CHAPTER xcix.

An Act to consolidate the Townships within the County Borough of Birkenhead and to transfer the Township of Rock Ferry from the Wirral Union to the Birkenhead Union to confer further powers on the Corporation of the Borough in relation to Ferries and Tramways and other matters to authorise the Corporation to amend some of the provisions of the Local Acts in force within the Borough and for other purposes. [15th July 1897.] A.D. 1897.

WHEREAS the borough of Birkenhead (in this Act called "the borough") is a municipal borough under and subject to the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 and the mayor aldermen and burgesses (in this Act called "the Corporation") acting by the council are the sanitary authority for the district of the borough under the Public Health Act 1875:

And whereas the borough is a county borough under the Local Government Act 1888:

And whereas there are at present five townships (namely) Birkenhead Claughton-cum-Grange Oxton Tranmere and Rock Ferry within the borough and it would be of public and local advantage to consolidate these townships into one township for all purposes other than ecclesiastical and burial purposes:

And whereas all the said townships except Rock Ferry are in the Birkenhead Union and it is desirable at the same time to transfer the township of Rock Ferry from the Wirral Union to the Birkenhead Union:

And whereas the Corporation are the owners of and now work Woodside Ferry between Birkenhead and Liverpool and it is expedient to enable the Corporation with the consent of the owners to take a lease of or to become the tenants of and to work the ferry between Tranmere and Liverpool known as Tranmere Ferry:

And whereas the Corporation are the owners of all the existing lines of tramways in the borough and it is expedient that on the

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expiration or sooner determination of the existing leases thereof such powers as are in this Act contained be conferred on the Corporation to work all or any of the said tramways:

And whereas the Corporation as the library authority for the borough are in occupation under two leases dated respectively the twenty-ninth day of October one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four and the first day of August one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four of certain premises used and known as the North Branch Library and of other premises used and known as the South Branch Library which respective premises are by the said leases respectively demised to the Corporation for the term of twenty-one years from the first day of August one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four and it is expedient to authorise the Corporation to carry into effect the agreements for purchase of the said respective premises contained in the said respective leases thereof:

And whereas the Corporation have at various times under different public and local Acts borrowed the sums mentioned in the Third Schedule to this Act and amounting in the aggregate to one million four hundred and eighty-six thousand seven hundred and eighteen pounds thirteen shillings and tenpence out of the total amount of one million five hundred and forty-four thousand two hundred and seventy-nine pounds nine shillings and fivepence authorised to be borrowed by them and on the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven the several amounts specified in the Third Schedule to this Act were outstanding in respect of the sums borrowed as aforesaid:

And whereas the sums borrowed by the Corporation are repayable within different periods by means of separate sinking funds and it is expedient to provide for their repayment within one equated period by means of one sinking fund:

And whereas it is expedient to empower the Corporation to make loans to the Birkenhead School Board and other local authorities:

And whereas estimates have been made showing that the Corporation will or may require to borrow for purposes of their gas undertaking sums amounting to twenty thousand nine hundred pounds and for the purchase of the premises known as the North Branch Library and of the premises known as the South Branch Library sums amounting to one thousand three hundred and fifty pounds:

And whereas it is expedient to make such amendments of the local Acts in force in the borough and to make such other provisions as this Act contains:

And whereas the objects of this Act cannot be attained without the authority of Parliament:

And whereas an absolute majority of the whole number of the council at a meeting held on the twenty-eighth day of October one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six after ten clear days notice by public advertisement of the meeting and of the purpose thereof in the Birkenhead News and the Birkenhead Advertiser local newspapers published and circulating in the borough (such notice being in addition to the ordinary notices required for summoning that meeting) resolved that the expense in relation to promoting the Bill for this Act should be paid out of the borough fund or borough rate or other the public funds or rates now under the control of or hereafter to accrue to the said council:

And whereas such resolution was published twice in the said newspapers and has received the approval of the Local Government Board:

And whereas the propriety of the promotion of the Bill for this Act was confirmed by an absolute majority of the whole number of members of the council at a further special meeting held on the sixth day of January one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven in pursuance of a similar notice being not less than fourteen days after the deposit of the Bill in Parliament:

And whereas the owners and ratepayers of the borough in manner provided by Schedule III. annexed to the Public Health Act 1875 consented to the promotion of the Bill for this Act:

May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted and be it 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 as follows (that is to say):—

PART I.—PRELIMINARY.

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Birkenhead Corporation Act 1897 and the Birkenhead Corporation Act 1881 and the Birkenhead Improvement Act 1884 and the Birkenhead Corporation Act 1891 (in this Act at times respectively referred to as the Act of 1881 the Act of 1884 and the Act of 1891) and this Act may be cited as the Birkenhead Corporation Acts 1881 to 1897.

Execution of Act.

2. This Act shall be carried into execution by the Corporation acting by the council in like manner as the Act of 1881 the Act of 1884 and the Act of 1891.

Division of Act into parts.

3. This Act is divided into parts as follows:—

Part I.—Preliminary.
Part II.—Consolidation of townships.
Part III.—Extension of boundary.
Part IV.—Ferries.

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Part V.—Tramways.
Part VI.—Purchase of branch libraries.
Part VII.—Financial.
Part VIII.—Miscellaneous.

Interpretation.

4. Words and expressions to which meanings are assigned by the Act of 1881 have in this Act (unless the context otherwise requires) the same respective meanings.

PART II.—CONSOLIDATION OF TOWNSHIPS.

Consolidation of all the townships of the borough into one township.

5.—(1) From and after the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight the area included within the borough as extended by this Act shall for all purposes be one township to be called (and herein-after referred to as) "the township of Birkenhead" subject however to the provisions herein-after contained with respect to the Birkenhead and Bebington Burial Boards.

(2) All and every right custom privilege or power other than in matters ecclesiastical vested in or exerciseable by the parishioners ratepayers or inhabitants in vestry assembled of any township by this Act included within the township of Birkenhead shall cease to be so vested or exerciseable and every office of overseer assistant overseer and collector of poor rates in or for any township by this Act included in the township of Birkenhead shall as to the township so included be vacated and determined Provided that nothing in this section shall take away prejudice or affect any security right or remedy for or in respect of the collection and recovery of rates or any proceeding or thing pending or in course of being done on the said thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight or any liability to account or audit and all rates and arrears of rates may be enforced collected and recovered by the overseers and assistant overseers appointed under this Act.

(3) From and after the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight all rights powers duties liabilities obligations privileges and immunities not exclusively ecclesiastical incident or attaching to the said parishioners ratepayers or inhabitants in vestry assembled shall for and within the township of Birkenhead be incident and attach to the council and be exerciseable by them.

(4) From and after the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight the power of any authority or person to appoint an overseer assistant overseer and collector of poor rates for the township of Birkenhead shall cease and determine and the following provisions shall apply :—

(A) On the thirty-first day of March in any year or within fourteen days thereafter and within fourteen days of any vacancy in the

office of overseer or within such extended period as the Local Government Board may in either of such cases allow the council shall appoint the overseers or an overseer (as the case may be) of the poor for the township of Birkenhead and the power of the justices to make such appointments shall cease:

(B) The council shall as often as need be appoint the assistant overseer or assistant overseers for the township of Birkenhead and determine and specify the duties to be by him or them executed and performed and fix the remuneration to be paid to him or them out of the poor rate or out of such other rate or fund as the council may think fit and the power of the justices and of the board of guardians to make such appointments shall cease:

(C) Subject to the provisions of this subsection the provisions of the general law with respect to overseers and assistant overseers shall apply.

(5) Any assistant overseer or collector of poor rates of or for any township or part of a township by this Act made part of the township of Birkenhead who was in office before the passing of this Act and shall be in office on the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight for whom no equivalent office shall be found by the Corporation or by the guardians of the poor for the Birkenhead Union shall be deemed to be an officer within the meaning of section 120 of the Local Government Act 1888 and that section shall with the necessary modifications and with the substitution of the Local Government Board for the Treasury apply accordingly Provided that the non-acceptance of any office offered shall not be a bar to the right of any officer to compensation.

(6) Any person who shall have acquired a settlement or status of irremovability in any township or part of a township by this Act made part of the township of Birkenhead shall be deemed respectively to have acquired a settlement or a status of irremovability in the township of Birkenhead as constituted by this Act.

(7) All rate books books of account minutes of proceedings deeds papers and writings belonging to the several townships by this Act made part of the township of Birkenhead shall be deposited in the town hall at Birkenhead or at some office or place appointed by the Corporation and be there kept and preserved by the town clerk or some officer to be appointed by the Corporation and the ratepayers shall at all times have the same right of inspection and making extracts from such books and minutes as they would have had if they had continued to be ratepayers of the said townships.

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(8) Notwithstanding anything herein-before contained the register of persons entitled to vote at parliamentary elections for the borough shall be deemed to be the register of parliamentary electors entitled to vote as aforesaid for the borough until a new register shall have been prepared according to law and shall have come into force.

(9) All valuation lists in relation to hereditaments and premises in the townships by this Act made part of the township of Birkenhead and in force on the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight shall until new valuation lists are made be and be deemed to be part of the valuation lists for the township of Birkenhead.

(10) For the purposes of the Registration of Electors Acts 1843 to 1891 it shall be sufficient (instead of publishing the entire lists of parliamentary voters and burgesses in accordance with those Acts) to publish the lists of parliamentary voters and burgesses of each ward of the borough at the times and in manner provided by those Acts as if each such ward were a separate parish.

