GENERAL EXEMPTIONS from the FOREGOING DUTIES.

All Proceedings by or on behalf of any Person legally admitted to sue or defend in formâ Pauperis.

ALLOWANCES on the PURCHASE of STAMPS.

To any licensed Retailer of Stamps who shall bring Vellum, Parchment, or Paper to the Stamp Office to be stamped with the above Duties or any of them to the Amount in the Total of Twenty Pounds or upwards, an Allowance after the Rate of One Pound and Ten Shillings for every One hundred Pounds upon prompt Payment of the said Duty.

CAP. CXV.

An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Friendly Societies.

[15th *August* 1850.]

'WHEREAS many Societies have been established in *Great Britain* and *Ireland* for the Purpose of affording Relief and Maintenance to the Members thereof in Sickness, old Age, or Infirmity, and for other Purposes of a provident and benevolent Nature; and it is expedient to amend the Laws relating to such Friendly Societies, and to make further Provision for Protection of the Members against Fraud and Misapplication of their Funds, and to consolidate the same in One 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, That an Act passed in the Tenth Year of His late Majesty King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Friendly Societies;* and also an Act passed in the Second Year of His late Majesty King *William* the Fourth, intituled *An Act to amend an Act of the Tenth Year of His late Majesty King* George *the Fourth, by extending the Time within which pre-existing Societies must conform to the Provisions of that Act;* and also an Act passed in the Fourth and Fifth Years of His late Majesty King *William* the Fourth, intituled *An Act to amend an Act of the Tenth Year of His late Majesty King* George *the Fourth, to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Friendly Societies;* and also an Act passed in the Session of Parliament held in the Third and Fourth Years of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act to explain and amend the Acts relating to Friendly Societies;* and also an Act passed in the Session of Parliament held in the Ninth and Tenth Years of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act to amend the Laws relating to Friendly Societies,* shall be and the same are hereby repealed, except so far as any of the said Acts repeal the whole or any Part of any other Acts, and except so far as the same may be applicable to any Benefit Building Society established under an Act passed in the Session of Parliament held in the Sixth and Seventh Years of the Reign of His late Majesty King *William* the Fourth: Provided nevertheless, that such Repeal shall not invalidate or affect anything which has been done before the passing of this Act in pursuance of any of the said Acts: Provided also, that the Provisions of the said Acts, except as herein-after provided, shall continue in force, as to all Societies established under any or either of them before the passing of this Act.

Repeal of 10 G. 4. c. 56. 2 & 3 W. 4. c. 37. 4 & 5 W. 4. c. 40. 3 & 4 Vict. c. 73. 9 & 10 Vict. c. 27.

II. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Number of Persons to establish a Society or Branch of the same under the Provisions of this Act, for the Purpose of raising by voluntary Subscriptions of the Members thereof, with or without the Aid of Donations, a Fund for any of the following Objects; that is to say,

Objects for which Friendly Societies may be established.

1. For insuring a Sum of Money to be paid, on the Death of a Member, to the Widower or Widow of a Member, as the Case may be, or to the Child, or to the Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, of such Member, or for defraying the Expense of the Burial of a Member, or of the Husband, Wife, Child, or Kindred of a Member; subject always to the Restrictions herein-after enacted in that Behalf:

2. For

2. For the Relief, Maintenance, or Endowment of the Members, their Husbands, Wives, Children, or Kindred, in Infancy, old Age, Sickness, Widowhood, or any other natural State of which the Probability may be calculated by way of Average:

3. For insuring or making good any Loss or Damage of live or dead Stock, Goods or Stock in Trade, Implements and Tools, sustained by any Member by Fire, Flood, Shipwreck, or any Contingency of which the Probability may be calculated by way of Average:

4. For the frugal Investment of the Savings of the Members for better enabling them to purchase Food, Firing, Clothes, or other Necessaries, or the Tools, Implements, or Materials of their Trade or Calling, or to provide for the Education of their Children or Kindred: Provided, that the Shares in any such Investment Society shall not be transferable, and that the Investment of each Member shall accumulate or be employed for the sole Benefit of the Member investing, or of the Husband, Wife, Children, or Kindred of such Member, and that no Part thereof shall be appropriated to the Relief, Maintenance, or Endowment of any other Person whomsoever; and that the whole Amount of the Balance due, according to the Rules of such Society, to such Member, shall be paid to him or her on withdrawing from such Society:

5. For the Purpose of enabling any Member, or the Husband, Wife, or Children, or Nominee, of such Member, to emigrate; provided that, in case of any Society for that Purpose, One of the Trustees shall be a Justice of the Peace residing in and acting for the County, Borough, or Place in which such Society shall be established:

6. For any Purpose which shall be certified to be legal in *England* or *Ireland* by Her Majesty's Attorney General, or in *Scotland* by the Lord Advocate, as a Purpose to which the Powers and Facilities of this Act ought to be extended:

Act limited to Societies not assuring above 100*l.*, or Annuity of 30*l.*, or Allowance of 20*s.* per Week in Sickness.

Provided always, that it shall not be lawful for any Society or Branch established under this Act to assure the Payment to or on the Death of any Member, or on any Contingency, or for any of the Purposes for which the Payment of Sums may be assured under this Act, of any Sum exceeding One hundred Pounds, nor any Annuity exceeding Thirty Pounds *per Annum*, nor a Sum in Sickness exceeding Twenty Shillings *per* Week.

No Sum to be paid on the Death of a Child except for Funeral.

Certificate of Surgeon or Coroner required before Money is paid on Death of a Member.

