

ANNO TERTIO

GULIELMI IV. REGIS.

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to increase the Funds of the said Society: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That His Royal Highness *Augustus Frederick* Duke of *Sussex*, the Right Honourable *Robert* Lord Viscount *Melville*, the Right Reverend *George Henry Law* Doctor in Divinity, Lord Bishop of *Bath* and *Wells*, his Grace *John* Duke of *Bedford*, the Most Noble *George* Marquis of *Cholmondeley*, the Right Honourable *George John* Earl *Spencer* Knight of the Garter, the Right Honourable *Henry* Earl *Bathurst* Knight of the Garter, the Right Honourable *George* Earl of *Aberdeen*, the Right Honourable *Philip* Earl of *Hardwicke* Knight of the Garter, the Right Honourable *Richard* Earl *Howe*, the Right Honourable *Edward* Lord *Ellenborough*, the Right Honourable *George* Lord *Calthorpe*, the Right Honourable *James* Lord *Gambier*, the Right Honourable *James* Lord *De Saumarez*, *Alexander Baring* Esquire, *John William Buckle* Esquire, Sir *John William Lubbock* Baronet, *William Manning*, *William Taylor Money*, *Thomas Wilson*, *William Williams*, *William Wilberforce*, and *John Woolmore*, Esquires, *William Bowles* Esquire, a Captain in the Royal Navy, *Richard Alsager*, *David Gale Arnot*, *John Strettell Brickwood*, *William Borradaile*, *John Brown*, *William Stanley Clarke*, *John Cotton*, *Thomas Edgar*, and *Charles Francis*, Esquires, the Honourable *William Fraser*, *Alexander Sinclair Gordon*, *Robert Grant*, and *Robert Alexander Gray*, Esquires, Sir *Francis Molyneux Ommanney*, *Abel Peyton Phelps*, *Alexander Raphael*, *Philip Ripley*, *James Shuter*, *Thomas Snodgrass*, *James Soper*, *Henry Sturrock*, and *John Wild*, Esquires, *William Young* Esquire, a Captain in the Royal Navy, *John Labouchere*, *Simon Cock*, and *John Deacon*, Esquires, shall and they are hereby declared to be Governors, and that they and all and every Person and Persons who at the Time of passing this Act shall be reputed Governors for Life of the Society commonly called or known by the Name of "The Seamen's Hospital Society," and such others as at the Time of passing this Act shall be reputed Annual Governors of the said Seamen's Hospital Society, for so long and during such Time as they shall continue to pay an annual Sum of One Pound and One Shilling, or upwards, towards the charitable Purposes thereof, and likewise all such others as shall at any Time or Times hereafter pay any such annual Sum towards the Purposes aforesaid for so long and during such Time as they shall continue to pay the same, and also all such others as shall pay for the Purposes aforesaid the Sum of Ten Pounds and Ten Shillings, or upwards, in one entire Payment or in different Payments, to be made within the Space of any Twelve Calendar Months, and also all such others as shall be elected in manner herein-after mentioned, shall be and they are hereby declared and adjudged to be One Body Corporate and Politic, in Deed, Name, and in Law, by the Name of "The Seamen's Hospital Society," and that by the same Name they shall have perpetual Succession, and shall and may have and use a Common Seal for the Business and Affairs of the said Society, with Power to change, alter, break, and make new the same when and as often as they shall judge the same to be expedient; and that they and their Successors by the same Name may sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended, in all or any

Society incorporated.

Name of the Society.

To have perpetual Succession, and Common Seal, &c.

May sue and be sued.