Separation of Rock Ferry from Wirral Union.

6. On the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight the township of Rock Ferry as extended by the section of this Act the marginal note of which is "Added area to form part of Bebington Ward" shall be separated from the Wirral Union.

Township of Rock Ferry included in Birkenhead Union.

7.—(1) On the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight the area of the township of Rock Ferry extended as in this Act provided shall become and remain (unless and until it be otherwise determined or ordered by the Local Government Board) part of the Birkenhead Union.

(2) For the purpose of the election of guardians the Argyle Ward the Grange Ward and the Cleveland Ward of the borough shall form one ward and that ward shall return nine guardians the Clifton Ward the Egerton Ward and the Mersey Ward of the borough shall form one ward and that ward shall return five guardians and the Claughton Ward the Oxton Ward and the Bebington Ward shall each respectively form one ward and each ward respectively shall return one guardian with power for the Local Government Board from time to time by order to make a new division of the township of Birkenhead into wards for the purpose of the election of guardians and to determine the number of guardians to be assigned to each ward.

As to existing guardians.

8. The existing guardians for the existing townships of the borough shall all go out of office on the fifteenth day of April one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight and seventeen guardians shall be elected for the new township of Birkenhead according to

the provisions of this Act and the Local Government Act 1894 and the rules framed by the Local Government Board but any of those provisions or rules may for the purposes of such first election be varied so far as necessary by order of the Local Government Board.

Provisions in case of first election.

9. Any power by this Part of this Act conferred on the Local Government Board may be exercised and any proceedings (including the giving of any notice preliminary to the election of guardians) may be taken before the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight and it shall be the duty of the clerk to the guardians of the Birkenhead Union and of all other persons to take proceedings so as to conform to the provisions of this Part of this Act Nothing in this Act shall take away or abridge any powers of the Local Government Board under the general law.

Adjustment as between borough and unions.

10. As between the borough of Birkenhead the Wirral Union and the Birkenhead Union an equitable adjustment shall be made of property debts liabilities and of any other financial questions arising out of the separation of the township of Rock Ferry from the Wirral Union and the inclusion of the said township in the Birkenhead Union and in default of agreement between the Corporation and the respective boards of guardians of the said unions the matters in difference shall on the application of any of the parties be referred to an arbitrator to be appointed by the Local Government Board with full power to settle and determine in respect of what matters (if any) compensation is to be paid and by whom and out of what fund or funds or rate or rates such compensation (if any) is to be paid and the amount and generally the manner of such payment The costs and expenses incurred in the determination of such matters shall be borne and paid in such manner and out of such fund or funds or rate or rates as the arbitrator shall direct and the determination of the arbitrator shall be final.

PART III.—EXTENSION OF BOUNDARY.

Extension of boundary of borough.

11. The boundary of the borough on its south-eastern side is hereby extended so as to include in addition to the existing borough the area described in the First Schedule to this Act and the whole area within such extended boundary shall for parochial and municipal elections and all other purposes be the county borough of Birkenhead.

As to deposit of map of extended borough.

12. A plan of the borough as extended by this Act signed in duplicate by Sir Charles Cameron Baronet the Chairman of the Committee of the House of Commons to whom the Bill for this Act

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was referred shall within two weeks of the passing of this Act be deposited in the Private Bill Office and with the town clerk at his office and copies of the said plan certified by the town clerk to be true shall be sent within one month after the passing of this Act to the clerk of the county council of Cheshire to the Local Government Board to the Board of Inland Revenue and to the Board of Agriculture In the case of any discrepancy between the said plan and the description of the added area contained in the First Schedule to this Act the said plan shall prevail.

Powers and jurisdiction of justices &c. extended.

13. — (1) The powers jurisdiction and duties of the quarter sessions recorder clerk of the peace and the coroner of the existing borough of the justices of the peace appointed for the existing borough and of the clerk to such justices and of the police constables and other peace officers of the existing borough shall extend to and apply throughout the extended borough.

(2) Every person committing an offence in any part of the added area before the passing of this Act shall be tried adjudicated on and dealt with as if this Act had not been passed.

Parish burgess lists &c.

14. For the purposes of the parish burgess lists and burgess roll and other lists to be made under the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 and the Acts amending the same and all matters in relation thereto the added area shall be deemed to have always been part of the borough and if any difficulty arise in making out revising or otherwise dealing with such lists and roll or the lists of county electors and the county register to be made for the county of Chester in pursuance of the County Electors Act 1888 or any Act amending that Act or the lists and registers of parochial electors or any other matter the Local Government Board may make such order as shall appear to them to be necessary to give effect to the provisions of this Act and may vary so far as shall be necessary the provisions in force with regard to such lists roll and registers.

Added area to form part of Bebington Ward.

15. The area by this Act added to the borough shall be and form part of Bebington Ward and that ward shall accordingly be extended so as to include such added area but nothing in this Act shall take away or affect the power to alter the numbers or boundaries of the wards of the borough under the provisions of the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 or any Act amending that Act And until the consolidation of the several townships into one township takes effect the same added area shall be and form part of the township of Rock Ferry.

As to equitable adjustment between Corporation

16. As between the county council of the county of Chester (herein-after referred to as "the county council") and the Corporation an equitable adjustment of any property income debts

liabilities and expenses so far as the same are or will be affected by the extension of the boundary of the borough as authorised by this Act shall if required by the county council be made in default of agreement between the said county council and the Corporation by arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Act 1889 and the award of the arbitrator may provide for any matter for which an agreement might have provided. A.D. 1897. and Cheshire County Council.

17. As between the Lower Bebington Urban District Council (in this section referred to as "the district council") and the Corporation an equitable adjustment of any property income debts liabilities and expenses so far as the same are or will be affected by the extension of the boundary of the borough as authorised by this Act shall if required by the district council be made in default of agreement between the said district council and the Corporation by arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Act 1889 and the award of the arbitrator may provide for any matter for which an agreement might have provided. As to equitable adjustment between Corporation and Lower Bebington Urban District Council.

PART IV.—FERRIES.

18. It shall be lawful for the Corporation but only by agreement with the owners of the ferry called Tranmere Ferry to take a lease of or to become tenants of and to work the said ferry with the wharves slips landing-places and conveniences connected therewith or any of them on such terms and conditions and subject to such provisions (not inconsistent with this Act) as shall be contained in any such lease or agreement of tenancy as aforesaid. Power to take lease of Tranmere Ferry.

19. If the Corporation take a lease or become tenants of Tranmere Ferry under the powers of this Act they may (subject to the terms of such lease or tenancy) repair maintain and improve the demised premises and may do all such things and may employ such staff as they may deem necessary or expedient for the repair maintenance and working of the said ferry. Power to maintain and improve ferry.

20. Sections 205 to 223 and 225 to 231 of the Birkenhead Corporation Act 1881 and Schedule E. to that Act which relate to the existing ferries of the Corporation and all byelaws made by the Corporation under section 225 of the Birkenhead Corporation Act 1881 and in force at the date of the passing of this Act shall so far as the same are applicable extend and apply to the Tranmere Ferry and the passengers and traffic conveyed thereby so soon as the lease thereof or agreement of tenancy shall have come into operation Provided that section 231 of the said Act of 1881 shall be read and have effect as if after the words "to or from" there were inserted the words "Tranmere and Liverpool or to or from" Provided also Application of provisions of Act of 1881 with respect to ferries.

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that as regards Tranmere Ferry section 212 of the said Act of 1881 shall not authorise the collector in case of failure to pay the tolls due in respect of any goods to detain and sell all or any part of such goods and the Corporation may recover such tolls only in a court of summary jurisdiction.

Incorporation of section 28 of Harbours Docks and Piers Clauses Act 1847.

21. Section 28 of the Harbours Docks and Piers Clauses Act 1847 is incorporated with this Act and for the purpose of such incorporation the wharves slips landing-places and conveniences referred to in the section of this Act the marginal note of which is "Power to take lease of Tranmere Ferry" shall be deemed to be piers.

Works below high-water mark not to be commenced without consent of Mersey Commissioners.

22. The Corporation shall not under the powers of this Act construct on the shore of the estuary of the Mersey within the jurisdiction of the Mersey Commissioners any work without the previous consent of the Commissioners to be signified in writing under the hand of the Acting Conservator of the Mersey and then only according to such plan and under such restrictions and regulations as he may approve of such approval being signified as last aforesaid and where any such work may have been constructed the Corporation shall not at any time alter or extend the same without obtaining previously to making any such alteration or extension the like consents or approvals If any such work be commenced or completed contrary to the provisions of this Act the Mersey Commissioners may abate and remove the same and restore the site thereof to its former condition at the costs and charges of the Corporation and the amount of such costs and charges shall be a debt due from the Corporation to the Mersey Commissioners and shall be recoverable accordingly with costs.

Survey of works by the Mersey Commissioners.

23. If at any time the Mersey Commissioners or the Acting-Conservator of the Mersey on their behalf deems it expedient for the purposes of this Act to order a survey and examination of a work constructed by the Corporation on in over through or across tidal lands or tidal waters or of the intended site of any such work within the jurisdiction of the Mersey Commissioners the Corporation shall defray the expense of the survey and examination and the amount thereof shall be a debt due from the Corporation to the said Mersey Commissioners and be recoverable accordingly with costs or the same may be recovered with costs as a penalty is recoverable from the Corporation.

Abatement of work abandoned or decayed.