III. And be it enacted, That in all Societies established under the Provisions of this Act, or of any Act relating to Friendly Societies, it shall not be lawful for the Trustees or other Officers of such Societies to assure a Sum of Money to be paid on the Death of a Child, whether a Member of such Society or not, under the Age of Ten Years, except the actual Funeral Expenses, not exceeding Three Pounds in case of such Child, to be paid to the Undertaker or Person by whom the Burial is conducted, and whose Receipt alone shall be sufficient Discharge to the Society, nor to pay any Sum of Money which may have been insured and become payable on the Death of any Member thereof, or of the Husband, Wife, or Child of any Member, unless the Party applying for the same shall produce and deliver to the Officer a Certificate, signed by a Physician, Surgeon, Apothecary, or Coroner, in the Form (D.) set forth in the Schedule to this Act annexed, except in Cases where from the Nature of the Circumstances it is impossible to procure such Certificate; and if any Officer of such Society shall pay or cause to be paid such Sum of Money as aforesaid without such Certificate as aforesaid, such Officer shall be liable to a Penalty not exceeding Ten Pounds, to be recoverable before any Justice of the Peace or Magistrate of any Borough where such Society is established; and, upon Conviction thereof, one Half of the said Penalty shall be paid to the Informer, and he is hereby declared to be competent to give Evidence in this Case, and the other Half shall be paid to the Overseer of the Parish in which the Place of Business of such Society or Branch is situated, to be applied to the Relief of the Poor therein.

Power to repeal or alter Rules, and appoint Committee and Officers.

IV. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Persons intending to establish under the Provisions of this Act a Friendly Society or Branch thereof to make or adopt Rules for the Government and Guidance of the same, and to make such Provision in the Rules as they shall think fit, for ordaining, repealing, altering, or amending any Rules, and to impose reasonable Fines and Forfeitures on any Member offending against the Regulations of the same, and to form a General Committee or Board of Management, and to delegate to the same all or any of the Powers given by this Act, to be executed either with respect to the Management of the Society or Branch, or the Enactment, Amendment, Repeal,

Repeal, or Alteration of the Rules thereof; and in such Rules there shall distinctly be set forth,

1. The Name and Designation of such Society or Branch, and Place where the Business thereof is carried on, the whole of the Objects and Intentions for which it is founded, the whole of the Purposes to which the Funds thereof are applicable according to the Rules and Tables thereof, and the Conditions under which any Member, or Party claiming under or by a Member, may become entitled to any Benefit assured thereby:

2. The Manner of making, repealing, or altering Rules, of appointing Trustees, a Treasurer, and an Officer who shall keep the Books and Accounts, and prepare the Returns required by this Act, a General Board or Committee of Management, and the Duties and Powers of each:

3. The Mode in which the Funds shall be invested:

4. The Manner in which Disputes between the Society or Branch, and any Member thereof, or Person claiming on account or through any Member, shall be settled.

Separate Accounts to be kept of Money paid and received for each particular Fund or Benefit.

V. Provided always, and be it enacted, That the Rules of every such Society or Branch shall provide that all Monies received or paid on account of each and every particular Fund or Benefit assured to the Members thereof, their Husbands, Wives, Children, or Kindred, for which a separate Table of Contributions payable shall have been adopted, shall be entered in a separate Account distinct from the Monies received and paid on account of any other Benefit or Fund.

Society or Branch not legally established till Rules certified.

VI. And be it enacted, That such Society or Branch shall not be deemed to be legally established under this Act, nor be entitled to any of the Provisions of the same, unless the Rules and every Amendment of Rules or Tables made from Time to Time thereof shall have been duly certified by the Registrar as herein-after provided.

Registrar to give Certificate.

VII. And be it enacted, That Two printed or written Copies of all Rules and Tables adopted by such Society or Branch, together with the Name and Residence of every Trustee thereof, signed by Three Members, and countersigned by the Clerk or Steward or other Officer, with all convenient Speed after the same shall be made, altered, or amended, and so from Time to Time after every making, altering, or amending thereof, shall be transmitted to the Registrar of Friendly Societies in *England*, *Scotland*, or *Ireland*, as the Case may be; and so soon as the said Registrar shall find the said Rules to be framed in conformity with Law, and that no Rule or Part thereof is repugnant to another, and that the same are reasonable and proper, he shall register the same; and if such Rules and Tables have been certified under the Hand of the Actuary to the Commissioners for Reduction of the National Debt, or by some other Actuary who shall have been for more than Five Years an Actuary of some Life Assurance Company established in *London*, *Edinburgh*, or *Dublin*, in the Form set forth in Schedule (C.) to this Act annexed, and signed by him at the Foot both of the Rules and Tables, or shall have been furnished to such Society or Branch by the Registrar, the Registrar shall give a Certificate in the Form set forth in Schedule (B.) to this Act annexed, and such Society or Branch shall be denominated Certified Friendly Society; but if such Rules and Tables shall not have been so certified by an Actuary as above mentioned, in such Case the Registrar shall give a Certificate in the Form set forth in Schedule (A.) to this Act annexed, and such Society or Branch shall be denominated Registered Friendly Society; and the Registrar shall return one of the Copies to the Society or Branch, and shall keep the other in such Manner as shall be from Time to Time directed by One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State; and all Rules, Alterations or Amendments thereof, when certified as aforesaid, shall be binding on the several Members, and all Persons claiming by or under them.

Certified Friendly Societies.

Registered Societies.

Societies granting Annuities to have Tables of such Annuities certified by Actuary.

VIII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the Registrar to grant any Certificate to any Society assuring to any Member thereof a certain Annuity, deferred or immediate, unless the Tables of Contributions payable for such Kind of Assurance shall have been certified by an Actuary as aforesaid or furnished by the Registrar.

Fees to be paid to Registrar for Certificates.

IX. And be it enacted, That for every such Certificate of Rules of any Friendly Society a Fee of One Guinea shall be paid to the Registrar, and for every Certificate of Rules of any Branch of such Society a Fee of Two Shillings and Sixpence; and for every Cer-

tificate of Amendment, Repeal, or Alteration of Rules of any Society or Branch a Fee of Two Shillings and Sixpence shall be paid to the Registrar.

Appointment and Salary of Registrar.

X. And be it enacted, That the future Registrars of Friendly Societies in *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland* respectively shall be appointed by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, and shall hold Office during the Pleasure of the said Commissioners; and it shall be lawful for Her Majesty to grant to the Registrar in *England* already appointed a Salary not exceeding One thousand Pounds by the Year, and to every Registrar in *England* hereafter to be appointed a Salary not exceeding Eight hundred Pounds by the Year, and to every Registrar in *Ireland* and *Scotland* respectively already or to be hereafter appointed such a Salary as to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall seem meet, and every such Salary shall be paid by Four equal quarterly Payments; and any Registrar who shall be appointed, or shall die, resign, or be removed from his Office, in the Interval between Two quarterly Days of Payment, shall be entitled to a Part of his Salary proportional to that Part of such Quarter of a Year during which he shall hold his Appointment.

