(*b.*) That in the case of any such scheme, every parish must in its entirety be within a rural deanery, and every rural deanery must in its entirety be within an archdeaconry, and an archdeaconry must not extend beyond the limits of one diocese.

Schedule of rural deaneries to be deposited in diocesan registry.

2. As soon as may be after the passing of this Act, a schedule under the hand and seal of the bishop shall be deposited in the registry of each diocese, setting forth the portions or divisions of the diocese which at the time of the passing of the Act were accounted and held to be rural deaneries; and such portions or divisions of the diocese shall be regarded and held to be rural deaneries as if they had been constituted such under the provisions of this Act.

CHAPTER 64.

An Act to further alter and amend the Law of Evidence in Scotland, and to provide for the recording, by means of Short-hand Writing, of Evidence in Civil Causes in Sheriff Courts in Scotland. [7th August 1874.]

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:

Sect. 4. of 16 & 17 Vict. c. 20. repealed.

1. The fourth section of the Act of the sixteenth and seventeenth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter twenty, intituled "An Act to alter and amend an Act of the "fifteenth year of Her present Majesty for amending the law of evidence in Scotland," is hereby repealed.

Parties and their husbands and wives to be witnesses in proceedings on account of adultery.

2. The parties to any proceeding instituted in consequence of adultery, and the husbands and wives of such parties, shall be competent to give evidence in such proceeding; provided that no witness in any proceeding, whether a party to the suit or not, shall be liable to be asked or bound to answer any question tending to show that he or she has been guilty of adultery, unless such witness shall have already given evidence in the same proceeding in disproof of his or her alleged adultery.

Law as to proof of promise of marriage in declarator of marriage founded thereon, cum copula subsequente, not to be altered.

3. Nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to alter or affect the law of Scotland in force at and prior to the passing of this Act relating to the proof of a promise of marriage in any action of declarator of marriage founded upon promise of marriage, cum copula subsequente.

Short-hand writers may be employed to record evidence in sheriff courts.

4. In every case of a proof in a civil cause or proceeding in a sheriff court in Scotland, and in every case of evidence being taken in any such cause or proceeding to lie in retentis, the following provisions shall have effect:

(1.) It shall be competent to the sheriff, on the motion of any party to the cause or proceeding and if he sees fit, to cause the evidence to be taken down and recorded in short-hand by a writer skilled in short-hand writing, to whom the oath de fideli administratione shall be administered, provided that the sheriff shall himself dictate to the short-hand writer the evidence which he is to record, and a note of the documents adduced and any admissions made by the parties:

(2.) When a short-hand writer is so employed he shall be appointed by the sheriff and paid by the parties in the first instance equally, and the extended notes of such short-hand writer, certified by him as correct, shall be the record of the oral evidence in the case; provided that, should the correctness of the said record of evidence be questioned it shall be competent to the sheriff to satisfy himself in regard thereto, by the examination of witnesses or otherwise, and, if necessary, to amend the said record.

Interpretation of terms.

5. In this Act the term "sheriff" includes sheriff substitute, and any person appointed by a sheriff to take evidence on commission according to the present law and practice.

Short title.

6. This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The Evidence Further Amendment (Scotland) Act, 1874."

CHAPTER 65.

An Act to enable Her Majesty to provide for the Support and Maintenance of His Royal Highness Prince Leopold George Duncan Albert on his coming of age. [7th August 1874.]

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled, having taken into consideration Your Majesty's most gracious message, that Your Majesty is desirous of making competent provision for the honourable support and maintenance of Your Majesty's fourth son, His Royal Highness Prince Leopold George Duncan Albert, on his coming of age, do most humbly beseech 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:

Power to Her Majesty to grant an annuity of 15,000*l.* to Prince Leopold George Duncan Albert for life.

1. It shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by letters patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to grant unto His said Royal Highness, or to such persons as Her Majesty may think fit to name in the said letters patent, on trust for His said Royal Highness, and subject to such conditions as Her Majesty may direct, an annuity of fifteen thousand pounds for his life, such annuity to commence from the seventh day of April one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, the day on which His said Royal Highness came of age, to be free from all taxes, assessments, and charges, and to be paid quarterly on the fifth day of January, the fifth day of April, the fifth day of July, and the tenth day of October.

Payment of proportionate part of annuity.

2. The first payment of the said annuity shall include such portion thereof as may have accrued between the said date of His said Royal Highness coming of age and the first of the said quarterly days which happens after the passing of this Act, and shall be made on such last-mentioned day, and a proportionate part shall be payable between the last quarterly day of payment and the day of the determination thereof: Provided that in the event of His said Royal Highness succeeding to any sovereignty or principality abroad it shall be lawful for Her Majesty or her successors, with the consent of Parliament, to revoke or reduce the said annuity by warrant under the Sign Manual.

Annuity granted by this Act to be charged on the Consolidated Fund.

3. The annuity granted in pursuance of this Act shall, if Her Majesty think fit so to direct, be a personal and inalienable provision, and the same shall be charged on and payable out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or the growing produce thereof, after paying or reserving sufficient to pay such sums as may have been directed to be paid out of the said fund by former Acts of Parliament, but with preference to all other payments which may hereafter be charged on the said fund.