24. If a work constructed by the Corporation on in over through or across tidal lands or tidal waters in the estuary of the Mersey within the jurisdiction of the Mersey Commissioners is abandoned or suffered to fall into decay the Mersey Commissioners may abate and remove the work or any part of it and restore the

site thereof to its former condition at the expense of the Corporation and the amount of such expense shall be a debt due from the Corporation to the said Mersey Commissioners and be recoverable accordingly with costs or the same may be recovered with costs as a penalty is recoverable from the Corporation.

Lights on works during construction.

25. The Corporation shall on or near the works below high-water mark within the jurisdiction of the Mersey Commissioners hereby authorised during the whole time of the constructing altering or extending the same exhibit and keep burning at their own expense every night from sunset to sunrise such lights (if any) as the Mersey Commissioners from time to time require or approve If the Corporation fail to comply in any respect with the provisions of the present section they shall for each night in which they so fail be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds.

Corporation to exhibit lights.

26. The Corporation shall at the outer extremity of the works referred to in this Act within the jurisdiction of the Mersey Commissioners exhibit and keep burning from sunset to sunrise such lights (if any) as the Corporation of Trinity House Deptford Strond shall from time to time direct If the Corporation fail to comply in any respect with the provisions of this section they shall for each night in which they so fail be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds.

Provision against danger to navigation.

27. In case of injury to or destruction or decay of the works or any part thereof the Corporation shall lay down such buoys exhibit such lights or take such other means for preventing so far as may be danger to navigation as shall from time to time be directed by the Corporation of Trinity House Deptford Strond and shall apply to that Corporation for directions as to the means to be taken and the Corporation shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds for every calendar month during which they omit so to obey any direction given in reference to the means to be taken.

Saving rights of the Crown in the foreshore.

28. Nothing contained in this Act shall authorise the Corporation to take use or in any manner interfere with any portion of the shore or bed of the sea or of any river channel creek bay or estuary or any right in respect thereof belonging to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty in right of Her Crown and under the management of the Board of Trade without the previous consent in writing of the Board of Trade on behalf of Her Majesty (which consent the Board of Trade may give) neither shall anything in this Act contained extend to take away prejudice diminish or alter any of the estates rights privileges powers or authorities vested in or enjoyed or exerciseable by the Queen's Majesty.

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PART V.—TRAMWAYS.

Power to work tramways.

29. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Tramways Act 1870 the Corporation may subject to the provisions of this Act place and run carriages on and work and use any tramways now or hereafter belonging to them within the borough and may provide such plant materials and things as may be requisite or convenient therefor Provided that the provisions of this Part of this Act shall not as respects any of such tramways as are already in existence come into operation till the expiration or sooner determination of the existing leases of those tramways respectively.

Motive power on tramways.

30.—(1) The carriages used on the tramways may subject to the provisions of this Act be moved by animal power or by mechanical power Provided that the Corporation shall use such system only of mechanical power as shall for the time being be approved of in writing by the Board of Trade and if at any time the Board of Trade are satisfied that the use of such system cannot be continued without danger the Board of Trade may by order direct the Corporation to cease to use such system and the Corporation shall thereupon cease to use such system and shall not again use the same unless with the authority of the Board of Trade and in every such case the Board of Trade shall make a special report to Parliament notifying the making of such order Provided also that the use of such mechanical power shall be subject to such regulations (in this Act referred to as "the Board of Trade regulations") as the Board of Trade may make for securing to the public all reasonable protection against danger arising from the use of such mechanical power and for regulating the use of electric power.

(2) For the purposes of this Act the expression "mechanical power" shall include steam electrical cable pneumatic gas oil and any other mechanical power.

General powers for working tramways.

31. The Corporation may take up and relay any of their tramways and may for the purposes of working any of their tramways erect construct maintain and use dynamos and other electrical apparatus steam-engines works and buildings and may construct erect lay down make and maintain on above or below the surface of any street road or place posts electric conductors wires apparatus subways tunnels cables tubes and openings and may with the consent of the owner and occupier affix to any house or building and maintain posts electric conductors wires and apparatus Provided that generating stations shall only be made or constructed under this Act on or within the limits of the lands defined in the Second Schedule to this Act or on such other lands belonging to or leased to the Corporation as the Board of Trade shall approve Provided

also that nothing in this section shall exempt the Corporation from any indictment action or other proceeding for nuisance in the event of any nuisance being caused or permitted by them upon any land used for the purposes of this section.

Restrictions as to the use of electric power.

32. The following provisions shall apply to the use of electric power under this Part of this Act unless such power is entirely contained in and carried along with the carriages :—

(1) The Corporation shall employ either insulated returns or uninsulated metallic returns of low resistance :

(2) The Corporation shall take all reasonable precautions in constructing placing and maintaining their electric lines and circuits and other works of all descriptions and also in working their undertaking so as not injuriously to affect by fusion or electrolytic action any gas or water pipes or other metallic pipes structures or substances :

(3) The powers by this Act conferred with respect to the use of electric power shall be exercised only in accordance with the Board of Trade regulations with respect to the employment of insulated returns or of uninsulated metallic returns of low resistance for preventing fusion or injurious electrolytic action of or on gas or water pipes or other metallic pipes structures or substances and for minimising as far as is reasonably practicable injurious interference with the electric wires lines and apparatus of other parties and the currents therein whether such lines do or do not use the earth as a return :

(4) The Corporation if they use electric power contrary to the provisions of this Act or to any of the Board of Trade regulations shall for every such offence be subject to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds and also in the case of a continuing offence to a further penalty not exceeding five pounds for every day during which such offence continues after conviction thereof Provided that whether any such penalty has been recovered or not the Board of Trade if in their opinion the Corporation in the use of electric power under the authority of this Act have made default in complying with the provisions of this Act or with any of the Board of Trade regulations may by order direct the Corporation to cease to use electric power and thereupon the Corporation shall cease to use electric power and shall not again use the same unless with the authority of the Board of Trade and in every such case the Board of Trade shall make a special report to Parliament notifying the making of such order :

(5) The Corporation shall take all reasonable and proper precautions in constructing placing and maintaining their electric

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lines circuits and other works of any description and in using their electric lines circuits and other works so as not injuriously to interfere with the working of any wire line or apparatus from time to time used for the purpose of transmitting electric power or of telegraphic telephonic or electric signalling communication or the currents in such wire line or apparatus Provided that the Corporation shall be deemed to take all such reasonable and proper precautions as aforesaid if and so long as they adopt and employ at the option of the Corporation either such insulated returns or such uninsulated metallic returns of low resistance and such other means of preventing injurious interference with the electric wires lines and apparatus of other parties and the currents therein as the Board of Trade shall direct and in giving such directions the Board shall have regard to the expense involved and to the effect thereof upon the commercial prospects of the undertaking Provided also that at the expiration of two years from the passing of this Act nothing in this subsection shall operate to give any right of action in respect of or to protect any electric wires lines or apparatus or the currents therein unless in the construction erection maintaining and working of such wires lines and apparatus all reasonable and proper precautions including the use of an insulated return have been taken to prevent injurious interference therewith and with the currents therein by or from other electric currents If any difference arises between the Corporation and any other party with respect to anything in this subsection contained such difference shall unless the parties otherwise agree be determined by the Board of Trade or at the option of the Board by an arbitrator to be appointed by the Board and the costs of such determination shall be in the discretion of the Board or of the arbitrator as the case may be:

(6) The expression "the Corporation" in this section shall include their lessees and the licencees and any person owning working or running carriages over any tramway of the Corporation.

Penalty for using mechanical power contrary to Act or regulations.

33. The Corporation or any company or person using mechanical power on any of the tramways contrary to the provisions of this Act or to any of the Board of Trade regulations shall for every such offence be subject to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds and also in the case of a continuing offence to a further penalty not exceeding five pounds for every day during which such offence continues after conviction thereof Provided that whether any such penalty has been recovered or not the Board of Trade in case in their opinion the Corporation or any company or person using mechanical power on the tramways under the authority of this Act have or has made

default in complying with the provisions of this Act or with any of the Board of Trade regulations may by order direct the Corporation or such company or person to cease to exercise the powers aforesaid and thereupon the Corporation or such company or person shall cease to exercise the powers aforesaid and shall not again exercise the same or any of the same unless with the authority of the Board of Trade and in every such case the Board of Trade shall make a special report to Parliament notifying the making of such order.

Byelaws of Board of Trade.

34. Subject to the provisions of this Act the Board of Trade may make byelaws with regard to any of the tramways upon which steam or mechanical power may be used under the authority of this Act for all or any of the following purposes (that is to say):—

For regulating the use of the bell whistle or other warning apparatus fixed to the engine or carriages;

For regulating the emission of smoke or steam from engines used on the tramways;

For providing that engines and carriages shall be brought to a stand at the intersection of cross streets and at such places and in such cases of horses being frightened or of impending danger as the Board of Trade may deem proper for securing safety;

For regulating the entrance to exit from and accommodation in the carriages used on the tramways and the protection of passengers from the machinery of any engine used for drawing or propelling such carriage;

For providing for the due publicity of all regulations and byelaws in force for the time being in relation to the tramways by exhibition of the same in conspicuous places on the carriages and elsewhere:

Any person offending against or committing a breach of any of the byelaws made by the Board of Trade under the authority of this Act shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding forty shillings.

Application of provisions of existing Acts.

35. Sections 56 to 59 of the Birkenhead Tramways Act 1877 which relate to tolls and charges shall apply to the working of the tramways by the Corporation or any lessee or tenant of the Corporation as if they were re-enacted in this Act with the substitution of the Corporation or any lessee or tenant of the Corporation for the company.