Treasurer to give Bond.

XI. And be it enacted, That every Treasurer of any Society or Branch established under the Provisions of this Act, before he shall be admitted to take upon him the Execution of any such Office, shall become bound in a Bond according to the Form set forth in Schedule (E.) to this Act annexed, with Two sufficient Sureties, for the just and faithful Execution of such Office, and for rendering a just and true Account according to the Rules of such Society or Branch, in such penal Sum of Money as by the Trustees or Board of Management shall be deemed expedient; and every such Bond to be given by or on behalf of such Officer shall be given to the Trustees of the said Society or Branch for the Time being; and in case of Forfeiture it shall be lawful to sue upon such Bond in the Name of the Trustees for the Time being, for the Use of the said Society or Branch; provided that such Bond shall have in *Scotland* the same Force and Effect as a Bond in the Form in use in *Scotland* containing a Clause of Registration.

Trustees, &c. to invest Funds.

XII. And be it enacted, That the Trustees or Treasurer for the Time being of any such Society or Branch, or of any Society already established under any of the Acts relating to Friendly Societies, shall and they are hereby required, from Time to Time, by and with the Consent of such Society or Branch, to be had and testified in such Manner as the Rules shall direct, to lay out and invest such Part of all Sums of Money as shall at any Time be collected, given, or paid to and for the Purposes of such Society, as may not be wanted for the immediate Use thereof, or to meet the usual accruing Liabilities of such Society or Branch, in the Names of such Trustees, in any Savings Banks, subject to the Provisions of Acts in force relating to the same, or in any of the Parliamentary Stocks or Public Funds of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, or at Interest upon Government Securities, or in Bank of *England* Stock, or in the Stock or Securities of the Honourable *East India* Company, or on Mortgage of Freehold, Leasehold, or Copyhold Property, such Leasehold being for a Term of Years absolute of which not less than Thirty Years shall be unexpired, and such Copyhold being Copyhold of Inheritance, in *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, or on Security of any Heritable Property, or in any chartered or other public Joint Stock Bank in *Scotland*, or in or upon the Security of any County or Borough Rates authorized to be levied and mortgaged by any Act of Parliament, or on Loan to any Member of any such Society on the Security of any Policy of Assurance effected on his own Life, provided that the Amount of such Loan shall not exceed the actual estimated Value of such Policy at the Time such Loan be made; and from Time to Time, with such Consent as aforesaid, to alter and transfer such Securities and Funds, and to make Sale thereof respectively; and all Dividends, Interests, and Proceeds which shall from Time to Time arise from the Monies so laid out or invested as aforesaid shall be brought to account by such Trustees, and shall be applied to and for the Use of such Society or Branch, according to the Rules thereof: Provided always, that it shall be lawful for the Trustees or Treasurer as aforesaid, with the Consent of such Society or Branch as aforesaid, to purchase, hire, or take upon Lease any Room or Premises for the Purpose of holding therein the Meetings of such Society or Branch, or for the Transaction of Business relating thereto, and to hold the same in trust in and for the Use of such Society or Branch, and to sell, exchange, let, and demise the same in whole or in part with the Consent as aforesaid.

XIII. And

XIII. And be it enacted, That all Hereditaments, Monies, Goods, Chattels, and Effects whatever, and all Titles, Securities for Money, or other obligatory Instruments and Evidences or Muniments, and all Rights or Claims, belonging to or had by such Society or Branch, shall be vested in the Trustees or Trustee for the Time being of the same, for the Use and Benefit of such Society or Branch, and the respective Members thereof, their respective Executors or Administrators, according to their respective Claims and Interests, and after the Death or Removal of any Trustees or Trustee shall vest in the succeeding Trustees or Trustee for the same Estate and Interest as the former Trustees or Trustee had therein, and subject to the same Trusts, without any Conveyance or Assignment whatever, except the Transfer of Stocks and Securities in the Public Funds of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; and also shall, for all Purposes of Action or Suit, as well criminal as civil, in Law or in Equity, in anywise touching or concerning the same, be deemed and taken to be, and shall in every such Proceeding (where necessary) be stated to be, the Property of the Person or Persons appointed to the Office of Trustee of such Society for the Time being, in his or their proper Name or Names, without further Description; and such Persons or Person shall and they are hereby respectively authorized to bring or defend, or cause to be brought or defended, any Action, Suit, or Prosecution, criminal as well as civil, in any Court of Law or Equity, touching or concerning the Property, Right, or Claim aforesaid of or belonging to or had by such Society or Branch; and such Persons shall and may in all Cases concerning the Property, Right, or Claim aforesaid of such Society, sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in any Court of Law or Equity, in their or his proper Names or Name, as Trustees or Trustee of such Society or Branch, without other Description; and no such Suit, Action, or Prosecution shall be discontinued or abate by the Death of such Person or his Removal from the Office of Trustee, but the same shall and may be proceeded in by the succeeding Trustees or Trustee in the proper Name of the Person commencing the same, and such succeeding Trustees or Trustee shall pay or receive like Costs as if the Action or Suit had been commenced in his or her Name, for the Benefit of or to be reimbursed from the Funds of such Society or Branch: Provided always, that no Person shall be deemed to be a Trustee under the Meaning of this Act until the Resolution of the Society or Branch appointing him Trustee shall have been transmitted, under the Hand of Three Members of the Society or Branch, and signed by such Trustee, countersigned by the Clerk or other principal Officer, to the Registrar, to be by him deposited with the Rules of the Society or Branch in his Custody as aforesaid.

Property vested in Trustees.

Trustees may sue and be sued.

No Person to be deemed a Trustee until his Appointment shall have been forwarded to the Registrar.

