, shall fraudulently conceal or attempt to conceal any Person detained as Insane in such House from the Sight, Knowledge, or Inspection of any such Commissioners or Visitors, or from any Medical or other Person authorized under the Provisions of this Act to visit and inspect any such House, and the Patients confined therein, every Person so offending shall be deemed guilty of a Misdemeanor.

Commissioners upon Information of Malpractices taking place in any licensed House, may visit the same at Night.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners or Visitors, upon receiving Information upon Oath, which Oath they are or any One of them is hereby empowered to administer, that the Party making such Oath hath Cause to suspect and doth verily believe that some Malpractices have taken place in any House licensed under the Provisions of this Act, which Malpractices cannot be ascertained by Examination and Inspection during the Day, respectively to visit and to inspect any such House at such Hour of the Night as to them shall seem advisable, for the Purpose of examining into the Fact of such alleged Malpractices, but no further or otherwise.

Commissioners may summon Witnesses, who shall be subject to Penalty for Neglect.

XXIII. And for the better enabling the Commissioners or Visitors executing this Act to inquire into the several Matters and Things by this Act referred to them, be it enacted, That it shall be lawful to and for the said Commissioners or Visitors from Time to Time, as they shall see Occasion, to require any Person to appear before them to testify the Truth touching any Matters relating to the Execution of the Powers given by this Act; and every Person who shall not appear before the said Commissioners or Visitors pursuant to such Request, (without assigning some reasonable Excuse for not appearing,) or appearing shall refuse to be sworn or examined on Oath or Affirmation, which Oath or Affirmation the said Commissioners or Visitors are hereby empowered to administer, and being thereof convicted before One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace of the County in which such House is situated, upon Information thereof upon Oath made before any such Justice, shall for every such Neglect or Refusal forfeit and pay such Sum of Money, not exceeding Fifty Pounds nor less than Ten Pounds, as such Justice shall think fit and order.

At such Visitation Commissioners to make Minutes.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That there shall be kept in every House of Reception for Two or more Insane Persons a Book or Register, in which the said Commissioners and Visitors, within their respective Jurisdictions, shall at every such Visitation make Minutes in Writing of the State and Condition of such Houses which they shall

shall so visit, as to the Care of the Patients therein, and all such other Particulars as they shall think deserving of their Notice, together with their Observations thereupon.

Minutes to be transcribed into a Register.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That the Clerk of the Commissioners, and the Clerk of the Visitors respectively, shall make or cause to be made in Writing a Transcript of such Minute, to be entered in a Register to be kept for that Purpose by the Clerk of the said Commissioners, or Clerk of the Visitors, and the same shall be approved and signed by Three at the least of the said Commissioners, or by the said Visitors, or any Two of them, within their respective Jurisdictions; and the Clerk of such Visitors shall, within Fourteen Days after such Visitation shall have been made, transmit a Copy of such Transcript or Minute to the Clerk of the Commissioners, who shall enter the same into a General Register to be kept for that Purpose by the Clerk of the Commissioners.

Annual Report of all Houses and Patients therein to be made, and a Transcript sent to the Secretary of State and to the Clerk of the Commissioners.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That the said Clerk of the Commissioners, and the Clerks of the Visitors, within their respective Jurisdictions, shall, within One Month previous to the First Day of *June* in every Year, prepare a full and complete Report of the several Houses within their respective Jurisdictions for the Reception of Insane Persons, and of every Patient confined therein, or who shall have been confined therein within the Twelve Months preceding, according to the Form in the Schedule (A.) hereunto annexed; of which Report a Transcript shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the Commissioners, or the Clerk of the Visitors, to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department; and the Clerk of such Visitors shall transmit a Copy of such Report to the Clerk of the Commissioners, who shall enter the same into a Register to be kept for that Purpose by the Clerk of the Commissioners.