Corporation not to take increased fares on Sundays or bank holidays.

36. It shall not be lawful for the Corporation or company or person using the tramways to take or demand on Sunday or any bank or other public holiday any higher tolls or charges than those levied by them on ordinary week days.

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As to deficiency in receipts.

37. Any deficiency in the revenues or receipts of the Corporation on account of the tramways undertaking shall be from time to time made good out of the borough fund and borough rate.

Application of section 20 of Tramways Act 1870 as to borrowing.

38. The Corporation may borrow any sums of money necessary for defraying any expenses properly chargeable to capital which are incurred by them in carrying into effect the powers conferred upon them by this Part of this Act in the same way as is provided by section 20 of the Tramways Act 1870 in the case of a local authority being the promoters of a tramway and for the purposes of this Part of this Act the said section shall apply to the Corporation and the Corporation shall be deemed to be the promoters of a tramway within the meaning of the said section.

Power for tenant or lessee to exercise the powers of the Corporation by agreement.

39. If the Corporation shall so agree with any tenant or lessee the powers by this Act conferred on the Corporation with regard to the taking up and relaying of their tramways and with regard to the provision execution construction maintenance alteration repair and removal of or otherwise with regard to any works land buildings machinery and apparatus and the generation of electricity or the powers with regard to some only of the said matters shall be transferred to such tenant or lessee and thereupon the powers so transferred shall (subject nevertheless to the provisions of the agreement transferring the same) be vested in and may be exercised by such tenant or lessee as if they had been in the first instance authorised by this Act to exercise the said powers so transferred Provided that every such transfer and the provisions of the agreement with regard thereto shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Trade.

Power for tenant or lessee and Corporation to enter into agreements.

40. The Corporation and any tenant or lessee of the tramways and any local authority may from time to time enter into and carry into effect agreements with regard to all or any of the matters following (that is to say):—

The purchase by the Corporation at the expiry of any period or periods for which any tenant or lessee may be authorised to use the tramways in their district of all or any of the works buildings machinery carriages and other assets of such tenant or lessee provided or used by them for or in connexion with such tramways or any of them;

The leasing by the Corporation to such tenant or lessee of all or any of the works lands buildings and machinery executed or provided by the Corporation in connexion with any of the tramways in their district;

The providing by the Corporation to such tenant or lessee of a supply of electrical power for use in connexion with any of the

tramways whether in the district of the Corporation or not and the construction and laying down by the Corporation of all stations plant electric lines and works necessary or convenient therefor;

The providing by the Corporation of a supply of electricity to any of the public lamps in any district in which they are for the time being working any tramway by means of electrical power;

The making maintaining renewing repairing working and using any works constructed under the authority of this Act and any lands buildings machinery and apparatus connected therewith.

For protection of the Postmaster-General.

41. In the event of any tramways of the Corporation being worked by electrical power or of any work for the supply of electrical power under this Act being undertaken by the Corporation the following provisions shall have effect:—

(1) The Corporation shall construct their electric lines and other works of all descriptions and shall work their undertaking in all respects with due regard to the telegraphic lines from time to time used or intended to be used by Her Majesty's Postmaster-General and the currents in such telegraphic lines and shall use every reasonable means in the construction of their electric lines and other works of all descriptions and the working of their undertaking to prevent injurious affection whether by induction or otherwise to such telegraphic lines or the currents therein If any question arises as to whether the Corporation have constructed their electric lines or other works or work their undertaking in contravention of this subsection such question shall be determined by arbitration and the Corporation shall be bound to make any alterations in or additions to their system which may be directed by the arbitrator:

(2) If any telegraphic line of the Postmaster-General is injuriously affected by the construction by the Corporation of their electric lines and works or by the working of the undertaking of the Corporation the Corporation shall pay the expense of all such alterations in the telegraphic lines of the Postmaster-General as may be necessary to remedy such injurious affection:

(3) (A) Before any electric line is laid down or any act or work for working the tramways by electrical power or for the supply of electrical power under this Act is done within ten yards of any part of a telegraphic line of the Postmaster-General (other than repairs or the laying of lines crossing the line of the Postmaster-General at right angles at the point of shortest distance and so continuing for a distance of six feet on each side of such point) the Corporation or their agents not more

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than twenty-eight nor less than fourteen days before commencing the work shall give written notice to the Postmaster-General specifying the course of the line and the nature of the work including the gauge of any wire and the Corporation and their agents shall conform with such reasonable requirements (either general or special) as may from time to time be made by the Postmaster-General for the purpose of preventing any telegraphic line of the Postmaster-General from being injuriously affected by the said act or work;

(b) Any difference which arises between the Postmaster-General and the Corporation or their agents with respect to any requirements so made shall be determined by arbitration:

(4) In the event of any contravention of or wilful non-compliance with this section by the Corporation or their agents the Corporation or their agents shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds for every day during which such contravention or non-compliance continues or if the telegraphic communication is wilfully interrupted not exceeding fifty pounds for every day on which such interruption continues:

(5) Provided that nothing in this section shall subject the Corporation or their agents to a fine under this section if they satisfy the Court having cognizance of the case that the immediate doing of the act or execution of the work was required to avoid an accident or otherwise was a work of emergency and that they forthwith served on the postmaster or sub-postmaster of the postal telegraph office nearest to the place where the act or work was done a notice of the execution thereof stating the reason for doing or executing the same without previous notice:

(6) For the purposes of this section a telegraphic line of the Postmaster-General shall be deemed to be injuriously affected by an act or work if telegraphic communication by means of such line is whether through induction or otherwise in any manner affected by such act or work or by any use made of such work:

(7) For the purposes of this section and subject as therein provided sections 2 8 9 10 11 and 12 of the Telegraph Act 1878 shall be deemed to be incorporated with this Act as if the Corporation were undertakers within the meaning of those sections without prejudice nevertheless to any operation which the other sections of the said Act would have had if this section had not been enacted and in particular nothing in this section shall be deemed to exclude the provisions of section 7 of the Telegraph Act 1878 in relation to the matters mentioned in that section:

(8) The expression "electric line" has the same meaning in this section as in the Electric Lighting Act 1882:

(9) Any question or difference arising under this section which is directed to be determined by arbitration shall be determined by an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade on the application of either party whose decision shall be final and sections 30 to 32 both inclusive of the Regulation of Railways Act 1868 shall apply in like manner as if the Corporation or their agents were a company within the meaning of that Act:

(10) Nothing in this section contained shall be held to deprive the Postmaster-General of any existing right to proceed against the Corporation by indictment action or otherwise in relation to any of the matters aforesaid:

(11) In this section the expression "the Corporation" includes their lessees and any person owning working or running carriages on any of the tramways of the Corporation.

For the protection of the London and North Western and Great Western Railway Companies.

42. The following provisions for the protection of the London and North Western and Great Western Railway Companies (hereinafter referred to as "the railway companies") shall apply and have effect:—

(1) In constructing and maintaining any subways tunnels tubes openings excavations and other works under any tramways of the Corporation in order to lay use or maintain wires cables or any similar apparatus as a motive power for the carriages running on such tramways or any of them or in laying using or maintaining any such wires cables or apparatus in any place where such tramways cross any railway tunnel or bridge carrying any road over or under a railway of the railway companies the Corporation shall not in any way alter or interfere with the structure of any such tunnel or bridge or of the approaches thereto and they shall so construct lay and maintain such subways tunnels tubes excavations wires cables or apparatus over such tunnel or bridge and the approaches thereto or under such bridge as the case may be as not to injuriously affect the same:

(2) In the event of any injury being caused to any such tunnel bridge or approaches by the construction maintenance laying repairing user or removal of such subways tunnels tubes excavations wires cables or apparatus the railway companies may at the reasonable expense of the Corporation and after giving notice except in cases of emergency to the Corporation of their intention so to do restore such tunnel bridge or approaches or the part or parts thereof which may be so

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injured to as good a state and condition as they were in before such injury was occasioned and the Corporation shall indemnify the railway companies against all reasonable sums costs and expenses which they may pay or be put to in repairing and maintaining so much of the road over or under such tunnel bridge and approaches as the Corporation are liable to maintain and repair under section 28 of the Tramways Act 1870 and the railway companies may recover from the Corporation all such sums costs and expenses with full costs and charges by all and the same means as any simple contract debt of like amount is recoverable:

(3) All works which may be necessary in constructing laying and maintaining any of the said subways tunnels tubes excavations wires cables or apparatus over any railway tunnel bridge works or other property of the railway companies shall be constructed and maintained in all things by and at the expense of the Corporation and to the reasonable satisfaction of the principal engineer of the railway companies or in case of difference of an engineer to be appointed by the Board of Trade on the application of the railway companies or the Corporation:

(4) Nothing contained in this Part of this Act shall prejudice lessen take away or interfere with the lands property rights powers and privileges of the railway companies otherwise than is therein expressly provided:

(5) The Corporation shall pay the cost of such additions to or alterations in the earth or metallic circuits of the railway companies as the Board of Trade may consider necessary to prevent interference with the signals and apparatus of the railway companies by reason of the tramways crossing the bridges and level crossings belonging to the railway companies:

(6) If any question dispute or difference shall at any time arise between the railway companies and the Corporation under this section or in regard to any matter or thing done or required to be done under this section such question dispute or difference shall if not settled by agreement between the parties be determined by an engineer to be appointed by the Board of Trade on the application of the railway companies or the Corporation whose decision shall be final and binding.