XIV. And be it enacted, That no Treasurer or Trustee or other Officer of any Society or Branch established under the Authority of this Act shall be liable to make good any Deficiency which may arise in the Funds thereof unless he shall have declared, by Writing under his Hand, to be deposited with the Registrar, that he is willing so to be answerable; and it shall be lawful for each of such Persons to limit his Responsibility to such Sum as shall be specified in such Writing: Provided always, that every Treasurer, Trustee, and other Officer shall be personally responsible and liable for all Monies actually received by him on account of or for the Use of such Society or Branch.

Limitation of Responsibility of Treasurer, &c.

Treasurer, &c. liable for Money actually received.

XV. And be it enacted, That the Trustees or other Officer of every such Society or Branch in whose Charge the Accounts of the said Society are kept shall once in every Year prepare or cause to be prepared a General Statement of the Funds and Effects of such Society or Branch during the past Twelve Months, in such Form as shall enable the Registrar to make a Return under the several Heads set forth in Schedule (F.) to this Act annexed, as accurately as such Officer may be able to furnish the Information required, and shall transmit the same to the Registrar on some Day before the First of *September* in each Year; and every such Statement shall be attested by Two Trustees of such Society, and by the Auditor, if any such shall have been appointed, and shall be countersigned by the Officer who keeps the Accounts of such Society; and every Member shall be entitled to receive from the said Society a Copy of such Statement on Payment of Sixpence.

Trustees to transmit annual Return to Registrar.

XVI. And be it enacted, That if in any Year such Statement shall not have been transmitted as aforesaid on or before the last Day of *September*, the Registrar shall give Notice to the Trustees of such Society or Branch; and if the said Statement shall not have been transmitted

In default of such Return Trustees to be incapable of bringing Action.

transmitted on or before the last Day of *December* following, or if any fraudulent or wilfully false Return shall have been transmitted, such Trustees are hereby declared to be incapable of prosecuting any Action in any Court of Law or Equity on behalf of such Society or Branch until they shall have duly furnished to the Registrar such Statement as aforesaid.

Quinquennial Returns to be sent to Registrar.

XVII. 'And whereas it is desirable, for the better Security of Friendly Societies, that 'correct Calculations of Tables of Payment and Allowances dependent on the Duration of 'Sickness and the Probabilities of Human Life should be constructed for their Assistance; 'and it is expedient to collect Data and Facts resulting from the Experience of such 'Societies from Time to Time, for the Purpose of correcting such Calculations:' Be it enacted, That the Trustees or other Officers as aforesaid of every Society or Branch established under the Provisions of this Act, in which any Benefits are assured for an Allowance in Sickness, an Annuity, deferred or immediate, or a Sum to be paid on Death, shall, within Three Months after the Expiration of the Month of *December* One thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, and so again within Three Months after the Expiration of every Five Years succeeding, transmit to the Registrar a Return of the Rate of Sickness and Mortality experienced by the Society or Branch within the preceding Five Years, in such Form as shall be prepared for that Purpose, and furnished to the Trustees of every such Society or Branch, by the said Registrar, under the Direction of One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Registrar to prepare Abstract of Returns for Parliament.

XVIII. And be it enacted, That the Registrar shall cause to be made an Abstract and Report of all such annual and quinquennial Returns, and shall lay the same before One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and before both Houses of Parliament.

When Trustees shall be absent, &c. Registrar may order Stock to be transferred and Dividends paid.

XIX. And be it enacted, That whenever it shall happen that any Person in whose Name any Part of the several Stocks, Annuities, and Funds transferable at the Bank of *England*, or in the Books of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, is or shall be standing as a Trustee of any such Society or Branch, shall be out of *England*, *Ireland*, or *Scotland* respectively, or shall have been removed from his Office of Trustee, or shall be a Bankrupt, Insolvent, or Lunatic, or it shall be unknown whether such Trustee is living or dead, it shall be lawful for the Registrar to direct that the Accountant General, Secretary, or Deputy Secretary, or other proper Officer for the Time being of the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, do transfer in the Books of the said Company such Stock, Annuities, or Funds standing as aforesaid to and into the Name of the newly appointed Trustee or Trustees, and also pay over to such Person or Persons as aforesaid the Dividends of such Stock, Annuities, or Funds; and whenever it shall happen that One or more only, and not all or both, of such Trustees as aforesaid, shall be so absent, or have been removed, or be a Bankrupt, Insolvent, or Lunatic, or it be unknown whether any One or more of such Trustees be living or dead, it shall be lawful for the said Registrar to direct that the other and others of such Trustees do transfer such Stock, Annuities, or Funds to or into the Name of such Person so appointed Trustee as aforesaid, jointly with the continuing Trustees, if any, and also receive and pay over the Dividends of such Stock, Annuities, or Funds, as such Society shall direct.

Act to be an Indemnity to the Bank.

XX. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be a full and complete Indemnity and Discharge to the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, and their Officers and Servants, for all Acts and Things done pursuant hereto; and such Acts and Things shall not be questioned or impeached in any Court of Law or Equity to their Prejudice or Detriment.

Provisions of 39 G. 3. c. 79. and of 57 G. 3. c. 19. not to extend to Friendly Societies under this Act.

XXI. And be it enacted, That the Provisions of an Act passed in the Thirty-ninth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for the more effectual Suppression of Societies established for seditious and treasonable Purposes, and for better preventing treasonable and seditious Practices*, and also of another Act passed in the Fifty-seventh Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for the more effectual preventing seditious Meetings and Assemblies*, shall not extend to any Society or Branch established under this Act in which Benefits are assured to the Members depending on the Laws of Sickness and Mortality,

Mortality, or to any Meeting of the Members or Officers thereof, in which Society or Branch or at which Meeting no Business whatever is transacted other than that which directly and immediately relates to the Objects of the Society or Branch as declared in the Rules thereof, as they are set forth in the certified Copy thereof: Provided always, that the Trustees or other Officers of such Society or Branch, when required under the Hand of Two of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace, shall give full Information to such Justices of the Nature, Objects, Proceedings, and Practices of such Society or Branch, and in default thereof the Provisions of the said recited Acts shall be in force with regard to such Society or Branch.

