ANNO UNDECIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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C A P. XXII.

An Act for granting Relief to the Island of *Tobago*, and for aiding the Colonies of *British Guiana* and *Trinidad* in raising Money for the Promotion of Immigration of free Labourers.

[9th *June* 1848.]

WHEREAS in consideration of the heavy Losses both of public and private Property which have been caused by a Hurricane in the Island of *Tobago* it is expedient that immediate Relief should be granted to the Inhabitants of that Island: And whereas by an Ordinance enacted by the Governor of *British Guiana*, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Court of Policy of the said Colony, intituled *An Ordinance to authorize the raising a Loan of the Sum of Five hundred thousand Pounds for Immigration Purposes*, Commissioners, to be appointed by Her Majesty in *England* under the said Ordinance for that Purpose, are empowered to borrow and raise Money in *Great Britain* upon the Security of the public Revenues of *British Guiana*, by issuing Bonds in the Manner therein provided for, to the Extent of the said Sum of Five hundred thousand Pounds; and the Money to be raised under such Ordinance is to be applied under the said Ordinance for the Encouragement of the Immigration of Labourers into the said Colony of *British Guiana*,

and Purposes connected therewith: And whereas by an Ordinance enacted by the Governor of the Island of *Trinidad*, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Council of Government, intituled *An Ordinance for the raising of Money for the Purposes of Immigration*, such Agents as Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies should from Time to Time appoint are empowered to borrow and raise Money in *Great Britain*, by issuing Bonds to the Extent of the Sum of Two hundred and fifty thousand Pounds, in the Manner therein provided for; and all Sums of Money to become due and payable by the said Colony by virtue of the said Ordinance are thereby declared to be charged upon the general Revenues of the Colony; and the Monies raised under such Ordinance are thereby made applicable to the Payment of the Expenses of introducing Labourers into the said Colony of *Trinidad*, and to the Repayment of Monies which have been applied in Payment of the like Expenses: And whereas it is expedient that Aid should be afforded to the said Colonies of *British Guiana* and *Trinidad* in raising the Monies authorized to be borrowed under the said Ordinances: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen'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 it shall be lawful for the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, or any Three or more of them, to direct any Sum or Sums, not exceeding Five thousand Pounds in the whole, to be issued and paid out of the growing Produce of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, for the immediate Relief of the Inhabitants of the said Island of *Tobago* who have suffered Losses in consequence of the late Hurricane there; and such Sum or Sums, not exceeding Five thousand Pounds in the whole, shall and may be paid to such Person or Persons, at such Time or Times, and in such Proportions, and under such Conditions and Restrictions, as the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall think fit to direct.

Power to Treasury to authorize the Advance of 5,000*l.* for the immediate Relief of Inhabitants of the Island of Tobago.

II. And be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to cause Exchequer Bills to be made out at the Receipt of the Exchequer for any Sum or Sums of Money not exceeding in the whole Two hundred and twenty thousand Pounds, in like Manner as is prescribed in and by an Act passed in the Forty-eighth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for regulating the issuing and paying off of Exchequer Bills*, and in and by another Act passed in the Fourth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty, intituled *An Act to regulate the Office of the Receipt of His Majesty's Exchequer at* Westminster, and in and by another Act passed in the Fifth and Sixth Years of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act for further regulating the Preparation and Issue of Exchequer Bills*.

Treasury may cause Exchequer Bills to the Amount of 220,000*l.* to be made out as prescribed by 48 G. 3. c. 1., 4 & 5 W. 4. c. 15., and 5 & 6 Vict. c. 66.

III. And be it enacted, That all the Clauses of the said Acts shall be applied to the Exchequer Bills to be made out in pursuance of this Act, as fully as if the said several Clauses had been herein particularly re-enacted.

Recited Acts as to Exchequer Bills to apply to this Act.

IV. And

Exchequer Bills to bear Interest not exceeding $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ per Centum per Diem.

IV. And be it enacted, That the Exchequer Bills to be made out in pursuance of this Act shall bear Interest not exceeding the Rate of Three-pence Halfpenny *per Centum per Diem* in respect of the whole of the Monies respectively contained therein, and shall be made payable at such Times as shall be fixed by the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury; nevertheless so that all such Bills shall be made payable within Three Years from the Date thereof.