PART VI.—PURCHASE OF BRANCH LIBRARIES.

Power to purchase North and South Branch Libraries.

43. The Corporation are hereby authorised to carry into effect the agreement for the purchase of the premises known as the North Branch Library which is contained in the lease dated the first day of August one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four whereby the

said premises were demised to the Corporation and also to carry into effect a like agreement for the purchase of the premises known as the South Branch Library which is contained in the lease dated the twenty-ninth day of October one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four whereby the said last-mentioned premises were demised to the Corporation and the Corporation are hereby authorised to purchase and acquire the same.

PART VII.—FINANCIAL.

(i.) *Equated Period and other Provisions for Repayment of Debt.*

Equated period for repayment of existing debt.

44. Sections 264 to 285 289 290 291 and 292 of the Birkenhead Corporation Act 1881 and sections 34 35 46 and 47 of the Birkenhead Corporation (Gas and Water) Act 1881 and section 52 of the Birkenhead Improvement Act 1884 are hereby repealed and all the sums mentioned in column six of the Third Schedule to this Act shall be repaid within a period of fifty-six years from the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven.

One sinking fund for existing debt.

45.—(1) In order to provide for the repayment of the sums mentioned in column six of the Third Schedule to this Act there shall be one sinking fund and the Corporation shall annually pay out of the prescribed sources into that sinking fund such equal annual sums as with accumulations at a rate not exceeding two and a half per centum per annum will be sufficient to provide for the repayment of the whole of those sums within the period of fifty-six years prescribed by this Act.

(2) The prescribed sources shall be as follows (that is to say):—

In the case of the gas and water debt (*a*) the revenue of the gas and water undertakings and (*b*) the interest rate;

In the case of all other debt (*a*) any moneys applicable in that behalf under this or any other Act of Parliament and (*b*) the interest rate.

(3) The first annual payment into the sinking fund shall be made on or before the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight and the subsequent annual payments on or before the thirty-first day of March in each succeeding year.

(4) Every sum paid to the sinking fund and the interest on the investments of the sinking fund shall unless applied in repayment of the sums specified in column six of the Third Schedule to this Act be immediately invested in statutory securities the Corporation being at liberty from time to time to vary and transpose such investments.

(5) The Corporation may at any time apply the whole or any part of the sinking fund in or towards the discharge of the sums

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specified in column six of the Third Schedule to this Act Provided that the Corporation shall pay into the sinking fund each year a sum equal to the interest which would have been produced by the sinking fund or the part of the sinking fund so applied if invested at the rate per centum on which the annual payments to the sinking fund are based.

(6) If and so often as the income of the sinking fund is not equal to the income which would be derived from the amount invested if the same were invested at the rate per centum per annum on which the equal annual payments to the sinking fund are based any deficiency shall be made good by the Corporation.

(7) If and so often as the income of the sinking fund is in excess of the income which would be derived from the amount invested if the same were invested at the rate per centum per annum on which the equal annual payments to the fund are based any such excess may be applied towards such equal annual payments.

Definition of statutory security.

46. Statutory security means any security in which trustees are for the time being by or under any Act of Parliament passed or to be passed authorised to invest trust money (except any security of the Corporation) and any other mortgage bond debenture stock or other security authorised by or under any Act of Parliament passed or to be passed of any local authority as defined by section 34 of the Local Loans Act 1875 (except the Corporation) and except annuities rentcharges and securities payable to bearer.

Sums in existing sinking funds to be carried to sinking fund under this Act.

47. All sums and investments which at the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven shall or should be standing to the credit of any sinking fund then existing or which should then exist for the repayment of any moneys the repayment whereof is prescribed by this Act shall be carried to the sinking fund established by this Act for the repayment of the sums mentioned in column six of the Third Schedule to this Act and credit shall be given for those sums in estimating the sums by this Act required to be paid into the said fund.

Repayment of moneys hereafter borrowed under existing powers.

48.—(1) The Corporation shall repay any moneys hereafter borrowed by virtue of the powers of borrowing conferred by the local Acts now in force in the borough or by this Act by equal annual instalments of principal or by equal annual instalments of principal and interest combined or by means of a sinking fund or partly by one of these methods and partly by another or others of them.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act if the Corporation determine to repay by means of a sinking fund any moneys hereafter

borrowed by virtue of the said Acts or of this Act such sinking fund shall be formed and maintained either— A.D. 1897.

(A) By payment to the fund throughout the prescribed period of such equal annual sums as will together amount to the moneys for the repayment of which the sinking fund is formed;

A sinking fund so formed is herein-after called a non-accumulating sinking fund: or

(B) By payment to the fund throughout the prescribed period of such equal annual sums as with accumulations at a rate not exceeding two and a half pounds per centum per annum will be sufficient to pay off within the prescribed period the moneys for the repayment of which such sinking fund is formed;

A sinking fund so formed is herein-after called an accumulating sinking fund.

(3) Every sum paid to a sinking fund under this section and in the case of an accumulating sinking fund the interest on the investments of the sinking fund shall unless applied in repayment of the loan in respect of which the sinking fund is formed be immediately invested in statutory securities the Corporation being at liberty from time to time to vary and transpose such investments.

(4) In the case of a non-accumulating sinking fund the interest on the investments of the fund may be applied by the Corporation towards the equal annual payments to the fund.

(5) The Corporation may at any time apply the whole or any part of any sinking fund established under this section in or towards the discharge of the money for the repayment of which the fund is formed Provided that in the case of an accumulating sinking fund the Corporation shall pay into the fund each year and accumulate during the residue of the prescribed period a sum equal to the interest which would have been produced by such sinking fund or part of a sinking fund so applied if invested at the rate per centum per annum on which the annual payments to the sinking fund are based.

(6) If and so often as the income of an accumulating sinking fund under this section is not equal to the income which would be derived from the amount invested if the same were invested at the rate per centum per annum on which the equal annual payments to the fund are based any deficiency shall be made good by the Corporation:

If and so often as the income of an accumulating sinking fund under this section is in excess of the income which would be derived from the amount invested if the same were invested at the rate per centum per annum on which the equal annual payments to the fund

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are based any such excess may be applied towards such equal annual payments.

General provisions as to sinking funds.

49.—(1) If it appears to the Corporation at any time that the amount in any sinking fund established under this Act with the future payments thereto in accordance with the provisions of this Act together with the accumulations thereon (in the case of an accumulating sinking fund) will probably not be sufficient to repay within the prescribed period the moneys for the repayment of which the sinking fund is formed it shall be the duty of the Corporation to make such increased payments to the sinking fund as will cause the sinking fund to be sufficient for that purpose Provided that if it appears to the Local Government Board that any such increase is necessary the Corporation shall increase the payments to such extent as the Board may direct.

(2) If the Corporation desire to accelerate the repayment of any loan they may increase the amounts payable to any sinking fund.

(3) If the amount in any sinking fund established under this Act with the future payments thereto in accordance with the provisions of this Act together with the accumulations thereon (in the case of an accumulating sinking fund) will in the opinion of the Local Government Board be more than sufficient to repay within the prescribed period the moneys for the repayment of which the sinking fund is formed the Corporation may reduce the payments to be made to the sinking fund either temporarily or permanently to such an extent as that Board shall approve.

(4) If the amount in any sinking fund established under this Act at any time together with the probable accumulations thereon (in the case of an accumulating sinking fund) will in the opinion of the Local Government Board be sufficient to repay the loan in respect of which it is formed within the prescribed period the Corporation may with the consent of that Board discontinue the equal annual payments to such sinking fund until the Local Government Board shall otherwise direct.

(5) Any surplus of any sinking fund established under this Act remaining after the discharge of the whole of the moneys for the repayment of which it was formed shall be applied to such purposes as the Corporation with the consent of the Local Government Board may determine.

(6) Any expenses connected with the formation maintenance investment application management or otherwise of any sinking fund under this Act shall be paid by the Corporation in addition to the payments provided for by this Act.

Power to re-borrow.

50. The Corporation shall except as herein-after provided have power to re-borrow for the purpose of paying off any of the moneys

mentioned in column 6 of the Third Schedule to this Act or any of the moneys hereafter borrowed under the local Acts or this Act which have not been repaid and are intended to be forthwith repaid or in respect of any moneys which have been repaid by the temporary application of funds at the disposal of the Corporation within twelve months before the re-borrowing and which at the time of the repayment it was intended to re-borrow:

Provided that the Corporation shall not have power to re-borrow for the purpose of paying off any moneys repaid by instalments or annual payments or by means of a sinking fund or out of moneys derived from the sale of land or out of any capital moneys properly applicable to the purpose of such repayment other than moneys borrowed for that purpose Provided also that any moneys re-borrowed shall be deemed to form the same loan as the money for the repayment of which the re-borrowing has been made and shall be repaid within the prescribed period.

Annual return to Local Government Board.