Court or Courts of Record and Places of Judicature, and before any Judges, Justices, or Officers, within this Kingdom, in all and singular Actions, Pleas, Suits, Plaints, Matters, and Demands, of what Kind or Quality soever they shall be, and may act and do in all Matters and Things relating to themselves and their Corporate Property, Real and Personal, in as ample Manner and Form and as fully and effectually as any Subjects of the Realm lawfully may or can; and that they and their Successors, by the Name aforesaid, shall be able and capable in Law to have, hold, receive, enjoy, possess, and retain, for the Ends and Purposes of this Act, all such Ships, Goods, Chattels, and Effects, Sum and Sums of Money, as have been given, devised, or bequeathed, or have been by them purchased or accumulated, or which shall at any Time or Times hereafter be paid, given, devised, or be bequeathed by any charitable or well-disposed Person or Persons, or which shall be purchased or accumulated by the said Society, of what Nature or Value soever, to and for the charitable Ends and Purposes of the said Society; and that they and their Successors, by the Name aforesaid, shall and may for ever hereafter be Persons able and capable in the Law, and may have Power, notwithstanding the Statutes of Mortmain, to purchase, have, take, hold, receive, and enjoy, to them and their Successors, Manors, Messuages, Lands, Rents, Tenements, Annuities, and Hereditaments, of what Nature or Kind soever, in Fee and in Perpetuity, or for Terms of Lives or Years, not exceeding the yearly Value of Twelve thousand Pounds in all Issues beyond Reprises, for the better carrying on the charitable Ends and Designs of the said Society, and to enable them to build an Hospital on Shore, with proper Offices, and for the Investment of the Capital and Funds for the Time being of the said Society, and also to sell, grant, demise, exchange, and dispose of any of the same Manors, Messuages, Lands, Rents, Tenements, and Hereditaments whereof or wherein they shall have any Estate or Interest as aforesaid.

Enabled to possess Property and receive Bequests.

Power to purchase Lands to the Value of 12,000*l.* per Annum.

II. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any Person or Persons, Bodies Politic or Corporate, their Heirs and Successors, respectively to give, grant, sell, alien, assign, devise, bequeath, or dispose of, in Mortmain, in Perpetuity, or otherwise, to or to the Use and Benefit of or in Trust for the said Society and their Successors, any Manors, Messuages, Lands, Tenements, Rents, Annuities, and Hereditaments whatsoever, not exceeding the yearly Value of Twelve thousand Pounds above all Charges and Reprises, and any Sum or Sums of Money to any Amount, and any Ships, Goods, or Chattels of whatever Value, for the charitable Purposes of the said Society; all which Gifts, Grants, Conveyances, Assignments, Bequests, and Dispositions the said Society are hereby authorized and enabled to receive, accept, and hold.

Any Persons may sell, give, devise, or bequeath Property to the Society.

III. And be it further enacted, That, for the better Execution of the charitable Designs of the said Society, the Preservation and Disposal of their Property, and the more regular Government of the said Corporation, the said Corporation and their Successors shall for ever have One President, Two or more Vice-Presidents, and One Treasurer; but no Gift, Conveyance, or Bequest to the said Society shall be rendered void or invalid by reason of the Vacancy of any of the said Offices at the Time of giving, making, or perfecting the same.

Society to have One President, Two or more Vice-Presidents, and One Treasurer.

IV. And

President.

Vice-Presidents.

Treasurer.

Committeemen.

Auditors.

The said President, Vice-Presidents, &c. to continue their Duties till others chosen.

Fifteen or more Governors to compose a General Court.

A General Court to be held quarterly.