Alphabetical List of Persons confined to be made therefrom.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That the Clerk of the Commissioners shall prepare from such Reports an Alphabetical List of all Persons confined, or who have been confined within the last Twelve Months, in such licensed Houses, together with a Reference to the same respectively.

A Transcript of so much of Report as regards certain Patients to be made to the Lord Chancellor.

XXVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That a Transcript of so much of the said Report as shall have reference to Insane Persons who shall have been found Lunatic, Idiot, or of unsound Mind under a Commission issued by the Lord Chancellor or Lord Keeper or Commissioners of the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, being intrusted by virtue of the King's Sign Manual with the Care and Commitment of the Custody of the Persons and Estates of Persons found Lunatic, Idiot, or of unsound Mind, shall be sent to the Lord Chancellor or Lord Keeper or Commissioners of the Great Seal intrusted as aforesaid.

Insane Persons or Lunatics not to be received into licensed Houses without a Certificate.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That no Person, not being a Parish Patient, shall be received into any House kept for the Reception of Two or more Insane Persons in that Part of the United Kingdom called *England*, without a Certificate in the Manner directed by this Act; and if any Person shall knowingly and wilfully receive any Insane Person, or Person represented or alleged

to be Insane, to be taken care of or confined in any such House licensed for the Reception of Two or more such Persons, without such Certificate bearing Date not more than Fourteen Days previous to such Reception, and shall not at the Time of receiving such Patient make a Minute in Writing or Entry of the Christian and Surname, Occupation and Place of Residence of the Person or Persons by whom such Patient shall be brought, or by whose Authority such Patient shall be delivered to his Care, every Person so offending shall be deemed guilty of a Misdemeanor.

Certificate of Admission.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That every Certificate upon which any Order shall be given for the Confinement of any Person (not a Parish Patient) in a House kept for the Reception of Two or more Insane Persons, shall be signed by Two Medical Practitioners, each of them being a Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, who shall have separately visited and personally examined the Patient to whom it relates; and such Certificate shall state that such Insane Person is a proper Person to be confined, and the Day on which he or she shall have been so examined; and also the Christian and Surname and Place of Abode of the Person by whose Direction or Authority such Patient is examined, and the Degree of Relationship or other Circumstance of Connection between such Person and the Insane Person; and the Name, Age, Place of Residence, former Occupation, and the Asylum, if any, in which such Patient shall have been confined; and whether such Person shall have been found Lunatic or of unsound Mind under a Commission issued for that Purpose by the Lord Chancellor, or Lord Keeper or Commissioner of the Great Seal intrusted as aforesaid; and every such Certificate for the Confinement of any Person in a House licensed under this Act within the Jurisdiction of the said Visitors shall, if the same be not signed by Two Medical Practitioners, state the special Circumstances, if any, which shall have prevented the Patient being separately visited by Two Medical Practitioners; and any Patient may be admitted into any such licensed House upon the Certificate of One Medical Practitioner only under the special Circumstances aforesaid, provided such Certificate shall be further signed by some other Medical Practitioner within Seven Days next after the Admission of such Patient into any such licensed House as aforesaid; and any Person who shall, knowingly and with Intention to deceive, sign any such Certificate, untruly setting forth any such Particulars required by this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a Misdemeanor; nevertheless, if any special Circumstance shall exist which may prevent the Insertion of any of the Particulars aforesaid, the same shall be specially stated in such Certificate: Provided always, that no Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary shall sign any Certificate of Admission to any House of Reception for Two or more Insane Persons, of which he is wholly or partly the Proprietor, or the regular professional Attendant; and any Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, who shall sign or give any such Certificate, without having visited and personally examined the Individual to whom it relates, shall be deemed to be guilty of a Misdemeanor.

Physicians, &c. not to sign Certificates of Admission if interested.

Pauper Lunatics, how admissible.