51. The treasurer of the borough shall within twenty-one days after the thirty-first day of March in each year if during the twelve months next preceding the said thirty-first day of March any sum is required to be paid as an instalment or annual payment or to be appropriated or to be paid to a sinking fund in pursuance of this Act and at any time when the Local Government Board may require such a return to be made transmit to the Local Government Board a return in such form as may be prescribed by that Board and verified by statutory declaration of such treasurer showing for the year next preceding the making of such return or for such other period as the Board may prescribe the amounts which have been paid as instalments or annual payments and the amounts which have been appropriated and the amounts which have been paid to or invested or applied for the purpose of the sinking fund and the description of the securities upon which any investment has been made and also showing the purposes to which any portion of the sinking fund or investments or of the sums accumulated by way of compound interest have been applied during the same period and the total amount (if any) remaining invested at the end of the year and in the event of his failing to make such return the treasurer shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds to be recovered by action on behalf of the Crown in the High Court and notwithstanding the recovery of such penalty the making of the return shall be enforceable by writ of Mandamus to be obtained by the Local Government Board out of the High Court:

If it appear to the Local Government Board by such return or otherwise that the Corporation have failed to pay any instalment or annual payment required to be paid or to appropriate any sum

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required to be appropriated or to set apart any sum required for any sinking fund or have applied any portion of the moneys set apart for that fund or any interest thereof to any purposes other than those authorised the Local Government Board may by order direct that a sum not exceeding double the amount in respect of which default has been made shall be paid or applied as in such order mentioned and any such order shall be enforceable by writ of Mandamus to be obtained by the Local Government Board out of the High Court.

(ii.) *Financial Year.*

Alteration of commencement of financial year.

52. The financial year of the Corporation shall for all purposes be deemed to end on the thirty-first day of March and section 253 of the Birkenhead Corporation Act 1881 shall be read and have effect as if the words "thirty-first day of March" were therein substituted for the words "twenty-fifth day of March" wherever they occur and as if the words "first day of April" were therein substituted for the words "twenty-sixth day of March."

(iii.) *Loans to Local Authorities.*

Power to Corporation to advance money to Birkenhead School Board.

53.—(1) The Corporation may agree with the Birkenhead School Board from time to time to lend to that board and the said board may borrow from the Corporation such amounts as may be necessary to pay off the balance owing of any loan or loans which may have been contracted by the said board on such terms and conditions as may be agreed Provided that the whole of the sum or sums so lent shall be repaid to the Corporation by the said board within the period or periods respectively within which the said board are required to repay the original loan or loans respectively.

(2) Whenever the Birkenhead School Board are desirous of raising money which by any Act of Parliament or sanction of a Government Department they are authorised to borrow they may apply to the Corporation to lend such money or any part of it and the Corporation are hereby authorised to lend the same to the board on such terms and conditions as may be agreed Provided that any sum so lent shall be repaid to the Corporation by the said board within the period within which the said board may be required to repay the loan by the Act of Parliament or sanction under which the money is borrowed.

(3) Any agreement under the foregoing paragraphs may be made by resolutions passed respectively by the Corporation and by the Birkenhead School Board.

(4) Any sum or sums which the Corporation shall agree to lend as aforesaid shall be deemed to be money included within a statutory

borrowing power and may be raised either by mortgages to be granted in accordance with the provisions of the Birkenhead Corporation Act 1881 or by the creation and issue of redeemable stock. A.D. 1897.

(5) The following provisions shall apply to moneys raised or borrowed for the purpose of loans to the Birkenhead School Board :—

(A) The sum shall be lent by the Corporation to the Birkenhead School Board for a period not exceeding that for which the said board is authorised to borrow or re-borrow the same and with a provision for repayment by equal annual instalments of principal or of principal and interest combined :

(B) If any sum payable to the Corporation for principal in respect of any sum lent to the said board shall not be received within six months of the time appointed for the payment thereof a like sum shall be set apart out of the borough fund and if after the application or investment of the sum so set apart or the payment thereof as herein-after provided the whole or any part thereof shall be received by the Corporation the sum so received shall be carried to the credit of the borough fund.

(6) The following provisions shall apply to moneys raised by mortgages for the purpose of loans to the Birkenhead School Board :—

(A) All moneys so raised shall be repaid by the Corporation within a period to expire not more than one year after that for which the same was lent by them to the said board :

(B) All sums received from the said board for interest shall be applied towards the payment of interest payable in respect of moneys so borrowed the balance (if any) being carried to the credit of the borough fund :

(C) All sums received from the said board for principal except sums which are to be carried to the credit of the borough fund under paragraph (5) (B) and all sums set apart out of the borough fund under paragraph (5) (B) shall be carried to the credit of the sinking fund applicable to the discharge of the moneys raised by the Corporation for the purposes of this section and shall be dealt with accordingly.

(7) The following provisions shall apply to moneys raised by the issue of stock for the purpose of loans to the Birkenhead School Board :—

(A) All sums received from the said board for interest shall be paid into the dividends fund established in respect of the stock so issued and shall be applied in paying the dividends on such stock :

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(B) All sums received by the said board for principal except sums which are to be carried to the credit of the borough fund under paragraph (5) (B) and all sums set apart out of the borough fund in pursuance of paragraph (5) (B) shall be paid into the redemption fund and applied accordingly.

(8) The borough treasurer shall within twenty-one days after the thirty-first day of March in each year if during the twelve months next preceding the said thirty-first day of March any sum is payable to the Corporation in respect of moneys lent by them to the said board and at any other time when the Local Government Board may require such a return to be made transmit to the Local Government Board a return in such form as may be prescribed by that board and verified by a statutory declaration if so required by them showing for the year next preceding the making of such return the amounts which have been received from the said board for principal the amounts which have been applied directly towards the repayment of the principal payable in respect of moneys raised under this section and the amounts which have been invested and the description of the securities upon which any investment has been made and the purposes to which any portion of the investment has been applied during the same period and the total amount (if any) remaining invested at the end of the year and in the event of his failing to make such return such treasurer shall for each offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds to be recovered by action on behalf of the Crown in the High Court and notwithstanding the recovery of such penalty the making of the return shall be enforceable by writ of Mandamus to be obtained by the Local Government Board out of the High Court If it appears to the Local Government Board by that return or otherwise that the Corporation have failed to apply or invest as required by subsection 7 of this section any sum by that subsection required to be applied or invested or have misapplied any of the investments or the produce of the sale thereof the Local Government Board may by order direct that the sum in such order mentioned not exceeding double the amount in respect of which such default or misapplication has occurred shall be applied directly towards repayment of principal or be invested and any such order shall be enforceable by writ of Mandamus to be obtained by the Local Government Board out of the High Court.

Power to advance to other authorities.

54. The Corporation may lend to any board of guardians or burial board whose administrative area is wholly or partly within the borough of Birkenhead and any such board may borrow from the Corporation money in like manner as herein-before provided with regard to the Birkenhead School Board and all the foregoing

provisions relating to loans to the Birkenhead School Board shall apply mutatis mutandis to every such board of guardians or burial board. A.D. 1897.

(iv.) *Borrowing Powers.*

Power to borrow for gas purposes.

55. The Corporation may from time to time borrow for the extensions of gas mains and the provision of meters on the security of all and every the rates tolls and other revenues and receipts of the Corporation from whatever source derived such sums as they may from time to time require not exceeding in the whole twenty thousand nine hundred pounds and may execute mortgages accordingly.

Power to borrow for purchase of North and South Libraries.

56. For the purpose of acquiring the premises known as the North Branch Library and the premises known as the South Branch Library the Corporation may borrow on the security of the borough fund and borough rate any sums not exceeding one thousand three hundred and fifty pounds and may mortgage the borough fund and borough rate accordingly.

Period for repayment.

57. All moneys borrowed by the Corporation under either of the two last preceding sections shall be repaid within a period of twenty years from the date or respective dates of borrowing the same by equal annual instalments of principal or of principal and interest or by a sinking fund.

Application of certain provisions of Act of 1881.

58. Sections 263 (Form of mortgages) 287 (Protection of lenders from inquiry) and 299 (Corporation not to regard trusts) of the Birkenhead Corporation Act 1881 are hereby incorporated in this Act.

Certain regulations of Public Health Act 1875 as to borrowing not to apply.

59. The powers of borrowing money by this Act given shall not be restricted by any of the provisions contained in section 234 of the Public Health Act 1875 and in calculating the amount which the Corporation may borrow under the Public Health Act 1875 any sums which they may borrow under this Act shall not be reckoned.

Power to exercise unexhausted borrowing powers for water purposes.

60. The Corporation may raise any moneys which they are authorised by section 33 of the Birkenhead Corporation (Gas and Water) Act 1881 to raise for the water purposes of that Act and which they have not already raised and may apply the same to the execution of any waterworks or water purposes which they are empowered under any general or local Act to execute and to which capital is properly applicable as if such works or purposes were water purposes of the said Act of 1881.

Saving of existing charges.

61. Nothing in this Act shall prejudicially affect any charge on any of the rates or revenue of the Corporation by way of mortgage

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or otherwise existing at the date of the passing of this Act and every mortgage or incumbrance or person for the time being entitled to the benefit of any such charge shall have the same priority of charge and all the like rights and remedies in respect of the property subject to his charge as if this Act had not been passed and all such charges created before the passing of this Act shall during the continuance thereof have priority over any mortgage or stock granted or created under or by virtue of this Act.

PART VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Amendment of section 56 of Act of 1881.

62. Section 16 of the Birkenhead Improvement Act 1884 is hereby repealed and section 56 of the Act of 1881 shall be read and have effect as if instead of the words "after the occurrence thereof" there were inserted the words "after the discovery of the occurrence thereof by him":

Proceedings against any person for any such default as is mentioned in section 56 of the Act of 1881 may be taken at any time during the twelve months next after the discovery of the occurrence of such default.

Amendment of section 100 of Act of 1881.

63. Section 100 of the Act of 1881 shall be read and have effect as if the sum of thirty pounds were therein substituted for the sum of fifteen pounds.

Amendment of section 111 of Act of 1881.