Annual General Courts for Choice of Presidents, Vice-Presidents, &c.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the said Lord Viscount *Melville* shall be and he is hereby appointed President of the said Corporation; and that the said Doctor *George Henry Law* Lord Bishop of *Bath* and *Wells*, the said Duke of *Bedford*, the said Marquis of *Cholmondeley*, the said Earls *Spencer*, *Bathurst*, *Aberdeen*, *Hardwicke*, and *Howe*, the said Lords *Ellenborough*, *Calthorpe*, *Gambier*, and *De Saumarez*, and the said *Alexander Baring*, *John William Buckle*, Sir *John William Lubbock*, *William Manning*, *William Taylor Money*, *Thomas Wilson*, *William Williams*, *William Wilberforce*, and *John Woolmore*, shall be and they are hereby appointed Vice-Presidents; and that the said *John Labouchere* shall be and he is hereby appointed Treasurer of the said Corporation; and that the said *William Bowles*, *Richard Alsager*, *David Gale Arnott*, *John Strettell Brickwood*, *William Borradaile*, *John Brown*, *William Stanley Clarke*, *John Cotton*, *Thomas Edgar*, *Charles Francis*, the Honourable *William Fraser*, *Alexander Sinclair Gordon*, *Robert Grant*, *Robert Alexander Gray*, Sir *Francis Molyneux Ommanney*, *Abel Peyton Phelps*, *Alexander Raphael*, *Philip Ripley*, *James Shuter*, *Thomas Snodgrass*, *James Soper*, *Henry Sturrock*, *John Wild*, *William Young*, *Simon Cock*, and *John Deacon* shall be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for transacting and managing the Affairs of the said Corporation; and *James Whitley Deans Dundas*, a Captain in the Royal Navy, *Charles Larkin Francis*, *John Locke*, and *George Francis Travers*, Esquires, shall be and they are hereby appointed Auditors of the Accounts of the said Corporation; and that the said President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Committee, and Auditors shall continue to perform the Duties of their respective Offices until other fit Persons be duly chosen in their respective Rooms in manner herein-after mentioned; and that the President for the Time being, or in his Absence One or more of the Vice-Presidents, or the Treasurer for the Time being, with any Fourteen or more of the other Members of the said Corporation, or in the Absence of the President and of all the Vice-Presidents and Treasurer, any Fifteen or more of the other Members of the said Corporation, shall compose a General Court; and the first General Court shall be held on the Second *Friday* in *July* now next ensuing, either at the Office of the said Society, Number Nineteen, *Bishopsgate Street* in the City of *London*, or at such other Place in the City of *London* as any Three or more of the Committee present at any Weekly Meeting of the Committee shall, by Fourteen Days Notice at least, to be given in any Two or more Daily *London* Newspapers, appoint; and such General Court shall then and from Time to Time be adjourned to such Times and Places as the Court shall think necessary for the due Execution of this Act, of which Time and Place (in case the Adjournment shall be otherwise than *sine Die*) Notice shall be given of at least Fourteen Days in Two or more of the *London* Daily Papers; and a General Court of the Members of the said Corporation shall be held Four Times at the least in every Year, (that is to say,) on the Second *Friday* in *January*, on the Second *Friday* in *April*, on the Second *Friday* in *July*, and on the Second *Friday* in *October*, of which Notice shall be in like Manner given; and an Annual General Court shall be held on the First *Wednesday* in *February* which will come and be in the Year One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, and on every succeeding First *Wednesday* in every *February* in every Year for ever, unless such annual Day shall be changed by any Bye

Law to be made in pursuance of the Powers after contained, and a like Notice of Fourteen Days as aforesaid, both of the Time and Place of holding every such Quarterly and Annual Court, shall be given; and at every such Annual General Court the President, Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, Four Auditors, and a Committee (such Committee to consist of such Number of the Members of the said Corporation as such General Court shall think necessary) shall be elected for the ensuing Year; and the Members of the said Corporation assembled at any such General Court as aforesaid, or at any Special General Court to be held as after mentioned, or the major Part of them so assembled (but the Members so assembled not to consist of less then Fifteen), shall have full Power and Authority, in the Name of the said Corporation and on their Account, to apply and dispose of the Monies, Goods, and Effects already given and accumulated, and which shall from Time to Time be contributed or given by any Person or Persons on the Account of the said Charity, and of all other Monies and Effects belonging or to belong to the said hereby-erected Corporation, to and for the Purposes aforesaid, and to, for, or in any other Purpose, Way, Matter, or Thing relating to the said Charity and for the Benefit thereof, at their Discretion, and at such like Discretion to purchase or agree to purchase, or take upon Lease, or to sell or agree to sell, or let, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, and to direct the Investment of Money, or the Sale of Securities, or the Change and varying of Securities, and the general Disposition and Management of the Property of the said Corporation, and with and under their Common Seal to enter into any Covenants and Contracts for the Purposes aforesaid, or for any other Purpose or Purposes for the better effecting and carrying on of the charitable Uses and Designs aforesaid, and to do, manage, and transact and determine all such other Matters and Things as shall to them appear necessary and convenient for the effecting or carrying on the Purposes aforesaid, and shall and may delegate such Powers and Authorities to the Committee for the Time being, and place at their Disposal such Sum and Sums of Money as they shall think necessary for the more easy, speedy, and effectual Execution of this Act and the charitable Designs of the said Society.