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That no Parish Pauper shall be received into any House of Reception for Two or more Insane Persons

sons without an Order under the Hands and Seals of Two Justices of the Peace, or an Order signed by One of the Overseers of the Poor and the officiating Clergyman of the Parish to which such Pauper shall belong, and also a Certificate signed by One Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, that such Person is a proper Person to be confined.

Notice to be given to Clerk of the Commissioners, &c. within Seven Days after the Admission of every Patient.

XXXII. And, in order that the said Commissioners and Visitors may know when any Patient is received into any House of Reception for Two or more Insane Persons, be it further enacted, That the Keeper of any such House shall and is hereby required, within the Space of Seven Days next after the Day on which any Person shall have been received into such House, to transmit a Copy of such Order and Certificate as aforesaid to the Clerk of the Commissioners or to the Clerk of the Visitors; which Order and Certificate the said Clerk of the Commissioners or Clerk of the Visitors is hereby required forthwith to enter in a Register to be provided for that Purpose, with the Christian and Surname of each Insane Person so returned to him, and the Asylum or House in which such Lunatic is confined; and every Keeper of any such House who shall knowingly and wilfully neglect so to do shall be deemed guilty of a Misdemeanor.

The like Notice to be given on the Removal or Death of Patient.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That whenever any Patient so confined in a House of Reception for Two or more Insane Persons shall be removed therefrom, or shall die, the Keeper of such House shall, within Three Days next after such Removal or Death, transmit a written Notice thereof to the Clerk of the Commissioners or Clerk of the Visitors, or to a Justice of the Peace, as the Case may be; and every Keeper of any such House, who shall upon any such Removal or Death knowingly and wilfully neglect so to do, shall be deemed guilty of a Misdemeanor.

In case of Inquiry, whether any particular Patient is in Confinement, the Commissioners, &c. may give an Order to the Clerk, who shall furnish the Information.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall apply to One of the Commissioners, or any Justice of the Peace of the County in which any House of Reception for Two or more Insane Persons is situate, in order to be informed whether any particular Person is confined in any of the said Houses of Reception for Two or more Insane Persons, and the said Commissioner or Justice shall think it reasonable to permit such Inquiry to be made, and shall sign an Order directed to the Clerk of the Commissioners or Clerk of the Visitors for that Purpose, the said Clerk of the Commissioners or Clerk of the Visitors is hereby required, upon the Receipt of such Order, to make Search; and if it shall appear upon Search that the Person so inquired after is or has been confined in any of the said Houses, the said Clerk of the Commissioners or Clerk of the Visitors shall immediately deliver to the Person so applying, in Writing, the Name of the Keeper in whose House the Person so inquired after is or has been confined, the Situation of such House, and a Copy of the Order and Certificate upon which such Person was received into such House, upon Payment of the Sum of Seven Shillings, and no more, for his Trouble.

Houses to be visited by Medical Men.

XXXV. And be it further enacted, That in every House of Reception for Two or more Insane Persons there shall, if it contain One hundred Patients, be a resident Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary; and every

every such House, containing less than One hundred Patients, in case such House shall not be kept by a Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, shall be visited Twice in every Week by a Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary; and such resident Attendant, or visiting Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, is hereby respectively required to report to the Keeper the Condition of the House and State of Health of the Patients; and shall, Once in every Week, enter and sign the same in a Book of Entries to be kept at every such House, according to the Form in the Schedule (B.) hereunto annexed; and such Book of Entries shall by the Keeper of such House be regularly laid before the visiting Commissioners or Visitors for their Inspection, who are hereby required to sign the same in Testimony of its Production.

Persons by whose Authority Patients have been delivered to such Houses, shall visit or appoint some Person to visit them, once in Six Months.

XXXVI. And be it further enacted, That the Person by whom or by whose Authority such Patient shall have been delivered to the Care of the Keeper of any such House, shall in Person, or by some Person duly appointed by him in Writing under his Hand and Seal, such Appointment to be renewed for each Time, visit the Patient so delivered as aforesaid, Once at least in every Six Months during his Confinement; and shall enter in the Journal kept at such House for registering the Visits of the Commissioners or Visitors respectively, as herein-before directed, his Name, and the Date of his Visit; and any Person so appointed as aforesaid shall deposit such Appointment with the Keeper of the said House.