64. Section 111 (Regulations as to places for public dancing) of the Act of 1881 is hereby amended as follows:—

(A) Subsection (2) shall be read and have effect as if after the words "for one year" there were inserted the words "or for "such shorter period as the justices on the grant of a licence "shall determine":

(B) To subsection (4) shall be added the words "but no such "notice need be given when the application is for a renewal "of any existing licence held by the applicant for the same "premises":

(c) In subsection (5) the words "kept or used" shall be substituted for the words "kept and used" wherever those words occur.

Service of summons on Corporation.

65. In addition and without prejudice to any mode of service authorised by section 336 of the Act of 1881 it is hereby enacted that any summons or other document issued by any justice or justices against the Corporation under any public or local Act shall be sufficiently served by leaving the same at the office of the town clerk.

Provision as to certain lands.

66.—(1) The Corporation may hold and use for any lawful purpose or may sell let and dispose of certain land in Price Street which was acquired by them in or about the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one for the purposes of a refuse destructor and which is not now required or available for those purposes as well as certain land in Park Road North and Ashville Road which was recently acquired by the Corporation in order that the expense of constructing a certain road in connexion with the development of the Birkenhead Park building estate might be rendered unnecessary.

(2) The proceeds of the sale of any lands under this section shall be applied by the Corporation in the repayment of debt by being carried to the sinking fund established under this Act or otherwise.

Inquiries by and expenses of Local Government Board.

67.—(1) The Local Government Board may direct any inquiries to be held by their inspectors which they may deem necessary for giving effect to any of the provisions of this Act and the inspectors of the Local Government Board shall for the purposes of any such inquiry have all such powers as they have for the purposes of inquiry directed by that Board under the Public Health Act 1875.

(2) The Corporation shall pay to the Local Government Board any expenses incurred by that Board in relation to any inquiries under this section including the expenses of any witnesses summoned by the inspector holding the inquiry and a sum to be fixed by that Board not exceeding three guineas a day for the services of such inspector.

Expenses of execution of Act.

68. All expenses of the execution by the Corporation of this Act with respect to which no other provision is made may be defrayed by the Corporation out of the borough fund and rate or district fund and general district rate as the Corporation may in their discretion having regard to the object of the expenditure deem just.

Recovery of penalties &c.

69. Offences against this Act and penalties forfeitures costs and expenses imposed or recoverable under this Act or any byelaw made in pursuance thereof may be prosecuted and recovered in a summary manner.

Appeal from decisions of Corporation and convictions &c. by court of summary jurisdiction.

70. Any person deeming himself aggrieved by any order judgment determination or requirement or the making or withholding of any certificate licence or consent or approval of or by the Corporation or of or by any officer or valuer of the Corporation under any provision of this Act or by any conviction or order made by a court of summary jurisdiction under any provision of this Act may (subject to the provisions of any Act whereby the decision of the stipendiary magistrate or of a court of summary jurisdiction is made final) appeal to the next practicable court of quarter sessions

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for the borough under and according to the provisions of the Summary Jurisdiction Acts.

Saving for existing burial boards.

71. Nothing in this Act contained shall (save as herein-after provided) affect the constitution rights powers duties and liabilities of the Birkenhead and Claughton-cum-Grange Burial Board (herein-after called "the Birkenhead Board") or of the burial board of the parish of Bebington (herein-after called "the Bebington Board") or the rights privileges or liabilities now enjoyed by or attaching to the ratepayers and inhabitants of any township by this Act included in the new township of Birkenhead in regard to either of the above-mentioned burial boards or to any existing rights of burial nor shall anything in this Act contained confer any new rights or privileges or impose any fresh liabilities on any of the said ratepayers or inhabitants in regard to the above matters and no contribution towards the expenses of the Birkenhead Board shall be payable by or required from the ratepayers or inhabitants of the wards co-extensive with the old townships of Rock Ferry and Tranmere and no contribution towards the expenses of the Bebington Board shall be payable by or required from the ratepayers or inhabitants of the wards co-extensive with the old townships of Birkenhead and Claughton:

Provided that—

(1) The following wards of the borough (namely) Argyle Ward Grange Ward and Cleveland Ward (which are co-extensive with the old township of Birkenhead) and Claughton Ward (which is co-extensive with the old township of Claughton) shall as heretofore form the district of the Birkenhead Board and the council shall continue to be the burial board for that district and the ratepayers and inhabitants of the said wards shall as heretofore enjoy all the rights and privileges and be subject to all the liabilities enjoyed by or attaching to the said ratepayers and inhabitants in regard to all matters appertaining to the Birkenhead Board and the Flaybrick Hill Cemetery including all rights of property in that cemetery:

(2) The following wards of the borough (namely) Clifton Ward Egerton Ward and Mersey Ward (which are co-extensive with the old township of Tranmere) and Bebington Ward (which is co-extensive with the old township of Rock Ferry) shall as heretofore form part of the district of the Bebington Board and that board shall continue to be the burial board of that district and the ratepayers and inhabitants of the said wards shall as heretofore enjoy all the rights and privileges and be subject to all the liabilities enjoyed by or attaching to the ratepayers and inhabitants of the said wards respectively in

regard to all matters appertaining to the Bebington Board and the Bebington Cemetery including all rights of property in the said cemetery And the ratepayers and inhabitants of the Clifton Ward Egerton Ward and Mersey Ward and the ratepayers and inhabitants of the Bebington Ward respectively shall be entitled to attend and vote at vestry or other meetings to be held for the ecclesiastical parish of Bebington which includes the old township of Tranmere and the old township of Rock Ferry in like manner as vestry meetings were heretofore held for the said parish for the purpose of electing members of the said burial board or for other purposes connected with the said board:

(3) The Birkenhead Board shall issue their certificates to the overseers of the township of Birkenhead for payment of any contributions required from the wards co-extensive with the old townships of Birkenhead and Claughton towards the expenses of the Birkenhead Board and the said overseers shall pay such sums as shall be required by such certificates to the said board and shall levy the sums required by the said board by an addition to the poor rate within the wards co-extensive with the old townships of Birkenhead and Claughton and for levying any such addition to the poor rate as aforesaid such overseers shall have the same powers remedies and privileges and proceed in the same manner as in the case of an ordinary poor rate:

(4) The Bebington Board shall issue their certificates to the overseers of the township of Birkenhead for payment of any contributions required from the wards co-extensive with the old townships of Tranmere and Rock Ferry towards the expenses of the Bebington Board and the said overseers shall pay such sums as shall be required by such certificates to the said board and shall levy the sums required by the said board by an addition to the poor rate within the wards co-extensive with the old townships of Tranmere and Rock Ferry and for levying such addition to the poor rate as aforesaid such overseers shall have the same powers remedies and privileges and proceed in the same manner as in the case of an ordinary poor rate:

(5) The share of any of the wards liable to contribute to the expenses of the Birkenhead Board in any surplus moneys at the disposal of that board shall be paid to the overseers of the new township of Birkenhead and be by them applied exclusively in reduction of the poor rate leviable in the said wards and the share of any of the wards liable to contribute to the expenses of the Bebington Board in any surplus moneys at the disposal

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of that board shall be paid to the overseers of the new township of Birkenhead and be by them applied exclusively in reduction of the poor rate leviable in the last-mentioned wards:

(6) Any doubt difficulty or difference arising in the execution of the provisions of this section may be settled by arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Act 1889 and the award of the arbitrator may provide for any matter for which an agreement might have provided.

Saving for rights of burial in churchyard of Woodchurch.

72. Nothing in this Act contained shall affect any rights or privileges enjoyed by the parishioners ratepayers or inhabitants of the Oxton Ward in regard to any right of burial in the parish churchyard of Woodchurch.

Saving for proviso to section 261 of Act of 1881.

73. Nothing in this Act shall prejudice or affect the operation of the proviso to section 261 of the Act of 1881 which confers a partial exemption from the interest rate in favour of property in the portion of the borough formerly included in the district of the Higher Bebington Local Board and until that portion of the borough is supplied with water by the Corporation the partial exemption allowed by the said proviso shall be continued.

Costs of Act.

74. All the costs charges and expenses preliminary to and of and incidental to preparing and obtaining this Act as taxed by the taxing officer of the House of Lords or of the House of Commons shall be paid by the Corporation out of the borough fund and rate or out of moneys to be borrowed on the security of that fund and rate which moneys the Corporation are hereby authorised to borrow and required to repay (if borrowed) within five years from the time or respective times of borrowing the same.

The SCHEDULES referred to in the foregoing Act. A.D. 1897.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

Description of Area added to the Borough.

An area situate in the township of Lower Bebington in the county of Chester and bounded on its northerly side by the existing southern boundary of the borough and by a line running to the centre of the bed of the River Mersey.

On its westerly side by the easterly side of a certain street or road fronting the New Ferry Hotel being a continuation of New Ferry Road to the southern boundary of the borough.

On its southerly side in part by the southernmost boundary of the New Ferry ferry buildings property walls and premises then bounded by an imaginary line extending across an access or road leading to the shore of the River Mersey thence extending in a southerly direction and bounded by the easterly boundary of houses and premises abutting on the River Mersey and terminating at a point being the south-easterly corner of the garden attached to the house and premises known as Number 2 New Ferry Terrace thence by an imaginary line running in an easterly direction to the centre of the bed of the River Mersey.

On its easterly side by the centre of the bed of the River Mersey.

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SECOND SCHEDULE.

Lands on or within the Limits of which Generating Stations may be placed.

A piece of vacant freehold land in Birkenhead belonging to the Corporation bounded on the north by Price Street on the south by Saint Anne Street on the west by Livingstone Street and on the east by premises fronting to Burton Street and containing in the whole three thousand six hundred and eighteen square yards or thereabouts.