Powers given to Courts.

V. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Members of the said Corporation, in General Quarterly, Adjourned General, or Special General Court assembled only, or the major Part of them so assembled, but the Members so assembled not to consist of less than Fifteen, to order and dispose of the Custody of their Common Seal, and the Use and Application thereof, and to make, ordain, and constitute such and so many Bye Laws, Constitutions, and Ordinances for the Government of the Affairs, Officers, and Servants of the said Corporation, and of the Patients for the Time being under their Care, and for the Transaction of the Business of the said Society, as to the Members present at any such General Court (not less than Fifteen in Number), or to the greatest Part of them, shall seem necessary and convenient, and the same Bye Laws, Constitutions, and Ordinances so made to put in use and enforce accordingly, and at their Will and Pleasure to revoke, change, and alter the same or any of them; which said Bye Laws, Constitutions, and Ordinances so as aforesaid made shall be duly kept and observed, provided the same be reasonable, and not contrary or repugnant to

Power to order and dispose of the Use of the Common Seal; to make Bye Laws; and to revoke and change them.

the Statutes, Customs, or Laws of this Kingdom, or any of the express Regulations of this Act: Provided nevertheless, that no such Bye Law, Rule, Order, or Ordinance shall be binding or have any Force or Effect until the same shall have been agreed to and confirmed by another General Court, whether Annual, Quarterly, Adjourned, or Special General; and that the same Method shall be observed in altering or repealing any such Bye Law, Rules, Orders, or Ordinances.

No Bye Laws to be binding unless confirmed by a succeeding General Court.

VI And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for any Ten Members or more of the Committee of the said Corporation from Time to Time, by Notice to be given Fourteen Days or more previously in any Two or more Daily *London* Papers, to convene a Special General Court of the said Corporation for the Purpose of buying any Property, Real or Personal, or the selling or disposing of any Property, Real or Personal, of or belonging to the said Corporation, or of making or altering any Bye Laws of the said Society, or of confirming or altering the Proceedings of the then last preceding General Court, or for the Transaction of any of the Affairs and Business of the said Corporation, as Occasion may require; and all such Special General Courts shall be in like Manner holden and have the same full Powers and Authorities in every respect as an Annual General Court.

Provision for calling Special General Courts.

VII. And be it further enacted, That in every General, Adjourned, Quarterly, or Special General Court of the said Members, the President for the Time being, or in case of his Absence the Vice-President first named in the List of Vice-Presidents for the Time being then present, or, in case of the Absence of such President and of all the Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer for the Time being, or if he shall also happen to be absent, then such one of the Members or Governors as the major Part of them then present shall choose or appoint for that Purpose, shall take the Chair and preside.

Who shall preside at General and other Courts.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That in all Elections of Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Treasurers, Auditors, and Committee-men of the said Corporation, all Lords and Members of Parliament of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, or either of them, and all Women of what Rank or Degree soever, being Governors or Members of the said Corporation, shall be permitted to vote or ballot by their respective Proxies (being also Governors or Members of the said Corporation) whom they shall from Time to Time think fit to nominate and appoint for those respective Purposes by Writing under their respective Hands; and that every such Vote or Ballot by Proxy shall in every such Election, but in no other Case whatsoever, be deemed and allowed to have the same Force and Effect as the Vote or Ballot of any Governor or Member present at such Election.

Certain Members may vote by Proxy at Elections.

IX. And be it further enacted, That the Rotation in which the Committee shall go out of Office, and their Re-eligibility to Office, may be regulated by a Bye Law of the said Society.

As to Committee quitting Office.

X. And be it further enacted, That the said Committee, or any Three or more of them, shall continue to meet weekly, at such

Committee to meet as

Days, Times, and Places as they have heretofore been accustomed to meet, and to make Order for the usual and ordinary Disbursements, Management, and Exigencies of the said Charity as they have hitherto been accustomed to do, until otherwise regulated by some Rule, Order, or Bye Law to be made in pursuance of this Act; and the Treasurer of the said Society (until otherwise regulated by any Rule, Order, or Bye Law to be made as aforesaid,) shall continue to receive and pay Monies for the Purposes of the said Charity, and to meet the ordinary Disbursements thereof, under the Directions of the Committee or Majority of Committee present at any Meeting of Committee.

heretofore, till otherwise ordered.