Commissioners may set at liberty Persons improperly confined.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That if it shall appear, after Three separate and distinct Visits to be made by the said Commissioners or Visitors within their respective Jurisdictions, Three of which Commissioners shall be Physicians or Surgeons, or One of which Visitors shall be a Medical Practitioner, Twenty-one Days at the least to intervene between each Visit, that any Person is detained in any such House without sufficient Cause, and Notice thereof shall have been duly given to the Keeper of such House, and to the Person by whose Authority such Person was sent, it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners at one of their Quarterly Meetings, or at a Meeting specially summoned at Three Days Notice, or for the Justices in Quarter Sessions, or at a Meeting specially summoned at Seven Days Notice, to set such Person at liberty, or otherwise to act under the Circumstances as the Case may seem to require: Provided always, that such Power shall not extend to the Case of any Lunatic who shall have been found of Insane Mind under a Commission issued for that Purpose by the Lord Chancellor, or Lord Keeper or Commissioners of the Great Seal intrusted as aforesaid, nor to any Lunatic confined under any Order or Authority of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Commissioners and Visitors to inquire and state in the Register Book whether Divine Ser-

XXXVIII. And whereas the Hopes and Consolations of Religion may soothe and compose the Minds of Patients, and thereby tend to subdue the Malady under which they are suffering; be it further enacted, That the Commissioners and Visitors, upon their several Visitations herein-before mentioned, shall inquire whether and at what Times Divine Service is read and performed for the Benefit and Consolation of any of the Patients, or what Religious Aid they

receive under any Circumstances of intellectual Improvement; and such Commissioners and Visitors shall state, in the Book or Register herein-before directed to be kept for registering the Visits of the Commissioners or Visitors respectively, the Result of such their Inquiry, with such Observations as they shall think useful or necessary; and in those Houses where it shall appear that Divine Service is not performed, or that Religious Communication with any Minister is not permitted, the Keeper or Keepers of such House or Houses shall state in the said Book or Register the Reason or Reasons thereof.

vice is performed in such Houses.

If not performed, the Keeper to state the Reason.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Lord Chancellor, or Lord Keeper or Commissioners of the Great Seal intrusted as aforesaid, or the Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, or the Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, or His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he shall see fit, to employ any Commissioner appointed under this Act, or Medical or other Person, to inspect and inquire into the State of any Lunatic Asylum, Public Hospital, or other House or Place for the Confinement of Insane Persons, and to report to him the Result of such Inspection and Inquiry; and every such Medical or other Person so employed by him shall be paid or allowed such Sum of Money for his Attendance and Trouble, as to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department shall seem an adequate and reasonable Allowance; such Expences to be charged on the Contingency Fund of the Home Office, or on the County Rate, as the Case may be.

Medical or other Persons may be employed to inspect Houses.

XL. And be it further enacted, That no Person shall receive into his exclusive Care and Maintenance, except he be a Relative or a Committee appointed by the Lord Chancellor, or Lord Keeper or Commissioners of the Great Seal intrusted as aforesaid, under Pain of being deemed guilty of Misdemeanor, any one Insane Person, or Person represented or alleged to be Insane, without first having an Order and Certificate signed by Two Medical Practitioners, each of them being a Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, as is required on the Admission of any Insane Person into a licensed House; and that every such Person so having received into his Charge any Insane Person as aforesaid, shall within Five Days thereof transmit to the Clerk of the Commissioners in *London* a Copy of such Order and Certificate, and shall also state the Parish and County wherein such House shall be situate, and the Name of the Occupier thereof, and such Order, Certificate, and Return shall be sealed, and indorsed "Private Return;" and also on the First Day of *January*, or within Seven Days thereof, in every Year, every such Person shall also transmit to such Clerk a Certificate signed by Two Physicians, Surgeons, or Apothecaries, describing the then actual State of such Insane Person; and in case of the Death or Removal of such Insane Person, he shall forthwith notify the same to such Clerk; all which said Orders, Certificates, Returns, and Notifications shall be filed and duly preserved, and the said Clerk shall make therefrom a separate Register, containing the true Christian and Surname of each Insane Person so confined, together with the Place of Confinement, which Register, together with the said Orders, Returns, Certificates, and Notifications, shall be open only to the Inspection of His Majesty's Principal