Disputes between Society and Trustees to be settled according to Rules.

Questions of Equity to be settled by County Court, or Sheriff Court of Scotland.

XXII. And be it enacted, That if any Dispute shall arise between the Members, or Person claiming under or on account of any Member, of any Society or Branch established under this Act, and the Trustees, Treasurer, or other Officer or Committee thereof, it shall be settled in such Manner as the Rules of such Society or Branch shall direct, and the Decision so made shall be binding and conclusive; but if such Dispute be of such Kind that for the Settlement of it, according to the Laws now in force, recourse must be had to One of Her Majesty's Courts of Equity, or to the Court of Session, it may be referred, at the Option of either Party, to the Judge of the County Court or of the Sheriff Court in *Scotland*, who shall proceed *ex parte*, on Notice in Writing to the other of the said Parties being left at his usual Place of Residence or Abode Ten Days previously; and he is hereby authorized to require of all Parties who are or may have been Members, Trustees, or Officers of such Society to produce before him all Books or other Documents relating to the Concerns of such Society; and thereupon, if he shall so think fit, it shall be lawful for him to determine the said Dispute, and to displace any such Trustee or Officer, or to make such Award as the Justice of the Case, in his Opinion, may require, and such Decision or Award shall be binding and conclusive.

Rules for Arbitration, where such is appointed by Rules.

Justices may enforce the Award.

XXIII. And be it enacted, That if it shall be provided by the Rules of such Society or Branch that Disputes which may arise between any Member thereof and the Trustees, Committee, or Officers on the Part of the Society shall be settled by Arbitration, the Number of Arbitrators and Mode of Election shall be stated in the Rules; and in case any of such Arbitrators shall at any Time neglect or refuse to act, the Members of such Society or Branch at a General Meeting, or General Committee thereof, are hereby required forthwith to elect and appoint some other Person to be an Arbitrator in his Place; and the Rules shall direct in what Manner such Arbitrators, or any of them, shall proceed to determine such Disputes; and the Award so made by them, or so many as may be appointed for the Purpose, according to the Rules, shall be final and binding on all Parties without Appeal, and shall not be removed to any Court of Law or Equity; and if either of the said Parties shall refuse or neglect to comply with or conform to the Decision of the said Arbitrators, or the major Part of them, it shall and may be lawful for any One Justice of the Peace for the County within which such Society shall be established, upon good and sufficient Proof being adduced before him of such Award having been made, and of the Refusal of the Party to comply therewith, upon Complaint made by or on behalf of the Party aggrieved, to summon the Person against whom such Complaint shall be made to appear at a Time and Place to be named in such Summons, and upon his or her Appearance, or in default thereof upon due Proof upon Oath of the Service of such Summons, to make such Order thereupon as may to him seem just; and if the Sum of Money awarded, together with the Sum for Costs, not exceeding the Sum of Ten Shillings, as to such Justice shall seem meet, shall not be immediately paid, then such Justice shall, by Warrant under his Hand, cause such Sum and Costs as aforesaid to be levied by Distress, or by Distress and Sale of the Monies, Goods, Chattels, Securities, and Effects belonging to the said Party or to the said Society, together with all further Costs and Charges attending such Distress and Sale or other legal Proceedings, returning the Overplus (if any) to the said Party, or to the said Society, or to One of the Trustees thereof; and in default of such Distress being found, or in case of such other legal Proceeding being ineffectual, then to be levied by Distress and Sale of the proper Goods of the said Party or of the Officer of the said Society so neglecting or refusing as aforesaid, together with such further Costs and Charges as aforesaid, returning the Overplus (if any) to the Owner: Provided always, that whatever

Sums

Sums shall be paid by any such Officer so levied on his or her Property or Goods in pursuance of the Award of Arbitrators, or Order of any Justice, shall be repaid, with all Damages accruing to him or her, by and out of the Monies belonging to such Society, or out of the first Monies which shall be thereafter received by such Society.

If no Arbitrators appointed, or no Award given, Justices may decide.

XXIV. And be it enacted, That if the Rules of any such Friendly Society or Branch shall have provided for the Settlement of Disputes by Arbitration, but no Arbitrator shall have been appointed, or no Award shall have been made within Forty Days after such Complaint has been made to the Officers of such Society or Branch, or if the Rules shall have directed that any Dispute between the Members and the Trustees or other Officer on the Committee of Management shall be settled by Justices of the Peace, then it shall be lawful for any Justice of the Peace acting in the County or Borough in which the principal Business of the Society or Branch is carried on, on Complaint being made to him by any Member, or Person claiming under a Member thereof, of any Matter in dispute between him and such Society or Branch, to summon the Person against whom such Complaint shall be made to appear at a Time and Place to be named in such Summons; and upon his Appearance, or in default thereof upon due Proof on Oath of the Service of such Summons, it shall be lawful for any Two Justices to proceed to hear and determine the said Complaint; and in case the said Justices shall order any Sum of Money to be paid by such Person against whom such Complaint shall be made, and such Person shall not pay the same to the Person and at the Time specified by such Justices, they shall proceed to enforce their Order in the Manner herein-before directed to be used in case of any Neglect to comply with the Decision of the Arbitrators appointed under the Authority of this Act.

In case Member is unjustly expelled, Arbitrators or Justices may direct such Member to be reinstated, and in default may award a Sum of Compensation.

XXV. And be it enacted, That in case any Member of any such Society or Branch shall have been expelled from such Society, and the Award of the Arbitrators or the Order of the Justices shall direct that he or she shall be reinstated, it shall be lawful for such Arbitrators to award or Justices to order, in default of such Reinstatement, such a Sum of Money to be paid to such Member by the Trustees of such Society as to such Arbitrators or Justices may seem just and reasonable, which said Sum of Money, if not paid, shall be recoverable from the said Society or Branch, or the Treasurer, Trustee, or other Officer, in the same Way as any Money awarded by Arbitrators is recoverable under this Act.

In case of Fraud or Imposition on the Funds, Justices may summon the Parties, and hear the Complaint.

