



ANNO. PRIMO.

# GEORGIIV. REGIS.

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## Cap. vi.

An Act for altering and enlarging the Powers of Two Acts of His late Majesty, for the better Relief and Employment of the Poor in the Hundred of *Blything*, in the County of *Suffolk*.  
[22d June 1820.]

**W**HEREAS by an Act made and passed in the Fourth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for the better Relief and Employment of the Poor in the Hundred of Blything, in the County of Suffolk*; and by another Act made and passed in the Thirty-third Year of His said late Majesty, intituled *An Act for amending an Act made in the Fourth Year of His present Majesty's Reign, intituled 'An Act for the better Relief and Employment of the Poor in the Hundred of Blything, in the County of Suffolk,' and for granting some further Powers and Provisions for carrying the same more effectually into Execution*, divers Provisions and Regulations for the Management of the said Poor were enacted, which have been found very beneficial and would be attended with still greater Utility if the same were further extended and enlarged, and the Defects in the said Acts amended: 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

4 G. 3. c. 56.  
33G.3.c.126.

[Local.]

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present

The Poor to be under the Government of the Guardians.

present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this Act all poor Persons who now or at any Time hereafter shall belong to any Parish or Place within the said Hundred, and who now are or shall hereafter become chargeable to the same, shall continue and henceforth shall be under the Government and Management of the Guardians incorporated by the said first recited Act, under the Title of 'the Guardians of the Poor within the Hundred of *Blything* in the County of *Suffolk*.'

Limitation of Term in binding Poor Children Apprentices.

II. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where any poor Child who shall be maintained in the House which has been built in pursuance of the said first recited Act for the Reception of the Poor of the said Hundred shall be bound out Apprentice under the Authority of the said recited Acts or either of them, or of this Act, such Child shall not be bound Apprentice as aforesaid for a less Term than Five Years, except where he or she shall be above the Age of Thirteen Years at the Time of such binding; and that no such Child being a Male shall in any case be bound or continue Apprentice after the Age of Eighteen Years, or being a Female after that Age, or Day of Marriage; any thing in the said recited Acts or either of them contained to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Power to borrow Money, not exceeding £5000.

III. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Directors and acting Guardians appointed or to be appointed under the Authority of the said recited Acts or either of them or of this Act, or any Nine or more of them, whereof Five at the least shall be Directors, and they are hereby authorized and empowered at any Annual or Quarterly Meeting to be held in pursuance of the said Acts or this Act or any of them, to borrow and take up at Interest from Time to Time such Sum or Sums of Money as they shall think necessary, and to apply the Money so borrowed and taken up for or towards the Expences of repairing, altering, enlarging, or rebuilding either wholly or in part the House of Industry or any Buildings thereto belonging, erected under the Authority of the said recited Acts or either of them, or of making any additional Building thereto, or in the Purchase of Land for the Use of the Guardians of the Poor within the said Hundred, and their Successors, with or without Buildings thereon, and to give and grant Securities for the same in the like Form and Manner and with the like Powers and Authorities, Rights of Assignment, Provisions, and Conditions, and subject to the same Restrictions in all respects as are contained or expressed in the said recited Acts or either of them in respect of any Sum or Sums of Money which the said Directors and acting Guardians may have heretofore borrowed or have been authorized to borrow under the Authority of the same Acts or either of them: Provided always, that the whole principal Sum which shall at any one Time be due and owing upon the Securities to be made under the Authority of the said recited Acts or either of them or of this Act, shall never exceed the Sum of Five thousand Pounds; and provided further, that the Price of the Land which may be so purchased as aforesaid do not exceed Thirty Years Purchase of the true annual Value thereof; and that the Quantity of such Land, together with the Land now or at the Time belonging to the said Guardians, do not exceed in the whole the Quantity mentioned in the said first recited Act, and which the Directors of the Poor are thereby empowered to purchase.

IV. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act no Governor, Steward, Matron or Matrons, of the Poor House or House of Industry belonging to the said Hundred of *Blything*, shall at any Time be paid or receive, or be entitled to be paid or to receive, any Proportion of the Profits, or any Sum or Sums of Money or Gratuity whatsoever, for or in respect of the Profits arising to the Corporation from the Work which shall be done by the poor People resident in the said House; any thing in the said first mentioned Act contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

Allowance to the Governor or Matron, out of Earnings of Paupers discontinued.

V. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act the Accounts of the said Directors and acting Guardians for each Quarter of the Year, which by the said first mentioned Act are directed to be settled at their Four General Quarterly Meetings, and from Time to Time to be laid before the Justices of the Peace at the Quarter Sessions to be held at *Beccles* in and for the County of *Suffolk*, next after each Quarterly Meeting, to be by the said Justices examined, audited, and finally passed, shall and may be so examined, audited, and finally allowed, passed and signed by any Two Justices of the Peace for the said County, which Allowance shall be as effectual, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, as if the same had been allowed by the Justices at such Quarter Sessions in the Manner prescribed by the said Act.

Accounts may be allowed by Two Justices.

VI. And whereas Inequalities have been found to exist between the Rates of the several Parishes of the said Hundred as originally assessed upon them by the said Act of the Fourth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty, and their present respective Expenditures, which Inequalities it is expedient to remedy; be it therefore enacted, That the said Directors and acting Guardians shall and they are hereby required at their *Midsummer* Quarterly Meeting of the Year One thousand eight hundred and twenty, or at a Special Meeting to be holden for the Purpose within One Month next after the passing of this Act, (Notice of such Meeting being given as required by the said last recited Act for any Special Meeting), to assess as from the *Midsummer* of the Year One thousand eight hundred and twenty, upon every Parish, Hamlet and Place within the said Hundred, such Sum or Sums of Money as shall or may be necessary to be raised for the Clothing, Maintenance and Relief of the Poor of such several Parishes, Hamlets, and Places respectively, whether resident in the said House of Industry or not, and the necessary Expences of the Establishment and Support of the said House of Industry, and for paying off any Money that may be hereafter borrowed by virtue of the said recited Acts or either of them or this Act, and the Interest thereof in the several Proportions and under the several Regulations herein-after mentioned and prescribed; that is to say, that at the said *Midsummer* Quarterly Meeting of the said Year One thousand eight hundred and twenty, or at such Special Meeting so to be holden as aforesaid as the Case may be, an Account shall be taken from the Books of the Corporation of the whole Expence which shall have been incurred by each of the said incorporated Parishes for Three Years ending at *Lady-day* One thousand eight hundred and twenty, both in respect of the Poor belonging to such Parish and maintained in the said House of Industry and of the Establishment itself, and of the necessary Relief of the Poor belonging to such Parish and not resident in the said House during that Period, and the

Assessments.

Time and Manner of taking the Average.

Amount

Amount shall be divided by Three, and the Product resulting therefrom shall be taken and considered to be the Expence which each Parish has annually incurred to the Corporation during the said Period of Three Years; and shall be the Sum, Rate, or Assessment, to be as from the *Midsummer* of the said Year One thousand eight hundred and twenty, annually levied and raised by Quarterly Payments on each Parish for and towards the Clothing, Maintenance, and Relief of the Poor of the said Parishes respectively, whether resident in the said House of Industry or not, and the necessary Expences of the Establishment and Support of the House of Industry, and all other necessary Expences of the said Corporation, including the Payment of any Money that may have been borrowed under and by virtue of the said recited Acts or either of them or this Act, together with the Interest thereof, until another Average shall be taken as herein-after mentioned; which Assessments respectively the said Directors and acting Guardians, or the major Part of them present at any Quarterly Meeting, are hereby authorized and empowered to increase or diminish as Occasion may require, but only in the Proportions fixed at the aforesaid *Midsummer* or Special Meeting as the Case may be.

Power to increase or diminish Assessments.

Fresh Averages when to be taken.