Regulations as to Persons with whom Lunatics are privately confined.

Secretary of State for the Home Department, and of the Lord High Chancellor, or Lord Keeper or Commissioners of the Great Seal intrusted as aforesaid, and of such other Persons as shall be authorized to inspect the same, by an Order under their respective Hands and Seals.

Secretary of State may erase Name of Lunatic from Register.

XLI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty's said Principal Secretary of State, in all Cases in which any Patient shall die or have been discharged as cured, to direct, if he shall see fit, that the Name of such Patient shall be wholly erased from the said Register.

Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State may order Visitation of Patients in care of Relatives, &c.;

XLII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Lord High Chancellor, or Lord Keeper or Commissioners of the Great Seal intrusted as aforesaid, or His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, if they shall see fit, at any Time or Times, by any Order by either of them directed to the said Commissioners or to any other Person whom they shall think fit to appoint, to require the said Commissioners, or other Person so appointed, to visit and examine any Person confined as an Insane Person, who shall be confined in the Care of any Relative or Friend, or in the exclusive Care and Maintenance of any other Person, and to make a Report to the Lord Chancellor, Lord Keeper or Commissioners of the Great Seal intrusted as aforesaid, or to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, of such Matters as in such Order they shall be directed to inquire into: Provided always, that the said Secretary of State shall have no Authority under this Act to order a Visitation or Examination of any Patient under a Committee appointed by the Lord High Chancellor, the Lord Keeper or Commissioners of the Great Seal intrusted as aforesaid.

but not Patients under an appointed Committee.

Convictions to be drawn up in the following Form.

XLIII. And, for the more easy and speedy Conviction of Offenders against this Act, be it further enacted, That all Justices of the Peace, before whom any Person shall be convicted of any Offence against this Act, shall and may cause the Conviction to be drawn up in the following Form of Words, or in any other Form of Words to the same Effect, as the Case shall happen; *videlicet*,

'BE it remembered, That on the Day of
'in the Year of our Lord *A. B.* is convicted
'before us, Two of His Majesty's Justices of the
'Peace for the County of [*specifying the Offence,*
'*and the Time and Place when and where the same was committed, as*
'*the Case shall be.*] Given under our Hands and Seals the Day and
'Year aforesaid.'

Clerk of the Commissioners to enforce Act, and recover Penalties.

XLIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Clerk of the Commissioners, or Clerk of the Peace of the County where any House for the Reception of Insane Persons is situate, and he is hereby required, to enforce the due Execution of this Act, and to sue for and recover all Penalties or Forfeitures granted by this Act.

Proceedings of Proprietors to be justified

XLV. And whereas it is not intended by this Act to give the Proprietors or Keepers of any House to be so licensed as aforesaid, or

any other Person concerned in confining any of His Majesty's Subjects therein, any new Justification, from their being able to prove that the Persons so confined have been sent there by such Direction and Advice as are required by this Act; be it therefore declared and enacted, That in all Proceedings which shall be had under His Majesty's Writ of Habeas Corpus, and in all Indictments, Informations, and other Actions that shall be preferred and brought against any Person or Persons for confining or ill-treating any of His Majesty's Subjects in any of the said Houses, the Parties complained of shall be obliged to justify their Proceedings according to the Course of the Common Law, in the same Manner as if this Act had not been made. in course of Common Law.

