CHAPTER 74.

An Act to amend the Public Health Act, 1875, with respect to the Officers of Local Authorities.

[14th August 1884.]

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:

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Public Health (Officers) Act, 1884, and shall be construed as one with the Public Health Act, 1875, in this Act called the principal Act.

Restriction on recovery of penalties.

2. Proceedings for the recovery of any penalty under the hundred and ninety-third section of the principal Act shall not be taken except with the consent in writing of the Attorney-General.

CHAPTER 75.

An Act to amend the Canal Boats Act, 1877.

[14th August 1884.]

40 & 41 Vict. c. 60.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Canal Boats Act, 1877, in this Act referred to as the principal Act:

Be it therefore 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:

Certificate of registry made void by structural alterations.

1. A certificate of registration granted under the principal Act shall cease to be in force in the event of any structural alterations having been made in the canal boat affecting the conditions upon which the certificate of registration has been obtained.

Penalty for contravention of regulations under Canal Boats Acts.

2. If default is made in complying with any of the regulations made or to be made by the Local Government Board and Education Department under the principal Act or this Act, and for the time being in force, the master of the boat with respect to which the default is made, and also the owner of the boat, if in default, shall for each default be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding twenty shillings.

Enforcement of Act by registration and sanitary authority, and report to be made.

3. It shall be the duty of every registration or sanitary authority within whose district any canal, or any part of a canal is situate, to enforce within such district the provisions of the principal Act and this Act, and any regulations made thereunder by the Local Government Board; and every such authority shall, within twenty-one days after the thirty-first day of December in every year, make a report to the Local Government Board as to the execution of the principal Act and this Act, and of the regulations made thereunder as aforesaid, and as to the steps taken by such authority during the year to give effect to the provisions of the said Acts and regulations.

Inquiries and reports by Local Government Board.

4. The Local Government Board shall in every year present a report to both Houses of Parliament as to the execution of the principal Act and this Act, and the observance of the regulations

made by them thereunder; and shall cause inquiries to be made from time to time by an inspector or inspectors to be appointed by them for that purpose.

Such inspectors shall for the purpose of any inquiry under this Act have, in relation to witnesses and their examination, the production of papers, and inspection of places and matters required to be inspected, similar powers to those which poor law inspectors have under the Acts relating to the relief of the poor for the purposes of those Acts, and may enter any canal boat at any time by day, and examine the same and every part thereof, and may, if need be, for the purpose of such inquiry detain the boat, but for no longer time than is necessary.

The master of the boat shall, if required by any such inspector, produce to him the certificate of registry, if any, of the boat, and permit him to examine and copy the same, and shall furnish him with such assistance and means as such inspector may require for the purpose of his entry and examination of and departure from the boat in pursuance of this section.

A refusal to comply with the requisition of such inspector under this section shall be deemed to be an obstruction of such inspector.

If such inspector is obstructed in the performance of his duty under this Act, the person obstructing him shall be liable to a fine not exceeding forty shillings.

Power to make regulations as to school certificates, &c.

5. The power to make regulations given to the Local Government Board by the principal Act and this Act shall include power to the Education Department to make regulations with respect to the form of certificates or pass books as to attendance at school to be used by children in canal boats.

Annual report by Education Department.

6. The Education Department shall every year report to Parliament as to the manner in which the Elementary Education Acts, 1870 and 1873, 1876 and 1880, are enforced with respect to children in canal boats, and shall for that purpose direct Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools to communicate with the School Boards and School Attendance Committees in their district.

Lettering and numbering of canal boats.

7. A canal boat shall not be deemed to be lettered, marked, and numbered in conformity with section three of the principal Act, unless it is so lettered, marked, and numbered on both sides of the canal boat, or in some suitable position on the stern of the boat, so that the lettering, marking, and numbering may be plainly visible from both sides of the canal whereon the boat may be.

Application of fines.

8. Every fine recovered under the principal Act or this Act shall be paid in the case of a prosecution by any registration or sanitary authority or person authorised by any such authority to such authority or person, and if paid to such person shall be paid by him to such authority, and shall be applied towards the expenses of executing the principal Act and this Act, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Definition of term "by day."

9. The expression "by day" in the principal Act and this Act shall be deemed to include the hours between six o'clock in the morning and nine o'clock at night.

Amendment of definition of canal boat.

10. If it shall at any time appear to the Local Government Board, on the representation of any registration or sanitary authority or of any inspector appointed under this Act, that the principal

Act and this Act ought to apply to any vessel or class of vessels which would be within the definition of canal boat contained in section fourteen of the principal Act, if such vessel or class of vessels were not registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, and the Acts amending the same, the Local Government Board may declare that the principal Act and this Act shall apply to such vessel or class of vessels, although the same may be registered as aforesaid, and thereupon the same shall be deemed to be a canal boat or canal boats within the meaning of the principal Act and this Act, and the definition contained in section fourteen of the principal Act shall be amended accordingly.

Short title and construction of Act.

11. This Act may be cited as the Canal Boats Act, 1884, and shall be construed as one with the Canal Boats Act, 1877, which Act and this Act may be cited together as the Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884.

CHAPTER 76.

An Act to amend the Law with respect to the Protection of the Post Office and to Offences committed in relation to the Post Office. [14th August 1884.]

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:

Preliminary.

Short titles.

1. This Act may be cited as the Post Office (Protection) Act, 1884.

7 Will. 4. & 1 Vict. c. 36. 44 & 45 Vict. c. 20.

This Act and the Post Office (Offences) Act, 1837, may be cited together as the Post Office (Offences) Acts, 1837 and 1884, and this Act and the Post Office (Management) Acts, 1837 to 1881, may be cited together as the Post Office (Management) Acts, 1837 to 1884.

7 Will. 4. & 1 Vict. c. 36.

This Act shall be deemed to be a Post Office Act within the meaning of the Post Office (Offences) Act, 1837.

Commencement of Act.

2. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of September one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four (which day is in this Act referred to as the commencement of this Act).

Protection of Post Offices, Postal Packets, and Stamps.

Prohibition of placing injurious substances in or against post office letter boxes.

3. A person shall not place or attempt to place in or against any post office letter box any fire, any match, any light, any explosive substance, any dangerous substance, any filth, any noxious or deleterious substance, or any fluid, and shall not commit a nuisance in or against any post office letter box, and shall not do or attempt to do anything likely to injure the box, appurtenances, or contents.

Any person who acts in contravention of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding ten pounds, and on conviction on indictment,