

A Berkshire Enclosure by Mutual Consent, 1794.

The following is a copy of a Deed between the Rt. Hon. Henry Addington and the major part of the Owners, proprietors and Occupiers of Lands in the Manor of Bullmarsh to enable the said Henry Addington to inclose part of Bullmarsh Heath.

WHEREAS by an Act of Parliament made and passèd in the 29th year of the Reign of his late Majesty King George the 2d. intituled " An Act for inclosing by mutual consent of the Lords and Tenants part of any Common for the purpose of planting and preserving Trees for Timber and Underwood and for the more effectually preventing the destruction of Trees " It is enacted that it shall and may be lawful to and for his Majesty his heirs and successors and all other owners of Wastes Woods and Pastures in that part of Great Britain called England wherein any person or persons body or bodies politic or corporate hath or have right of Common of Pasture by and with the assent of the major part in number and value of the owners and occupiers of Tenements to which the said right of Common of Pasture doth belong to enclose and keep in severalty for the growth and preservation of Timber or Underwood any part of such Wastes Woods and Pastures for such time and in such manner and upon such conditions as should be agreed by them respectively and that in case any recompence should be agreed to be given for such enclosure to and for the benefit of the owners and occupiers of tenements to which the right of Common in such Wastes Woods and Pastures did belong the annual produce of such Recompence should be paid to the Overseers of the poor of the parish and be by them applied towards the Relief of the poor of the parish where such Wastes Woods or Pastures should lie and be accounted for in such manner as the rates for the Relief of the poor are by law directed to be accounted for AND WHEREAS by another Act of Parliament made and passed in the 31st year of the Reign of his said late Majesty King George the 2d. intituled " An Act to

amend and render more effectual an Act passed in the 29th year of his said late Majesty King George the 2d. intituled an Act for inclosing by the mutual consent of the Lords and Tenants parts of any Common for the purpose of planting and preserving Trees fit for Timber and Underwood and for effectually preventing the unlawful destruction of Trees IT is enacted that from and after the 1st day of August 1758 every recompence to be made by virtue of the said Act should be made to the person or persons interested in the right of Common of Pasture in proportion to their respective interests therein and not be paid to the Overseer or Overseers of the poor as directed by the said first recited Act as by the several recited Acts of Parliament whereunto reference being respectively had may more fully and at large appear. NOW we whose names are hereunto subscribed and set being the major part in number and value of the owners proprietors and occupiers of lands and tenements to which the right of Common of Pasture of and in the Waste or commonable lands lying and being in the Manor of Bullmarsh otherwise Bullmarsh Court in the Liberty of Woodley in the Parish of Sonning in the County of Berks doth belong DO hereby without any recompence or satisfaction whatsoever but of our own free will and pleasure for ourselves and for our several and respective heirs executors and administrators assent consent and agree that the Rt. Honble. Henry Addington one of his Majesty's most Honble. privy Council and Speaker of the Honble. House of Commons of Great Britain Owner of the Waste Woods and Pastures in the Manor of Bullmarsh otherwise Bullmarsh Court aforesaid and his Heirs shall and may enclose and keep in severalty ALL THAT piece or parcel of the Waste or Commonable Land called Bullmarsh Heath situate within the said Manor of Bullmarsh otherwise Bullmarsh Court aforesaid adjoining a certain Coppice there called Southlands Coppice as the same is now staked out containing by admeasurement 2 roods and 24 perches and bounded by the said Coppice on the west side and on all other sides by the said Waste or Common And also all that other piece or parcel of the said Waste or Commonable land called Bullmarsh Heath within the said Manor of Bullmarsh

otherwise Bullmarsh Court lying on the west side of the said Waste adjoining to the Farm Yard of the said Henry Addington as the same is now marked and staked out containing by admeasurement 1 acre 2 roods 7 perches and bounded by the said Waste or Heath on the East Side by the said Farm Yard and Park of the said Henry Addington on the north, northwest and west parts thereof and partly by the said Park and partly by a cottage and Moor late of Rd. Palmer Esq. and now of the said Henry Addington on the south part thereof AND also that the said Henry Addington and his heirs shall and may from henceforth for ever hereafter peaceably and quietly have hold occupy possess and enjoy so much of the said Waste or common Grounds so agreed to be enclosed as aforesaid in severalty for the uses and purposes aforesaid. And all the parties executing these presents do hereby consent and agree and request that this Deed or Instrument be registered and inrolled by the Clerk of the Peace for the said County of Berks pursuant to the directions of the said Acts of Parliament.

IN WITNESS whereof as well the said Henry Addington Owner of the Soil of the said Waste or Common as also the Owners, proprietors and occupiers of Lands in the said Manor of Bullmarsh otherwise Bullmarsh Court have hereunto subscribed and set their hands and seals the 1st day of February in the year of our Lord 1794.

Henry (LS) Addington
 Thomas (LS) Rich
 Henry C. (LS) Englefield
 Richard (LS) Palmer
 Edward (LS) Golding
 James (LS) Simonds

John (LS) Green
 George (LS) Trash
 Thomas (LS) Lott
 Robart (LS) Ford
 Richard (LS) Pearce
 Jon. (LS) Caplin

NOTES.

Henry Addington, statesman and friend of William Pitt, raised to the peerage as Viscount Sidmouth in 1805. Married Maria Anne, daughter of Lord Stowell of Erleigh Court. Died 1844.

Thomas Rich (Sir), sold the manor of Sonning to Richard Palmer in 1795.

Henry C. Englefield (Sir Henry Charles, of Erleigh Whiteknights, in the parish of Sonning) a well-known antiquarian and astronomer and a Roman Catholic.

Richard Palmer, (son of Robert Palmer of Great Russell Street, London, agent to the Duke of Bedford). Richard Palmer purchased the Rectory of Sonning and also Holme Park. He died in 1806.

Edward Golding (the Rt. Hon. Edward Golding, M.P. for Downton, Wilts, Lord of the Treasury during the administration of Addington). He owned the Maiden Erleigh estate. He died in 1818.

James Simonds, of the Liberty of Newland in Hurst (Charlton Hundred) and a member of the Reading firm of brewers and bankers.

John Green, of Sonning, tenant farmer of Holme Park Farm.

Trash, Lott, Ford, Pearce and Caplin, farmers and freeholders with rights of common.

ERNEST W. DORMER.