apply in the case of undermanning, and accordingly that section shall be construed as if the words "or by reason of undermanning" were inserted therein after the words "improper loading."

Short title.

2. This Act may be cited as the Merchant Shipping Act, 1897.

CHAPTER 60.

An Act for the Prevention of Accidents by Chaff-Cutting Machines. [6th August 1897.]

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:

Feeding mouth to have fittings to secure safety.

1. The feeding mouth or box of every chaff-cutting machine which is worked by any motive power other than manual labour shall, so far as is reasonably practicable and consistent with the due and efficient working of the machine, be of such construction or fitted with such apparatus or contrivance as to prevent the hand or arm of the person feeding the machine from being drawn between the rollers to the knives.

Fly-wheel and knives to be securely fenced.

2. The fly-wheel and knives of every chaff-cutting machine which is worked by any motive power other than manual labour, shall, so far as is reasonably practicable and consistent with the due and efficient working of the machine, be kept sufficiently and securely fenced at all times during the working thereof.

Penalty for offences.

3. If any person permits to be worked any chaff-cutting machine belonging to him, or used for his service or benefit, which does not comply with the requirements of this Act,

or if any foreman or other person in charge of any chaff-cutting machine, which does not comply with the requirements of this Act, works it or permits it to be worked,

or if any person, during the working of any chaff-cutting machine, unnecessarily and without due cause removes any guard or thing provided in compliance with the requirements of this Act,

Every person so offending on any day shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding five pounds.

In prosecutions, owner of machine to prove he has taken proper precautions.

4. If in the prosecution of any person to whom the chaff-cutting machine belongs, or for whose service or benefit it is used, it is shown that the machine did not during the working thereof comply with the requirements of this Act, such person shall be deemed to have permitted the same unless he satisfy the court that he took all reasonable precautions to ensure compliance with the requirements of this Act.

Defendant and husband or wife to be

5. Every person charged with an offence under this Act before any court of criminal jurisdiction, and the husband or wife of the

person so charged, shall be competent but not compellable witnesses on every hearing at every stage of such charge. competent witnesses.

6. Any constable acting upon the instruction of an officer of police not below the grade of inspector may at any time enter on any premises on which he has reasonable cause to believe that a chaff-cutting machine which does not comply with the requirements of this Act is being worked, for the purpose of inspecting such machine. Constable may enter premises for inspecting machine.

7. This Act shall not come into operation until the first day of August one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight. Commencement of Act.

8. This Act may be cited as the Chaff-Cutting Machines (Accidents) Act, 1897. Short title.

CHAPTER 61.

An Act to remove certain Exemptions from Compulsory Pilotage. [6th August 1897.]

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:

1. As from the first day of July one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight, section six hundred and three of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, so far as it continues the exemptions granted by section fifty-nine of the Act passed in the sixth year of King George the Fourth, chapter one hundred and twenty-five, and extended by the Order in Council of the eighteenth of February one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and the said Order in Council, shall cease to operate in the case of vessels on voyages between any port in Sweden or Norway and the port of London. Abolition of exemptions from compulsory pilotage under 6 Geo. 4. c. 125. s. 59.

2. This Act may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Exemption from Pilotage) Act, 1897. Short title.

CHAPTER 62.

An Act to amend the provisions of Section Sixty-seven of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1872, in regard to the additional grant to School Boards, and to provide out of the Exchequer an aid grant for Voluntary Schools in Scotland, and for the Exemption from Rates of those Schools. [6th August 1897.]

WHEREAS by section sixty-seven of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1872, it is enacted as follows: 35 & 36 Vict. c. 62.

"Where in any parish or burgh a school rate of not less than threepence in the pound on the rateable value of such parish or burgh shall be levied, and the whole produce of such rate is less