XXVI. And be it enacted, That for the more effectually preventing Fraud and Imposition on the Funds of such Societies, if any Officer, Member, or any other Person being, or representing himself to be, a Member of such Society or Branch, or the Nominee, Executor, Administrator, or Assignee of any Member thereof, or any other Person whatever, shall in or by any false Representation or Imposition obtain Possession of the Monies, Securities, Books, Papers, or other Effects of such Society or Branch, or any Part thereof, or having the same in his or her Possession shall withhold or misapply the same, it shall be lawful for any Justice of the Peace acting in the County or Borough in which the principal Place of Business of such Society is situated, upon Complaint made on Oath or Affirmation by an Officer of such Society or Branch appointed for that Purpose, to summon such Person against whom such Complaint shall be made to appear at a Time and Place to be named in such Summons; and upon his or her Appearance, or in default thereof upon due Proof upon Oath or Affirmation of the Service of such Summons, it shall be lawful for any Two Justices acting in the County or Borough aforesaid to hear and determine the said Complaint; and upon due Proof of such Fraud the said Justices shall convict the said Party, and award double the Amount of the Money so obtained or withheld to be paid to the Treasurer, to be applied by him to the Purposes of the Society or Branch, or order the said Securities, Books, Papers, or other Effects to be delivered to the Society or Branch, together with such Costs as shall be awarded by the said Justices, not exceeding the Sum of Twenty Shillings; and in case such Person against whom such Complaint shall be made shall not pay the Sum of Money so awarded, to the Person and at the Time specified in the said Order to deliver the said Effects as aforesaid, such Justices are hereby required, by Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to cause the same to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods of such Person on whom such Order shall have been made, or by other legal Proceeding, together with such Costs as shall be awarded by the said Justices, not exceeding the Sum of Ten Shillings,

Upon Proof of Fraud, Justices may award double the Amount obtained, &c.

If Money awarded is not paid, the same may be levied by Distress.

Shillings, and also the Costs and Charges attending such Distress and Sale or other legal Proceeding, returning the Overplus (if any) to the Owner; and in default of such Distress being found, or of such Effects as aforesaid being returned, the said Justices of the Peace shall commit such Person so proved to have offended to the Common Gaol or House of Correction, there to be kept to hard Labour for such a Period not exceeding Three Calendar Months as to them shall seem fit: Provided nevertheless, that nothing herein contained shall prevent the said Society or Branch from proceeding by Indictment or Complaint against the Party complained of; and provided also, that no Party shall be proceeded against by Indictment or Complaint if a previous Conviction has been obtained for the same Offence under the Provisions of this Act.

In default of Distress, Offender may be committed to Prison.

XXVII. And be it enacted, That every Sentence, Order, and Adjudication of Justices under this Act shall be final and conclusive to all Intents and Purposes, and shall not be subject to Appeal, and shall not be removed or removable into any Court of Law, or restrained or restrainable by the Injunction of any Court of Equity; and that no Suspension, Advocation, or Reduction shall be competent: Provided always, that in *Scotland* the Sheriff, within his County, shall have such and the like Power, Authority, and Jurisdiction which is in this Act conferred upon any Justice or Justices of the Peace, and shall exercise the same in such and the like Form and Manner as is used in Cases of a summary Nature, and in the Recovery of Small Debts in the County Court.

Orders of Justices to be final, and not removable into Court of Law, &c.

XXVIII. And be it enacted, That every Person who shall have or receive any Part of the Monies, Effects, or Funds of or belonging to any such Society or Branch, or shall in any Manner have been or shall be intrusted with the Disposal, Management, or Custody thereof, or of any Securities, Books, Papers, or Property relating to the same, his or her Executors, Administrators, and Assigns respectively, shall, upon Demand made, or Notice in Writing given or left at the last or usual Place of Residence of such Persons, in pursuance of any Order of not less than Two Trustees or Three Members of the Committee or Board of Management, give in his Account at the usual Meeting of such Society or Branch, or to such Committee or Board of Management, to be examined and allowed or disallowed; and shall, on the like Demand or Notice, pay over all the Monies remaining in his Hands, and assign and transfer or deliver all Securities and Effects, Books, Papers, and Property, in his Hands or Custody, to the Treasurer or Trustee for the Time being, or to such other Person as such Committee or Board of Management shall appoint; and in case of any Neglect or Refusal to deliver such Account, or to pay over such Monies, or to assign, transfer, or deliver such Securities and Effects, Books, Papers, and Property, in manner aforesaid, it shall be lawful to and for the Members of every such Society, or Committee or Board of Management thereof, in the Name of the Treasurer or Trustee or other Officer thereof, to apply by Petition to the Registrar, who shall and may proceed thereupon in a summary Way, and make such Order therein as to such Registrar, in his Discretion, shall seem just.

Treasurers, &c. to render Accounts, and upon Demand pay over Monies, &c. to Party appointed by Society, &c.; and in case of Neglect Application may be made to the Registrar, who shall proceed thereupon in a summary Way.

XXIX. And be it enacted, That on any Proceedings before the said Registrar he shall be authorized to inspect and to require the Production before him of all Books or other Documents relating to the Matter in dispute, and to administer an Oath to any Witness appearing before him; and every Person who upon such Oath shall wilfully and corruptly give any false Evidence before such Registrar shall be deemed to be guilty of Perjury.

On such Reference Registrar may inspect Books and administer Oaths. False Evidence Perjury.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That all Orders made by the Registrar under the Provisions of this Act shall be final and binding on all Parties, without Appeal; and all Assignments, Orders, Transfers, or Sales made in pursuance of such Order shall be valid and effectual in Law; and if any Person shall refuse or neglect to obey such Order, and shall be convicted thereof, he shall be deemed guilty of a Misdemeanor.

Orders, &c. to be binding without Appeal.

XXXI. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State from Time to Time to fix reasonable Fees to be paid on any such Proceedings before the Registrar, and all such Fees shall be paid in the first instance by the Trustees of the Society or Branch; and the Registrar shall determine in and by his Award or Order by which of the Parties and in what Proportion the Expense of such Fees shall be finally borne; and the Trustees of such Society or Branch, having paid such Fees, shall be entitled to recover them from the Party or Parties against whom they shall be so awarded.