XI. And be it further enacted, That the General Committee, or any Seven or more of them, shall have Power and they are hereby authorized and enabled from Time to Time to appoint Sub-Committees, each Sub-Committee to consist of Three or more Members of the General Committee, and to invest such Sub-Committees with such delegated Powers and limited by such Instruction as to the General Committee shall seem meet, for the Transaction of and Inquiry into any of the Affairs and Business of the said Corporation which it shall from Time to Time be the Duty of the General Committee to transact or superintend.

General Committee may appoint Sub-Committees.

XII. And be it further enacted, That the President, Vice-Presidents, and Treasurer for the Time being shall be Members of Committee by virtue of their Offices.

Members of Committee ex officio.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That the General Committee, or any Meeting of Committee at which not less than Ten Committee-men shall be present, shall from Time to Time and at all Times as Occasion shall require have Power and they are hereby directed from Time to Time to appoint all such Chaplains, Physicians, Surgeons, Apothecaries, Solicitors, Secretaries, and Collectors, or other superior Officers, as shall be necessary for the Transaction of any of the Affairs and Business of the said Corporation, for so long, and upon such Conditions, and with such Salary, Emoluments, and Perquisites, to be paid and allowed out of the Funds and Effects of the said Society, as to the Committee for the Time being shall seem meet, provided that at least Seven of the Committee-men then present concur in every such Appointment; and all which Salaries and Emoluments the Treasurer of the said Society is hereby required from Time to Time to pay and allow out of the Funds and Effects of the said Society; but all or any of which Officers may be from Time to Time removed, either by the same Means by which they or he shall respectively have been appointed, or by any Annual Court, or by any Quarterly, Adjourned, or Special General Court; and the Appointment and Removal at Pleasure of all or so many other Servants and inferior Officers of the Corporation as the Committee for the Time being may think necessary to employ, with such Salary and Wages as shall be thought right, may be made by the General Committee at any Weekly Meeting of Committee at which Three or more Members shall be present and vote therein; all which Salary and Wages the Treasurer for the Time being shall pay and make good out of the Funds and Effects of the said Society.

Committee to appoint Officers.

Removal of Officers.

XIV. And

No Officer of the Corporation to vote whilst he continues in Office.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That no Chaplain, Physician, Surgeon, Apothecary, Solicitor, Secretary (except an Honorary Secretary), or Collector, or other Officer or Servant of the Corporation, whether superior or inferior, shall be entitled to vote either in Committee, or at any Annual, Quarterly, Adjourned, or Special General Court, so long as he shall continue in Office.

Treasurer, with the Consent of the Committee, to invest in the Public Funds or other Securities any Money given for the Purposes in this Act mentioned, except so much as the Exigencies of the Corporation shall require.

XV. And be it further enacted, That (until otherwise directed by some Rule, Order, or Bye Law to be made as aforesaid) it shall and may be lawful to and for the Treasurer for the Time being of the said hereby-erected Corporation, and he is hereby authorized and required, from Time to Time, by and with the Consent and Approbation of the Committee thereof for the Time being, or the major Part of such Committee present at any usual Meeting of Committee, (but the Number of Committee-men by whom such Consent and Approbation shall be given not to consist of less than Ten,) such Consent and Approbation to be testified in Writing under their Hands, to lay out and invest all or any such Sum or Sums of Money as hath or have been given, devised, or bequeathed, or shall at any Time or Times hereafter be paid, given, devised, or bequeathed, by any charitable or well-disposed Person or Persons to and for the charitable Ends, Intents, and Purposes of the said Society, or any Monies accumulated or hereafter to be received or accumulated by the said Society, or any Part of such Monies, (other than and except such and so much thereof as the Exigencies of the said Corporation shall call for the immediate Application or Expenditure of,) in any of the Parliamentary Stocks or Public Funds of *Great Britain*, or at Interest on Government or Real Securities in *England* or *Wales*, in his own Name, or in the Names of any Three or more Committee-men, as shall be by the Committee directed, and from Time to Time, with such Consent and Approbation as aforesaid, to make sale of, and to alter, transfer, vary, and transpose such Stocks, Funds, and Securities for or into other Stocks, Funds, and Securities of a like Nature, or otherwise, as Need or Occasion shall be or require.