VII. Provided nevertheless, and be it further enacted, That in case at any subsequent *Midsummer* Quarterly Meeting to be holden by the said Directors and acting Guardians under the Authority of the said Acts or this Act it shall be found, upon an Examination of the Books of the Corporation, that a Variance of One-tenth Part between the Amount of the respective Expenditure or Disbursements of, for, or in respect of any of the said incorporated Parishes for the Year ending the *Lady-day* preceding, and their respective Assessments for the same Period, shall have arisen, and the Number of those Parishes wherein such Variance shall arise, (whether caused by the whole or any of them exceeding or falling short of their respective Assessments), shall amount to Ten or more in the whole, then and so often as the same shall occur it shall be lawful for the said Directors and acting Guardians, or the major Part of them present at such *Midsummer* Quarterly Meeting, and they are hereby required forthwith to take a fresh Account of the whole Expence incurred by each of the said incorporated Parishes, to the Corporation, for the Three Years ending at the *Lady-day* Quarter then next preceding, and the Amount thereof being divided by the Number of Years Three, the result shall be deemed, considered, and taken as the Annual Expence of each Parish during that Period, and shall be the Rate or Assessment to be at and from the said *Midsummer* Quarterly Meeting, annually levied and raised upon such Parish respectively by Quarterly Payments, for the several Purposes herein-before particularly set forth, until such Variance or Inequality as before-mentioned shall be again found to exist, when Averages shall be again taken in like Manner, and so on from Time to Time as and when the like Causes shall arise, to render fresh Averages necessary; subject, however, at all Times, to such and the like Power as herein-before given to the said Directors and acting Guardians, to increase or diminish such Assessments for the Time being of the said respective Parishes; but nevertheless only in the Proportions which shall have been fixed at the *Midsummer* Quarterly Meeting at which any such fresh Averages shall have been last taken as aforesaid.

VIII. Pro-

VIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any of the said incorporated Parishes, Hamlets, or Places, shall think themselves aggrieved by any such Assessment to be hereafter made, then it shall be lawful for the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of every such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, and they are hereby required, upon the Request in Writing of the Majority in Value of the Occupiers of Estates within such Parish, Hamlet, or Place (such Value to be ascertained from the Assessment to the Poor Rate in such Parish, Hamlet, or Place), to deliver at the Poor House or House of Industry at *Bulcamp* at least Twenty-eight Days before the General Quarterly Meeting of the said Directors and acting Guardians, which shall be held next after such Assessment shall be made, a Statement in Writing under the Hands of the said Churchwardens and Overseers or some or one of them, setting forth the Objection or Objections to such Assessment, and thereupon the Directors and acting Guardians assembled at such General Quarterly Meeting as is last mentioned, may and shall and are hereby required to examine into the Grounds of the Objections so made, and to amend or confirm the Assessment objected to as they shall think proper; and in case such Assessment shall be amended, the same shall be signed or allowed before any Warrant be thereafter issued to levy Money under the same, in such or the like Manner as is by the said Act of the Thirty-third Year of His said late Majesty's Reign directed touching the Assessments thereby required to be made: Provided also, that if any such Parish, Hamlet, or Place shall think itself aggrieved by any such amended or confirmed Assessment, then it shall be lawful for the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of every such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, and they are hereby required upon Request in Writing of the Majority in Value of the Occupiers of Estates, within such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, (such Value to be ascertained as aforesaid), to appeal to the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden at *Beccles* in and for the County of *Suffolk*, within Four Months next after such Assessment shall have been so amended or confirmed, which Court shall in their Discretion amend or confirm such Assessment and give such Relief as the Case may require, in such and the same Manner and by such or the like Proceedings, Ways, and Means as are allowed in other Cases by the Laws now in being respecting parochial Assessments for the Relief of the Poor; and the Determination of the said Court shall be altogether binding, final, and conclusive, upon the several Parties interested therein, without any further or other Appeal; and in case on the Hearing of such Appeal, the same shall be allowed and Judgment given in favour of the Appellants, then it shall be lawful for the said Court, and they are hereby required to award to such Appellants their reasonable Costs, which shall be borne and paid by and out of the General Funds of the Corporation; but in case the Assessment appealed against shall be confirmed by the said Court, or the said Appellants shall fail in their said Appeal, then it shall be lawful for the said Court, and they are hereby required to award to the Respondents in such Appeal their reasonable Costs which shall be borne and paid by the said Appellants: Provided always, and it is hereby declared, that the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of every such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, so intending to appeal, shall Twenty-eight Days at least before such General Quarter Sessions of the Peace deliver at the House of Industry at *Bulcamp* a Notice in Writing of such Appeal; and upon the Hearing of any such Appeal, the said Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace shall

Power given to Parishes to object to Assessments.

Notice of Objections.

Directors, &c. on Objections made, to amend or confirm Assessments.

Appeal given to the Sessions against amended or confirmed Assessments.

Determination of Sessions final.

Costs.

Notice of Appeal.