Secretary of State to fix Amount of Fees payable on Reference, and Registrar to determine who shall pay them

XXXII. And

Member of Friendly Society may be a Witness.

XXXII. And be it enacted, That on the Trial of any Action, Indictment, or other Proceeding respecting the Property of any Society established under the Provisions of this Act, or in any Proceedings before any Justice of the Peace, Judge of the County Court, or the Registrar, any Member of such Society shall be a competent Witness, and shall not be objected to on account of any Interest he may have as such Member in the Result of such Action, Indictment, or other Proceeding.

Minors may be Members, and have legal Authority to act, but not to hold Office.

XXXIII. And be it enacted, That a Minor may become a Member of any such Society or Branch, and he is hereby empowered to execute all Instruments, and give all necessary Acquittances; provided always, that such Minor shall not be competent during his Minority to hold any Office as Director, Trustee, Treasurer, or Manager in such Society or Branch.

Consent necessary for Dissolution of Society.

XXXIV. And be it enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the Members of any such Society or Branch, by any Rule or Order or Resolution, to dissolve or determine such Society or Branch, so long as the Intents or Purposes declared by the Rules of such Society, or any of them, remain to be carried into effect, without obtaining the Votes of Consent of Five Sixths in Value of the then existing Members, to be ascertained in manner hereinafter mentioned, and also the Consent of all Persons then receiving or then entitled to receive Relief either on account of Sickness, Age, or Infirmity, to be testified under their Hands individually and respectively; and for the Purpose of ascertaining the Votes of such Five Sixths in Value every Member shall be entitled to One Vote, and an additional Vote for every Five Years that he may have been a Member; provided also, that no One Member shall have more than Five Votes in the whole; and in all Cases of Dissolution the intended Appropriation or Division of the Funds or other Property shall be fairly and distinctly stated in the proposed Plan of Dissolution prior to such Consent being given; and it shall not be lawful for such Society or Branch by any Rule to direct the Division or Distribution of such Stock or Fund, or any Part thereof, to or amongst the several Members of such Society, other than for carrying into effect the general Intents and Purposes declared by the Rules originally certified; and all such Rules for the Dissolution or Determination thereof without such Consent as aforesaid, or for the Distribution or Division of the Stock or Funds contrary to the Rules, shall be void and of none Effect; and in the event of such Division or Misappropriation of the Funds without the Consent hereby declared to be requisite, any Trustee or other Officer or Person aiding or abetting therein shall be liable to the like Penalties as are in this Act provided in Cases of Fraud: Provided always, that it shall be lawful for any Two or more Societies or Branches to become united or incorporated in One Society or Branch, upon such Terms as shall be approved by the major Part of the Trustees and Board of Management of both Societies or Branches.

Rules, &c. under Hand of Registrar to be received without Proof of Signature.

XXXV. And be it enacted, That all Rules, Alteration of Rules, Transcript or Copy or or Extracts from all Rules and Alteration of Rules, and all Awards, Writings, and Documents, of what Nature or Kind soever, relating to any Society or Branch, directed by any Act or Acts of Parliament to be certified by the Registrar, and purporting to be signed by him, shall, in the Absence of any Evidence to the contrary, be received in all Courts of Law and Equity and elsewhere, without Proof of the Signature thereto.

Executors, &c. of Officers of certified Friendly Societies to pay Money due to Society before any other Debts, within Forty Days after Demand in Writing.

XXXVI. And be it enacted, That if any Person appointed to any Office in any Friendly Society or Branch thereof established under this Act, and being intrusted with the keeping of the Accounts, or having in his Hands or Possession, by virtue of his said Office or Employment, any Monies or Effects belonging thereto, or any Deeds or Securities relating to the same, shall die, or become a Bankrupt or Insolvent, or have any Execution or Attachment or other Process issued, or Action or Diligence raised, against his Lands, Goods, Chattels, or Effects, or Property or Estate, heritable or moveable, or make any Assignment, Disposition, Assignation, or other Conveyance thereof, for the Benefit of his Creditors, his Heirs, Executors, Administrators, or Assignees, or other Persons having legal Right, or the Sheriff or other Officer executing such Process, or the Party using such Action or Diligence, shall, within Forty Days after Demand made in Writing by the Order of any such Society or Branch, or of not less than Three of the Committee of Management assembled at any Meeting thereof, deliver and pay over all Monies and other Things belonging to such Society or Branch to such Person as such Society or Committee shall appoint, and shall pay out of the

the Estates, Assets, or Effects, heritable or moveable, of such Person, all Sums of Money remaining due which such Person received by virtue of his said Office or Employment, before any other of his Debts are paid or satisfied, or before the Money directed to be levied by such Process as aforesaid, or which may be recovered or recoverable under such Diligence, is paid over to the Party issuing such Process or using such Diligence; and all such Assets, Lands, Goods, Chattels, Property, Estates, and Effects shall be bound to the Payment and Discharge thereof accordingly.

Member belonging to more than One Society not to be entitled to Benefits exceeding 100*l.*, or 30*l.* Annuity, or 20*s.* Sickness.

XXXVII. And be it enacted, That if any Person after the passing of this Act shall become a Member of more than One Society or Branch, and thereby be entitled to certain Benefits on account of the same Kind of Assurance from more than One Society or Branch, it shall not be lawful for him to claim or receive such Benefit from any or either Society or Branch without signing a Declaration that the joint Value or Amount of all the Benefits in any One Kind of Assurance to which he may be entitled from any Society or Societies, Branch or Branches, of which he may be a Member, does not in the Aggregate exceed the Amount of One hundred Pounds in One Sum, or an Annuity of Thirty Pounds *per Annum*, or a Sum in Sickness of Twenty Shillings *per* Week; and in case such Declaration shall not be true, such Member shall be liable to the Penalties herein-before enacted in case of Fraud.

Power to certified Societies to invest Monies with National Debt Commissioners, upon Declaration that they belong exclusively to the Society.

In case Declaration not true Money to be forfeited and applied in manner directed by 9 G. 4. c. 92.

