



ANNO NONO & DECIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

CAP. I.

An ACT to raise by Loan a Sum of Money for the Rebuilding and Improvement of the Town of St. John's.

[Passed 23rd June, 1816.]

WHEREAS the Town of St. John's, the Capital of this Island, hath been recently visited by a devastating Conflagration which has destroyed the chief portion thereof; and the extensive ravages of the said Fire, and the consequent destruction of property, were mainly attributable to the inflammable materials of which the buildings were in a great measure composed, and to the narrowness and irregularity of the Streets: And Whereas in the re-construction of the said Town it is highly expedient and necessary, as well for the security of property, and the reduction of the expense of Insurance, as for the health and convenience of the inhabitants, that the Streets thereof should be laid out upon an improved plan, both as to width and regularity, and should be intersected at suitable distances by open Cross-streets or Firebreaks; and further, that the buildings to be erected in the said Town should be constructed in accordance with such regulations for that purpose as shall be made and declared by the Legislature: And Whereas, in consequence of the late calamity, it will press heavily upon the means of private individuals owning property in the said Town, who may be required to re-construct their Dwelling Houses and Stores of stone or brick, and it would greatly facilitate the rebuilding of the said Town,—develope the resources, and promote the prosperity of the Colony, if Loans towards rebuilding on a new and improved plan of the Town were made to private individuals on the security of Mortgages on the property so to be built upon: And Whereas for the purpose of aiding parties by such Loans as aforesaid, as also for the compensation of persons whose ground may be taken for the widening and altering of the Streets, and for other public purposes, as it is necessary that a Loan or Loans of Money, not exceeding in all the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds, should be raised, chargeable upon and to be repaid with Interest out of the Public Funds of this Colony, and it is desirable that such Loan or Loans should be raised by and through the intervention and guarantee of Her Majesty's Government: And Whereas in further security for the repayment of the Principal and Interest to grow due upon

Preamble.