THIRD SCHEDULE.

Statement of Loans Account.

Act or Order under which Borrowing Powers have been Conferred. 1	Purpose. 2	Borrowing Power Sanctioned. 3	Amount Borrowed. 4	Debt Extinguished. 5	Debt Outstanding. 6	Amount in Sinking Fund. 7
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Old Debt Act of 1881 - -	Town Hall &c. - -	6,940 0 0	6,940 0 0	520 10 0	6,419 10 0	—
	Park - - - -	115,450 0 0	115,450 0 0	8,658 15 0	106,791 5 0	—
	Sewerage - - -	20,960 0 0	20,960 0 0	1,572 0 0	19,388 0 0	—
	Streets improvements - -	30,160 0 0	30,160 0 0	2,262 0 0	27,898 0 0	—
	Markets and slaughter-house -	49,709 17 2	49,709 17 2	3,728 4 8	45,981 12 6	—
	Baths - - - -	5,265 0 0	5,265 0 0	395 0 0	4,870 0 0	—
	Properties - - -	67,625 0 0	67,625 0 0	5,660 0 0	61,965 0 0	—
	Ferry - - - -	139,598 12 3	139,598 12 3	10,470 19 3	129,127 13 0	—
	Stone Yard Cleveland Street -	4,805 0 0	4,805 0 0	360 10 0	4,444 10 0	—
Tranmere and Oxton Debt -	Offices sewers and street improvements.	41,819 0 0	41,819 0 0	27,462 15 2	14,356 4 10	—
Sanction 15 January 1863 -	Cemetery - - -	20,000 0 0	20,000 0 0	14,394 2 10	5,605 17 2	—
Sanction 10 July 1865 - -	Cemetery - - -	20,000 0 0	20,000 0 0	10,999 16 6	9,000 3 6	—
	Carried forward - -	522,332 9 5	522,332 9 5	86,484 13 5	435,847 16 0	—

THIRD SCHEDULE—*continued.*

Act or Order under which Borrowing Powers have been Conferred. 1	Purpose. 2	Borrowing Power Sanctioned. 3	Amount Borrowed. 4	Debt Extinguished. 5	Debt Outstanding. 6	Amount in Sinking Fund. 7
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Brought forward -	522,332 9 5	522,332 9 5	86,484 13 5	435,847 16 0	—
Act of 1881 - - -	Ferry - - - - -	40,000 0 0	34,363 4 5	1,696 0 0	32,667 4 5	—
	Town Hall and Sessions Court	60,000 0 0	60,000 0 0	2,963 0 0	57,037 0 0	—
	Streets improvements - -	21,000 0 0	13,000 0 0	641 0 0	12,359 0 0	—
Act of 1884 - - -	Town Hall and Sessions Court	32,000 0 0	32,000 0 0	7,960 0 0	24,040 0 0	—
Act of 1884 - - -	Streets improvements - -	75,000 0 0	75,000 0 0	11,200 0 0	63,800 0 0	—
L. G. Act 1888 - -	Redemption of county charges	20,000 0 0	20,000 0 0	2,925 0 0	17,075 0 0	—
Sanction—						
22nd Sept. 1890 - -	Birkenhead Trams - -	8,000 0 0	8,000 0 0	1,280 0 0	6,720 0 0	—
19th Dec. 1894 - - -	Wirral do. - -	4,630 0 0	4,630 0 0	52 0 0	4,578 0 0	—
11th Sept. 1894 - -	Fire station &c. - -	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	59 0 0	2,941 0 0	—
11th Sept. 1894 - - -	Fire engine and appliances -	2,000 0 0	2,000 0 0	—	2,000 0 0	—
6th Sept. 1895 - -	Additional fire appliances -	1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	—	1,000 0 0	—
16th Nov. 1894 - -	Fire station - - -	700 0 0	700 0 0	—	700 0 0	—
4th Sept. 1893 - -	Hospital - - - - -	15,400 0 0	15,400 0 0	870 0 0	14,530 0 0	—
7th Nov. 1894 - - -	„ - - - -	2,000 0 0	2,000 0 0	—	2,000 0 0	—

11th Sept. 1894	- - -	Stone Yard	- - -	161	0	0	161	0	0	18	0	0	143	0	0	—
28th Sept. and 25th Oct. 1883		Mersey Park	- - -	22,850	0	0	22,850	0	0	3,590	0	0	19,260	0	0	—
14th Feb. 1894	- - -	Bidston Hill	- - -	5,000	0	0	5,000	0	0	120	0	0	4,880	0	0	—
6th Jan. 1883	- - -	Sewerage	- - -	2,350	0	0	2,350	0	0	955	0	0	1,395	0	0	—
28th Sept. and 25th Oct. 1883		„	- - -	7,500	0	0	7,500	0	0	6,090	0	0	1,410	0	0	—
15th Jan. 1894	- - -	„	- - -	3,313	0	0	3,313	0	0	200	0	0	3,113	0	0	—
19th July 1883	- - -	Reconstruction of Beckwith Street.		6,000	0	0	6,000	0	0	4,771	0	0	1,229	0	0	—
26th Aug. 1889	- - -	„	„ „	2,000	0	0	2,000	0	0	1,620	0	0	380	0	0	—
18th Oct. 1894	- - -	Sewerage	-	104	0	0	104	0	0	4	5	0	99	15	0	—
25th March 1895	- - -	„	- - -	390	0	0	390	0	0	—			390	0	0	—
13th May 1896	- - -	„	- - -	907	0	0	907	0	0	—			907	0	0	—
9th Feb. 1892	- -	Destructor site	- - -	3,300	0	0	3,300	0	0	120	0	0	3,180	0	0	—
4th Nov. 1893	- - -	„	buildings &c. -	20,251	0	0	20,251	0	0	1,090	0	0	19,161	0	0	—
19th June 1896	- -	„	„ -	2,500	0	0	2,500	0	0	—			2,500	0	0	—
4th Nov. 1893	- - -	„	site - -	2,473	0	0	2,473	0	0	50	0	0	2,423	0	0	—
23rd Sept. 1881	- -	Streets improvements	- -	18,000	0	0	18,000	0	0	7,411	0	0	10,589	0	0	—
28th Sept. and 25th Oct. 1883		„	„ -	14,000	0	0	14,000	0	0	1,790	0	0	12,210	0	0	—
28th Sept. and 25th Oct. 1883		„	„ -	8,000	0	0	8,000	0	0	4,691	0	0	3,309	0	0	—
28th Sept. and 25th Oct. 1883		„	„ -	12,262	0	0	9,200	0	0	5,510	0	0	3,690	0	0	—
28th Sept. and 25th Oct. 1883		„	„ -	21,500	0	0	21,500	0	0	2,000	0	0	19,500	0	0	—
11th Sept. 1894	- - -	„	„ -	1,900	0	0	1,900	0	0	—			1,900	0	0	—
18th Oct. 1894	- -	„	„ -	3,744	0	0	3,744	0	0	132	10	0	3,611	10	0	—
		Carried forward	- -	965,567	9	5	948,868	13	10	156,293	8	5	792,575	5	5	—

THIRD SCHEDULE—*continued.*

Act or Order under which Borrowing Powers have been Conferred. 1	Purpose. 2	Borrowing Power Sanctioned. 3	Amount Borrowed. 4	Debt Extinguished. 5	Debt Outstanding. 6	Amount in Sinking Fund. 7
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Brought forward - -	965,567 9 5	948,868 13 10	156,293 8 5	792,575 5 5	—
21st May 1896 - - -	Streets improvements - -	1,386 0 0	1,386 0 0	—	1,386 0 0	—
16th Aug. 1894 - -	Electric lighting - - -	1,576 0 0	1,576 0 0	25 0 0	1,551 0 0	—
22nd Dec. 1894 - - -	,, - -	18,424 0 0	18,424 0 0	206 0 0	18,218 0 0	—
Act of 1881 Sects. 289 and 290	Gasworks - - -	224,684 0 0	224,684 0 0	22,210 0 0	202,474 0 0	3,348 12 9
Do. Sects. 34 and 36 -	,, - - -	85,000 0 0	85,000 0 0	1,084 0 0	83,916 0 0	1,279 14 11
Do. and Act of 1890 Sect. 7	,, - - -	2,000 0 0	2,000 0 0	50 0 0	1,950 0 0	16 10 7
Act of 1881 Old debt - -	Waterworks - - -	45,250 0 0	45,250 0 0	30,984 9 7	14,265 10 5	—
Do. Sects. 289 and 290	,, - - -	120,100 0 0	120,100 0 0	13,729 0 0	106,371 0 0	24 18 2
Do. Sects. 34 and 36 -	,, - - -	38,000 0 0	7,950 0 0	—	7,950 0 0	430 16 0
L.G.B. Sanction 29th Apr. 1880	,, - - -	6,000 0 0	6,000 0 0	—	6,000 0 0	1,807 2 3
Do. 26th Oct. 1886	,, - - -	25,000 0 0	20,530 0 0	—	20,530 0 0	3,718 1 2
Do. 24th Feb. 1894	,, - - -	3,450 0 0	3,450 0 0	—	3,450 0 0	261 14 8
Do. 9th Apr. 1895	,, - - -	7,842 0 0	1,500 0 0	—	1,500 0 0	10 3 3
		1,544,279 9 5	1,486,718 13 10	224,581 18 0	1,262,136 15 10	10,897 13 9

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