Monies arising thereby, and the Dividends, &c., to be applied for the Purposes of this Act.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That the Monies arising from or by any Sale or Sales, or so much thereof as shall not be again laid out and invested, with such Consent and Approbation as aforesaid, in some other of the Stocks, Funds, and Securities before mentioned; and also all the Dividends, Interests, and annual Proceeds which shall from Time to Time arise from such Funds, shall from Time to Time be applied to and for the said charitable Uses, Ends, Intents, and Purposes.

Touching the Election of Members.

XVII. And to the Intent that there never may be wanting a competent Number of Members of the said hereby-erected Corporation, and for perpetuating the Succession thereof, be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Members of the said Corporation at any General Court (either Annual, Quarterly, Adjourned, or Special General, or the major Part of them that shall be then present, but the Number then present not to consist of less than Fifteen,) to elect and choose some other fit and able Person or Persons to be a Member or Members of the said hereby-erected Corporation, either as Honorary Members, or in the Room or Place of such Members as may have died off or have ceased to be Subscribers to or Members of the said Corporation.

XVIII. And

Questions to be decided by Vote. President to have casting Vote. Ballot.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That all Questions upon the Proceedings of the said Corporation at any General Court or Committee shall be decided by Vote, and in case of an Equality of Votes the President or Chairman of the Meeting shall have the casting Vote, but otherwise he is not to vote; and upon Demand of any Five Members of the said Corporation present at such General Court or Committee respectively, the same shall be determined by Ballot, to be immediately proceeded upon and completed.

General Court empowered to fill up Vacancies in Committee, and to appoint such Officers, &c. as the Committee shall have neglected to appoint, and to remove or suspend any Officer.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That the Members of the said Corporation, at a General Court, or the major Part of them present at such General Court (but such Members present not to consist of less than Fifteen), shall have Power from Time to Time and at all Times to fill up any Vacancy or Vacancies in the Committee, and, in case the Committee shall have neglected or omitted so to do, to appoint such superior Officers and Persons as the Members constituting a General Court shall think necessary to employ for the Purposes and in the Execution of this Act, and from Time to Time to suspend or remove any Officer or Servant of or employed by the said Corporation, and to refer it back to the Committee to appoint another instead; and in case of any Appointment of a superior Officer taking place at a General Court, such General Court may, out of the Monies to be received for the Purposes of this Act, make reasonable Allowances to every such Officer so appointed as last aforesaid for his Services; but it shall and may be lawful to and for the General Committee (provided that any Seven or more of them concur therein) at any Weekly or other Meeting, for good and sufficient Cause, to suspend or remove any Officer or Person who shall have been appointed by a General Court.

Committee may suspend or remove Officers upon sufficient Cause.

Officers, if required, to swear to Accounts before any Two of the Committee.

XX. And be it further enacted, That all and every Officer or Servant of the said Corporation shall from Time to Time, when thereunto required by any Seven or more of the General Committee, make and render to the General Committee a true, exact, and perfect Account in Writing under his or her Hand or their respective Hands, upon Oath, to be taken before Two or more of the said Committee (which Oath any Two or more of the said Committee are hereby empowered to administer), of all Monies, Stores, and Effects which he, she, or they and every of them respectively shall to that Time have received, paid, disbursed, or been entrusted with by virtue of this Act or by reason of their respective Offices; and in case any Money or Effects, the Property of the said Society, shall remain in their or any of their Hands, the same shall be paid or handed over to the General Committee or to any Seven or more of them, or to such Person or Persons as any Seven or more of the General Committee shall appoint to receive the same; and in case any such Officer or other Person shall not make and render, or shall refuse to verify upon Oath, any such Account, or to make such Payment or Delivery as aforesaid, then any One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for either of the Counties of *Middlesex*, *Kent*, *Surrey*, or *Essex*, or for the City of *London*, shall and may, upon Complaint to him or them, make Inquiry of and concerning such Default in a summary Way, as well by Confession of the Parties themselves as by the Testimony of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses upon Oath (which Oath the said Justice or Justices is and are hereby empowered and required to administer); and if any such Officer or Person shall be convicted of

any such Offence, such Justice or Justices shall upon such Conviction commit the Party offending to some one of the Prisons of the City of *London*, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until he or she shall have made a true and perfect Account and Payment as aforesaid, or until he or she shall have compounded and agreed with the General Committee (but the Number of Committee-men assenting to such Composition not to be less than Seven in Number), and have paid such Composition Money, which Composition the said General Committee, or any Seven or more of them, are hereby empowered to make.