XLVI. And be it further enacted, That all Complaints and Informations of and for Offences against this Act, or any Order to be made in pursuance thereof, except in Cases where the Manner of hearing and determining thereof is herein-before otherwise directed, shall and may be made before One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the County or Place wherein the Offence shall be committed, and such Justice or Justices is and are hereby authorized and empowered to take cognizance thereof, and to summon the Person or Persons complained of to appear before him or them, or upon Complaint upon Oath to issue his or their Warrant or Warrants for the Apprehension of any such Person or Persons, and upon appearing or not appearing of such Person or Persons pursuant to such Summons, or upon such Person or Persons being apprehended with such Warrant, to hear the Matter of every such Complaint and Information, by Examination of any Witness or Witnesses upon Oath, and to make such Determination thereon as such Justice or Justices shall think proper; and upon Conviction of any Person, such Justice or Justices shall and may issue a Warrant under his or their Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals, for levying the Fine, Penalty, or Forfeiture by virtue of this Act imposed for such Offence, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Persons so convicted; and it shall and may be lawful for any such Justice or Justices to order any Person so convicted to be detained and kept in the Custody of any Constable or other Peace Officer until Return can be conveniently made to such Warrant of Distress, unless the said Offender shall give sufficient Security, to the Satisfaction of such Justice or Justices, for his Appearance before the said Justice or Justices on such Day as shall be appointed for the Return of such Warrant of Distress, such Day not being more than Seven Days from the Time of taking any such Security, and which Security the said Justice or Justices is and are hereby empowered to take by way of Recognizance or otherwise; but if upon the Return of such Warrant of Distress it shall appear that no sufficient Distress can be had thereupon to levy the said Penalty or Forfeiture, and such Costs and Charges as aforesaid, and the same shall not be forthwith paid, or in case it shall appear to the Satisfaction of such Justice, either by the Confession of the Offender or Offenders, or otherwise, that the Offender or Offenders hath or have not sufficient Goods and Chattels whereon such Penalties, Forfeitures, Fines, Costs, and Charges may be levied were a Warrant of Distress issued, such Justice shall not be required to issue such Warrant of Distress; and thereupon it shall be lawful for such Justice Recovery and Application of Penalties.

or

or Justices, and he or they is a d are hereby authorized and required, by Warrant under his or their Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals, to commit such Offender to the Common Gaol or House of Correction for any Term not exceeding Three Calendar Months, unless such Penalty or Forfeiture, and all reasonable Charges attending the Recovery thereof, shall be sooner paid and satisfied; and all such Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures, when recovered, shall, where the Application is not otherwise directed by this Act, be paid into the Hands of the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish where the Offence shall be committed, and the Overplus (if any) arising from such Distress and Sale, after Payment of the Penalty and the Costs and Charges attending the same, shall be returned, upon Demand, to the Owner of the Goods and Chattels so distrained.

Appeal to Quarter Sessions.

XLVII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That any Person or Persons thinking himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by any Order or Judgment made or given, or by the Order or Determination of any Justice or Justices of the Peace in pursuance of this Act, may, within Four Calendar Months after such Order shall be made or given, complain to the Justices of the Peace at the General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held in and for the County wherein the Offence shall be committed, the Person or Persons appealing having first given at least Fourteen Days clear Notice in Writing of such Appeal, and the Nature and Matter thereof, to the Person or Persons appealed against, and forthwith after such Notice entering into a Recognizance before some Justice of the said County, with Two sufficient Securities conditioned to try such Appeal and to abide the Order and Award of the said Court thereupon; and the said Justices, upon due Proof of such Notice and Recognizance having been given and entered into, shall in a summary Way hear and determine such Complaint at such General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held for the said County, or, if they think proper, adjourn the Hearing thereof until the next General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held for the said County, and if they see Cause may mitigate any Forfeitures or Fines, and may order any Money to be returned which shall have been levied in pursuance of such Order or Determination, and shall and may also award such further Satisfaction to be made to the Party injured, or such Costs to either of the Parties, as they shall judge reasonable and proper; and all such Determinations of the said Justices shall be final, binding, and conclusive upon all Parties, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

Limitation of Actions.

XLVIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Action or Suit shall be commenced or brought against any Person for any thing done in pursuance of this Act, the same shall be commenced within Six Calendar Months next after the Fact committed, and shall be laid or brought in the County, City, or Place where the Cause of Action shall have arisen, and not elsewhere; and the Defendant in every such Action or Suit shall and may at his Election plead specially, or the General Issue Not Guilty, and give this Act and the special Matter in Evidence at any Trial to be had thereupon, and that the same was done in pursuance and by the Authority of this Act; and if the same shall appear to be so done, or that such Action or Suit shall be brought in any other County, City, or Place, or shall not have been commenced

General Issue.

commenced within the Time before limited for bringing the same, that then the Jury shall find a Verdict for the Defendant; and upon a Verdict being so found, or if the Plaintiff shall be nonsuited, or discontinue his, her, or their Action or Suit after the Defendant shall have appeared, or if upon Demurrer Judgment shall be given against the Plaintiff, then the Defendant or Defendants shall recover Treble Costs, and have such Remedy for recovering the same as any Defendant hath or have in any other Cases by Law. Treble Costs.

XLIX. Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any Person whatsoever to commence, prosecute, enter, file, or prefer any Action, Bill, Plaint, Information, or Indictment against any Person under or by virtue of this Act, unless the same be commenced, prosecuted, entered, filed, or preferred by Order of the said Commissioners at their said Quarterly Meeting, or by the Justices at their General Quarter Sessions within their respective Jurisdictions; and if any Action, Bill, Plaint, Information, or Indictment shall be commenced, entered, filed, or preferred by or in the Name of any Person whatsoever, except upon such Order as aforesaid, the same, and all Proceedings thereupon had, shall be null and void, and the Court or Courts, Justice or Justices of the Peace, where or before whom such Action, Bill, Plaint, Information, or Indictment is or shall be, or commenced, prosecuted, entered, filed, or preferred, shall not permit or suffer any Proceeding or Proceedings to be had; and no Commissioner or Justice shall in anywise be liable to any Criminal Proceeding or Civil Action for any Reasons to be given in the Execution of this Act. Actions not to be brought except by Order of Commissioners.

L. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to the Royal Hospital of *Bethlehem*, or to any Building erected adjacent thereto for the Confinement of Criminal Lunatics, or to the Royal Military or Naval Hospitals, or to any Lunatic Asylum already erected and established under an Act passed in the Forty-eighth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for the better Care and Maintenance of Lunatics, being Paupers or Criminals, in* England, or hereafter to be erected and established under the Provisions of an Act passed in the Ninth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act to amend and consolidate the Laws relating to the Erection, Maintenance, and Regulation of County Lunatic Asylums, and to the Care and Maintenance of Lunatics, being Paupers or Criminals, in* England. Act not to extend to Bethlehem Hospital or to Lunatic Asylums established under 48 G. 3. c. 96. or 9 G. 4. c. 40.

LI. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend to any public Hospital or Parts of public Hospitals, or other charitable Institutions, supported wholly or partly by voluntary Contributions, in which Lunatics are received, or to any Lunatic Asylum built and established by voluntary Contributions, and supported by applying the Excess of Payments of the more affluent in reduction of the Payment by Persons in more limited Circumstances, excepting in as far as relates to Certificates of Admission, and Visitations appointed by the Lord Chancellor, or Lord Keeper or Commissioners of the Great Seal, or the Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, or the Lord Chief Justice of the Nothing herein to extend to public Hospitals or Institutions; except as to Certificates of Admission, to Visitations, and to the Trans-

mission of Names of Patients.

the Court of Common Pleas, or His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, and the Transmission to the Clerk of the Commissioners Annual Report, as herein-before directed.