Exchequer Bills issued under this Act to be taken and shall pass in Payment of Taxes, &c.

V. And be it enacted, That all the Exchequer Bills to be issued by virtue of this Act, or so many of them as shall from Time to Time remain undischarged and uncancelled after the respective Days on which they shall become payable, shall be taken and shall pass and be current to all the Receivers and Collectors in *Great Britain* and *Ireland* of the Customs, Excise, or any Revenue, Supply, Aid, or Tax whatsoever, which shall be payable to Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, and also at the Banks of *England* or *Ireland*, to the Account of Her Majesty's Exchequer, from the said Receivers or Collectors, or from any other Person or Persons, Bodies Politic or Corporate whatsoever, making any Payment there to Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, upon any Account whatever.

Treasury may order Payment of Exchequer Bills out of Consolidated Fund.

VI. And be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to order and direct the Payment out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* of all Exchequer Bills issued under the Authority of this Act.

Treasury may advance 50,000*l.* for Relief of Tobago, and 170,000*l.* to encourage Immigration of free Labourers into Guiana and Trinidad.

VII. And be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, out of the Exchequer Bills authorized to be issued under this Act, to lend in the Manner herein-after provided Exchequer Bills for any Sum or Sums not exceeding in the whole Fifty thousand Pounds, for the Relief of the Island of *Tobago*, and for any Sum or Sums not exceeding in the whole One hundred and seventy thousand Pounds, in aid of the Provision made by the Legislatures of *British Guiana* and *Trinidad* for promoting and encouraging the Immigration of free Labourers.

Treasury may advance 50,000*l.* for Relief of Tobago to Persons authorized by Act of Legislature to receive the same;

VIII. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to advance and lend the said Sum of Fifty thousand Pounds so apportioned as above mentioned for the Relief of the Island of *Tobago*, or any Part or Parts thereof, to such Person or Persons as shall be duly authorized by any Act or Acts passed or to be passed by the Legislature of the said Island to borrow the same, on the Credit of the Revenues or the public Property thereof, so soon as the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall be satisfied that Repayment of the several Sums so to be advanced, with Interest thereon at the yearly Rate of Four Pounds by the Hundred, is duly secured by some Act or Acts passed or to be passed by the said Legislature of the said Island.

and 170,000*l.* for British Guiana and

IX. And be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to advance and lend

Trinidad to Persons authorized to receive the same.

lend the aforesaid Sum of One hundred and seventy thousand Pounds, being the Residue of the Exchequer Bills authorized to be issued under this Act, to the said Commissioners for borrowing and raising Monies on the Security of the Revenues of *British Guiana*, and to the said Agents for borrowing or raising Money on the Security of the Revenues of *Trinidad*, or either to such Commissioners or to such Agents, in such Proportion or Proportions, and Sum or Sums, as the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall see fit.

Exchequer Bills to be advanced upon Security, and to be repaid, with Interest, as the Treasury may require.

X. And be it enacted, That the said Sum or Sums so to be advanced and lent in Exchequer Bills to the said Commissioners or Agents shall be advanced or lent upon the Security of such Bonds as the said Commissioners or Agents are respectively authorized and empowered to issue as aforesaid; and such Bonds shall be made or assigned to such Persons, in trust for Her Majesty, as the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall approve; and the Monies lent upon such Securities shall be made repayable, together with Interest thereon at and after the yearly Rate of Four Pounds by the Hundred, in such Manner as the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury may under the Terms of the said respective Ordinances require.

Treasury to deliver Certificates of Amount advanced to the Persons authorized to receive the same.

XI. And be it enacted, That the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall deliver to the Person or Persons to whom any of the said Exchequer Bills shall be advanced as aforesaid a Certificate or Certificates under their Hands, or the Hands of any Three or more of them, specifying the Amount of the Sums to be advanced, which Certificate or Certificates shall be respectively numbered and marked in the Course and Order in which the same shall be delivered, and, being deposited with the proper Officer or Officers, shall be a sufficient Authority, without other Warrant, to such Officer or Officers, to deliver such Exchequer Bills to the like Amount and Value as shall be therein described.

Treasury may advance Money from Consolidated Fund instead of in Exchequer Bills.