Treasurer to account with Auditors.

XXI. Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted and declared, That the Treasurer for the Time being of the said Corporation shall not be obliged to account with the General Committee or any of them as Committee-men, but shall at all events once a Year, and at such other Time or Times as he shall be thereunto required by the Auditors herein-before named, or to be nominated as herein-before and herein-after mentioned, or the major Part of such Auditors, give in his Accounts for the Purpose of the same being examined and allowed or disallowed, and shall pay over all the Monies remaining in his Hands, and transfer all the Funds and Securities standing in his Name as Treasurer aforesaid, to the Treasurer to be from Time to Time appointed to succeed him, on Demand.

Duties of Auditors.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the Duty of the Auditors for the Time being to audit, examine into, and settle the Accounts of the Treasurer and Committees at least once in every Year, and to do so in Time sufficient for the same being printed and laid before the Annual General Court.

Accounts, when audited and confirmed, not to be questioned.

XXIII. And it is hereby enacted and declared, That all Accounts which shall be audited and allowed by the Auditors for the Time being, or the major Part of them, and which shall be confirmed at the ensuing Annual General Court, shall be considered as finally settled, and the same shall never again be opened or questioned.

Auditors of the Year preceding may be re-elected;

their Number to be always kept up to Four.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be competent to the General Court either to re-elect the Auditors of the Year preceding, or such of them as to the General Court shall seem meet, or to elect others; and whenever by Death, Desire to be discharged, Refusal, declining, or becoming incapable to act of any Auditor, the Number shall become reduced to fewer than Four, the Number shall be filled up as speedily as may be, and a General or Special General Court be called, if needful, for the Purpose.

Offences triable in the City of London.

XXV. And whereas considerable Inconvenience has at Times been occasioned to the said Charity by the Medical and other Officers of the said Charity being obliged, in case of Felony or Misdemeanor committed on board their Hospital Ship, to go to *Maidstone* for the Prosecution of the Offenders; for Remedy whereof be it enacted, That all Felonies and Misdemeanors which shall be at any Time or Times committed on board any Hospital Ship in the Occupation of or belonging or to belong to the said Corporation, and which shall at any Time be moored in any Part of the River *Thames* above *Gravesend*, or in respect of any Property attached to the same, shall (whether the Ship shall be, at the Time of the Offence committed, afloat or aground) be triable in the City of *London*, and not elsewhere, and may, in the Indictment, Information, Warrant, and all

other Proceedings respecting the same, be alleged to have been committed in the City of *London*, except in case of summary Conviction, which may take place either on board the Ship or on either Shore, and the Offender for the Time being shall be committed to one of the Prisons in the City of *London*, but which Commitment may in any Case take place by any of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace either of the City of *London*, or of either of the Counties of *Middlesex*, *Kent*, *Surrey*, or *Essex*, or in case of Riot, Assault, Battery, or Breach of the Peace on board any such Hospital Ship, then by a Committee-man or Committee-men of the said Corporation; in all which Cases any of such Justices of the Peace are hereby empowered to act out of their respective Counties or Jurisdictions in as full and ample Manner as according to the Laws and Statutes of this Realm they are empowered in other Cases to act within their respective Counties or Jurisdictions, and shall have all the Privileges, Immunities, and Indemnities they would have if acting in their own respective Counties or Jurisdictions.

Committee-men may act as Justices of the Peace in case of Breach of the Peace.