Interpretation of Act.

LII. And, in order to remove Doubts as to the Meaning of certain Words in this Act, be it enacted, That the Word "County" shall be deemed to include any County, Riding, Division of the County of *Lincoln*, Liberty, County of a City, County of a Town, City, Cinque Port, or Town Corporate; that the Word "Parish" shall be deemed to include any Township, Hamlet, Vill, Tithing, extra-parochial Place or Place maintaining its own Poor; that the Words "County Rate" shall be deemed to include any Funds assessed upon or raised in or belonging to any County, Riding, Division of the County of *Lincoln*, Liberty, County of a City, County of a Town, Cinque Port, or Town Corporate, in the Nature of County Rates, and applicable to the Purposes to which County Rates are applicable; that the Word "Visitor" shall be deemed to include all Justices, Physicians, Surgeons, or Apothecaries, appointed at a General or Adjourned Quarter Sessions to visit Houses of Reception for Two or more Insane Persons; that the Words "Insane Persons" shall be deemed to include any Lunatic or dangerous Idiot; that the Words "Parish Patient" shall be deemed to include any Person sent to and maintained at any House licensed for the Reception of Insane Persons wholly or in part at the Expence of any Parish; that the Words "Clerk of the Peace" shall be deemed to include any Person acting as such, or any Deputy duly appointed; that the Word "Apothecary" shall be deemed to include any Person authorized to practise as such under the Act passed in the Fifty-fifth Year of King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for the better regulating the Practice of Apothecaries throughout* England *and* Wales, or under an Act passed in the Sixth Year of *George* the Fourth, intituled An Act to amend and explain the said Act of the Fifty-fifth Year of His late Majesty; and the Words "Treasurer of the County" shall be deemed to include any Officer who has the Custody of any Funds assessed upon or raised in or belonging to any County, Riding, Division of the County of *Lincoln*, Liberty, County of a City, County of a Town, Cinque Port, or Town Corporate, in the Nature of County Rates, and applicable to the Purposes to which County Rates are applicable; and that the Word "Person" shall be deemed to include any Number of Persons; and that the Meaning of the aforesaid Words shall not be restricted, although the same may be subsequently referred to in the singular Number and masculine Gender only.

55 G. 3. c. 194.

6 G. 4. c. 133.

Public Act.

LIII. And be it enacted, That the Powers and Authorities granted by this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a Public Act, and shall be judicially taken notice of as such by all Judges, Justices, and others, without being specially pleaded.

Commencement and Continuance of Act.

LIV. And be it further enacted, That this Act, and the several Matters and Things therein contained, shall commence and take effect from and after the First Day of *August* and not sooner, and shall continue in force for the Term of Three Years, and from thence to the End of the next Session of Parliament.

SCHEDULE (A.) referred to in this Act.

FORM OF ANNUAL REPORT.

No. in order of Admission.	Date of Admission of Patient, and by whose Authority sent.	Date of Certificate of Insanity, and by whom signed.	Christian and Surname, Sex and Age of Patient, and whether Single or Married.	Occupation or Profession.	Parish.	Whether found Lunatic by Inquisition, and Date.	Signature of the Medical Attendant, and Date of Visitation and Observations.	When discharged.	Cured, relieved, or incurable.	Deaths.	Signature of Commissioners or Visitors, and Date of Visitation.	General Observations by Visitors on Condition of Patients and State of the Establishment.
1.												
2.												
3.												
&c.												

SCHEDULE (B.)

WEEKLY REGISTER to be kept in each House for the Inspection of Commissioners or Visitors.

Number of curable Men.	Number of incurable Men.	Number of curable Women.	Number of incurable Women.	Number of Men under Restraint.	Number of Women under Restraint.	General Remarks.

In Cases of Restraint, the Necessity to be certified by the Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary.

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