XII. And be it enacted, That if it shall appear to the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to be expedient that all or any Part or Parts of the said several Advances or Loans for the Relief of the Island of *Tobago*, or for the Promotion of Immigration to *British Guiana* and *Trinidad*, or any or either of them, should be made by the Issue of Money from the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, instead of in Exchequer Bills as aforesaid, in such Case it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, or any Three or more of them, by Warrant or Warrants under their Hands, to direct any Sum or Sums, not exceeding Two hundred and twenty thousand Pounds in the whole, to be issued out of the growing Produce of the said Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, for the Purpose of making all or any Part or Parts of the several aforesaid Advances, not exceeding the Amount of Fifty thousand Pounds on the Security of the Revenue of the Island of *Tobago*, and not exceeding the Amount of One hundred and seventy thousand Pounds towards the Loans to be raised for the Promotion of Immi-

gration to *British Guiana* and *Trinidad*, or either of them; and such Sum or Sums shall and may be paid to such Person or Persons, at such Time or Times, and in such Proportions as the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall see fit to direct; and the said Advances so to be made from the said Consolidated Fund shall be issued and paid to the same Person or Persons, and upon the same Security, and subject to the like Conditions and Restrictions, as respects Rate of Interest, and Period and Terms of Repayment, or otherwise, as if the same had been made in Exchequer Bills as aforesaid, and shall be in all respects in lieu of and substituted for the Principal Sums which would have been included in the said Exchequer Bills.

Bank of England to open and keep an Account with the Treasury for the Purposes of this Act.

XIII. And be it enacted, That the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England* shall open and keep an Account in their Books with the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, under the Title of the "*Tobago* Relief and *British Guiana* and *Trinidad* Immigration Loan Fund Account," and shall carry to the Credit of such Account the several Monies by this Act directed to be paid by the Cashiers of the said Bank; and whenever the said Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall have lent any of the Exchequer Bills or Monies out of the Consolidated Fund authorized to be advanced in pursuance of this Act to any Person or Persons, the said Commissioners shall, at some Time before the Time appointed for the Repayment of the Sums contained in the said Bills or so lent, deliver to such Person or Persons, at his or their Request, One or more Certificate or Certificates under the Hands of any Three or more of them, specifying the Amount of the Exchequer Bills or Monies advanced to such Person or Persons, and the Amount of the Money to be received on account thereof; and the said Cashiers of the Bank, or One of them, shall upon the Production of such Certificate or Certificates receive from the Person or Persons producing the same the Amount of the Money therein mentioned to be receivable, and at the Foot of such Certificate or Certificates shall acknowledge the Receipt of the said Money, without Fee or Reward; and every Receipt so given as aforesaid shall be afterwards brought to the Office of Her Majesty's Exchequer, and shall be there entered in proper Books, to be provided and kept for that Purpose by the Comptroller of the Exchequer; and the said Comptroller shall attest the same under his Hand, and return the same to the Person or Persons producing the same at the said Office; and every such Receipt so attested, and every such Entry in any of the said Books, shall thenceforth be a valid and effectual Acquittance and Discharge for the Sum or Sums expressed therein to have been received.

Repayments under this Act into the Bank to form Part of Consolidated Fund.

XIV. And be it enacted, That all Sums of Money which shall be paid into the Bank of *England* under this Act shall be transferred to the Account kept at the Bank of *England* with Her Majesty's Exchequer as "Repayments of *Tobago* Relief and *British Guiana* and *Trinidad* Immigration Loan Advances," to be carried to and form Part of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* on the Books of the Comptroller General of Her Majesty's Exchequer.

XV. And

Accounts to be laid before Parliament.

XV. And be it enacted, That the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall cause to be prepared, and shall lay before both Houses of Parliament within Fourteen Days next after the Fifth Day of *January* in every Year, if Parliament shall be then sitting, and if not then within Fourteen Days next after the Beginning of the next Session of Parliament, an Account of all Sums advanced to the said Islands of *Tobago* or *Trinidad*, or to the Colony of *British Guiana*, under this Act, and also an Account of all Sums repaid by reason of such Advances, with the Interest paid thereon, made up for the Year ended the Fifth Day of *January*.

Act may be amended, &c.

XVI. And be it enacted, That this Act may be amended or repealed by any Act to be passed in this Session of Parliament.

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