XXVI. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That in all Cases of Riot, Assault, Battery, or Breach of the Peace occurring in any Hospital Ship belonging or to belong to the said Corporation, or in any Hospital belonging or to belong to the said Corporation on Shore, any One or more of the Committee-men for the Time being of the said Corporation, who shall have previously been thereunto appointed by Writing (which shall be free from all Stamp Duty) under the Hands of the Lord Mayor and Recorder for the Time being of the City of *London*, and which Appointment the said Lord Mayor and Recorder are hereby from Time to Time authorized to give and make, and when made shall be in force for One Year, shall have full Power and Authority to swear in Constables (who when sworn in shall have all the Powers of Constables), and to arrest, imprison, convict, and sentence, and in all other respects to act as a Justice or Justices of the Peace, and to execute and perform all the Powers and Duties of a Justice of the Peace, and be entitled to all the Privileges, Immunities, and Indemnities to which a Justice of the Peace in the Execution of his Duty is entitled, in the same full and ample Manner as any Justice or Justices of the Peace might or could do; and it shall not be requisite for any such Committee-man so acting to be qualified as a Justice of the Peace in respect of Property.

Warrants for the Apprehension and Commitment of Offenders, how to be directed, and by whom to be executed.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That all Warrants for the Apprehension or Commitment of any Offender to be issued by virtue of this Act (except in case of Offences committed in any Hospital of the said Society on Shore) shall be directed in manner following, (that is to say,) "To all Constables whatsoever, and to the Keeper of His Majesty's Gaol of *Newgate* in the City of *London*;" and that every Warrant so directed shall be in full Force in any County or Jurisdiction in the United Kingdom, for the Apprehension and bringing of the Offender before a Justice or other Person properly authorized, and for the conveying to and Detention in Prison of the Offender, and may be executed in any County or Place by a Constable of any other County or Place, notwithstanding such Constable may be acting out of his ordinary District; and the Gaoler of His Majesty's Gaol of *Newgate* in the City of *London* shall be bound, on the Tender of every such Warrant with the Offender, to receive and detain the Offender until delivered by due Course of Law; provided

vided that it shall be lawful for any Two or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace of the City of *London*, before Trial, by Warrant under their Hands, to remove or commit the Offender or Offenders to any other Prison in the City of *London*.

Notice to be given before commencing an Action for any thing to be done in pursuance of this Act.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That no Action shall be brought nor Suit be commenced against any Person or Persons for any thing to be done in pursuance of this Act, or in relation to the Premises or any of them, unless the Party aggrieved shall have given to the Party by whom he shall consider himself aggrieved Notice in Writing of the Cause of his or her Complaint, and of his or her Intention to commence an Action or Suit, One Calendar Month at least before commencing any such Action or Suit, in precisely the same Manner in which by Law aggrieved Parties are now bound to give Notice to Justices of the Peace of an Intention to commence an Action or Suit; and the Party to whom such Notice may be given shall, either before or after Notice given, and before Action brought or Suit commenced, be at liberty to tender Amends in such and the same Manner as a Justice of the Peace is now by Law enabled to do, and which Tender shall be in like Manner effectual and available.

Limitation of Actions.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Action shall be brought or Suit be commenced against any Person or Persons for any thing done in pursuance of this Act, or in relation to the Premises or any of them, every such Action or Suit shall be laid or brought, within Two Calendar Months next after the Grievance committed, in the County or Place where the Fact was done, and not elsewhere; and the Defendant or Defendants in such Action may plead the General Issue, and give this Act, and a Tender of Amends before Action brought, or the special Matter, in Evidence at any Trial to be had thereupon, and that the Act or Matter was done in pursuance and by the Authority of this Act; and if the same shall appear to have been so done, or if any such Action or Suit shall not be brought within the Time before limited, or shall be brought in any other County or Place than as aforesaid, or the Jury shall not consider the aggrieved Party entitled to more than the Amends tendered, then the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants; or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall become Nonsuit, or suffer a Discontinuance of his, her, or their Action or Actions, or if a Verdict shall pass against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, or if upon Demurrer Judgment shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant shall have Double Costs, and shall have such Remedy for recovering the same as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have for Costs in other Cases of Law.

General Issue.

Double Costs.

Public Act.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That 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 specially pleading the same; and a Copy thereof printed by the King's Printer shall be received as Evidence in all Courts of Law and Equity.

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