Assessment  
to be raised  
in the mean-  
time, sub-  
ject, &c.

shall not examine or enquire into any Cause of Appeal which was not specified in the Statement of Objections upon which the said Directors and acting Guardians shall have proceeded as aforesaid in amending or confirming the Assessment so appealed against: Provided nevertheless, that the Money which shall be assessed by the Directors and acting Guardians upon any Parish, Hamlet, or Place, which shall think itself aggrieved by any such Assessment, and shall object or appeal thereto as aforesaid, shall be levied and recovered by the Churchwardens and Overseers of such Parish, Hamlet, or Place, in the same Manner and by such and the same Ways and Means, and such Churchwardens and Overseers shall be liable to the same Penalties for Neglect thereof, as if there had not been any Objection or Appeal made to the same; and in case the Assessment so objected to or appealed against shall be found to be erroneous, and the Amount thereof be reduced, then the Surplus Money (if any), which shall have been levied under the same, shall be deemed to be a Payment on Account of the next Rate, and accordingly retained thereout by the Parish, Hamlet, or Place aggrieved by such Assessment.

Out-relief.

IX. And whereas the Directors and acting Guardians chosen and acting under the said incorporating Acts have from Time to Time since the passing of the said first recited Act been accustomed to grant in their Discretion, and for limited Periods, pecuniary or other Relief to poor Persons belonging to the said Hundred, but not resident in the said Poor-house, and standing in need of temporary Relief, in preference to receiving such poor Persons into the said House and maintaining them therein, be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Directors and acting Guardians, at any of their General Quarterly or Weekly Meetings, to continue to grant and allow to any poor Person applying for or standing in need of Relief on account of Sickness or otherwise, such pecuniary or other Assistance in the Nature of Out-relief as the Necessity of the Case shall appear to require.

Previous  
Meetings.

X. And whereas ever since the passing of the said first-mentioned Act, a Meeting called the Previous Meeting has been customarily held at the said Poor-house in the Week next preceding each Quarterly Meeting at which the Directors and acting Guardians of the then current Quarter ought to attend to examine the Accounts and order the Payment of Bills due from the Corporation; and it is important that such Meeting should at all Times be regularly and fully attended; be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Twelve Directors and acting Guardians acting respectively for each Quarter shall, and they are hereby required to attend, at the Meeting called the Previous Meeting, in their respective Quarters, in order to examine the Accounts and order Payments of all Bills and Demands due from the Corporation, and to transact the other Business of such Meeting; and in case there shall not be present at any such Meeting Five Directors and acting Guardians together, whereof Three at least shall be Directors, every Director who ought to have attended and shall be absent, shall, for every such Absence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Shillings; and every acting Guardian who ought to have attended, and shall be absent, shall for every such Absence forfeit and pay the Sum of Ten Shillings, to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Director and acting Guardian, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any One Justice of the Peace for the said County of  
*Suffolk,*

*Suffolk*, and such Forfeiture shall be paid to the Treasurer of the said Guardians, and added by him to the Common Stock for the Use of the Poor.

XI. And be it further enacted, That all and every the Provisions contained in this Act shall, in the Execution of the said recited Acts, be used, applied, and continued as if the same Provisions were specifically enacted in the said recited Acts; and all the Powers, Provisions, Penalties, Exemptions (save and except Exemptions from Stamp Duties), Matters and Things contained in or prescribed by the said recited Acts, and not varied, altered, or repealed, shall be of full Force and Effect, and extend to this Act, and to the several Assessments, Matters and Things herein contained or mentioned, or hereby authorized to be laid and imposed; and that the said recited Acts and the several Powers, Provisions, Penalties, Exemptions, Matters and Things therein respectively contained (except as aforesaid, and except such as are varied, altered, or repealed), shall be and continue in full Force, and shall be applied and extended to and incorporated, construed, and executed with this Act, as fully and effectually to all Intents and Purposes as if the same were severally and respectively herein repeated and re-enacted.

Provisions of former Acts extended to this Act.

XII. And be it further enacted, That all the Charges and Expences incident to and attending the obtaining and passing of this Act shall be paid by the Treasurer out of the Funds of the said Corporation, and shall be deemed Part of their General Expences.

Expences of the Act to be paid.

XIII. 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 being specially pleaded.

Public Act.

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