XXXVIII. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for any certified Society, or certified Branch thereof, established under this Act, to pay directly into the Bank of *England* any Sum of Money not less than Fifty Pounds to the Account of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, upon the Declaration of the Treasurer or Trustees of such Society or Branch, or any Two or more of them, that such Monies belonging exclusively to the Society or Branch for which such Payment is intended to be made; and the Cashier of the Bank of *England* is hereby required to receive all such Monies, and to place the same to the Account raised in the Names of the said Commissioners for the Time being in the Books of the Bank, denominated "The Fund for Friendly Societies;" and in case such Declaration shall not be true, then and in every such Case the Sum of Money paid in on such Declaration shall be forfeited to the said Commissioners, and applied by them in the Manner directed by an Act passed in the Ninth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Savings Banks;* and all the Clauses and Provisions of the Acts for the Time being in force relating to Savings Banks, with respect to the Account of such Banks, and the Regulation of Receipts, Certificates, or Orders concerning the same, shall be applicable to the Monies so paid in as aforesaid under the Authority of this Act, as if the same had been repeated herein; and every such Society or Branch shall, on paying Money directly into the Bank as aforesaid, be entitled to receive Receipts bearing Interest at the Rate of Two-pence *per Centum per Diem:* Provided always, that no fractional Part less than One Penny shall be allowed or paid as Interest upon the Principal Sum contained in such Receipt.

Powers of Attorney, &c. not liable to Stamp Duty.

XXXIX. And be it enacted, That, except as herein-after provided, no Order of the Registrar, or Copy of Rules, Power, Warrant, or Letter of Attorney granted by any Person as Trustee of any Society or Branch established under this Act, for the Transfer of any Share in the Public Funds standing in the Name of such Trustee, nor any Receipt for Money contributed to the Funds of any such Society or Branch, or received by any Member, his Executors, Administrators, Assigns, or Attornies, from the Funds of such Society, nor any Bond to be given to or on account of any such Society or Branch, or by the Treasurer or Trustee or any Officer thereof, nor any Draft or Order, nor any Form of Policy, nor any Appointment of any Agent, nor any Certificate or other Instrument for the Revocation of any such Appointment, nor any other Document whatever required or authorized by or in pursuance of this Act, shall be subject or liable to or charged with any Stamp Duty.

For Payment of Sums not exceeding 50*l.* when Members die intestate.

XL. And be it enacted, That when on the Death of any Member of any such certified Friendly Society, or any certified Branch, or of any Friendly Society already established, any Sum not exceeding Fifty Pounds shall become payable, it shall be lawful for the Trustees for the Time being of such Society, if they shall be satisfied that no Will was made and left by such deceased Member, and that no Letters of Administration or Confirmation will be taken out of the Funds, Goods, and Chattels of such Depositor, to pay the same to the Widower or Widow of such Member, as the Case may be, or to the Child of such Member, if so directed

by any Rule of such Society or Branch, and in case there shall be no such Direction, then to pay and divide the same to and amongst the Person or Persons entitled to the Effects of the deceased Intestate, without taking out Letters of Administration in *England* and *Ireland*, and without Confirmation in *Scotland*.

Payments to Persons who appear to Trustees to be entitled to Effects of deceased Members declared valid; but next of Kin, &c. to have Remedy against the Party who receives the same.

XLI. And be it enacted, That whenever the Trustees of any certified Friendly Society or Branch, at any Time after the Decease of any Member, shall have paid and divided any Sum of Money to or amongst any Person or Persons who shall at the Time of such Payment appear to such Trustees to be entitled to the Effects of any deceased intestate Member, the Payment of any such Sum or Sums of Money shall be valid and effectual with respect to any Demand of any other Person or Persons as next of Kin of such deceased intestate Member, or as the lawful Representative or Representatives of such Member, against the Funds of such Society or Branch or against the Trustees thereof; but nevertheless such next of Kin or Representatives shall have Remedy for such Money so paid as aforesaid against the Person or Persons who shall have received the same.

Payment on Death of Members to be made to Executors, &c., and not to Nominees.

XLII. And be it enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act it shall not be lawful for any Society established under any Act hereby repealed to grant any Assurance whereby the Sum assured on the Death of the Member shall be payable to any Nominee or to any other Person than the Widower or Widow of a Member, as the Case may be, or the Child, or the Executors, Administrators, or Assigns of such Member, or in case the Member shall die intestate, and the Sum payable on his Death shall not exceed Fifty Pounds, to the Person whom the Trustees shall consider entitled to the Goods and Effects of the Member so dying intestate: Provided always, that nothing in this Act contained shall affect any Power, Privilege, or Exemption in respect of any Assurance legally made or granted before the passing of this Act under the Provisions of any of the Acts hereby repealed: Provided also, that it shall be lawful for any such Society to add to its Rules a Rule or Rules whereby any Sum payable on the Death of a Member may be made payable to the Executors, Administrators, or Assigns of such Member.

Existing Friendly Societies not to invest with National Debt Commissioners except for Assurances made before passing of this Act.

XLIII. And be it enacted, That no Friendly Society or Branch established under any Act now in force relating to Friendly Societies shall, from and after the passing of this Act, be entitled or authorized to pay directly into the Bank of *England* any Sum of Money to the Account of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, except so much as may be paid on account of Assurances made previous to the passing of this Act by any Society which has already invested its Funds or any Part thereof with the said Commissioners: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall affect the Right of any Society established under any of the Acts hereby repealed, and which shall have invested its Funds with the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt before the passing of this Act, to Receipts bearing Interest at such Rate as such Society were entitled to receive under the Provisions of the said Acts, for any Monies invested or hereafter to be invested with the said Commissioners on account of Assurances made before the passing of this Act.

Declaration to be made by Trustees on Investment.

If Declaration not true, Money to be forfeited and applied as directed by 9 G. 4. c. 92.

XLIV. And be it enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act a Declaration shall be made by the Trustees of every Friendly Society established as aforesaid, on the Payment into the Bank of *England* of any Sum of Money to the Account of the said Commissioners, that such Payment is on account of Assurances made previous to the passing of this Act, in such Form as the said Commissioners shall from Time to Time direct; and in case such Declaration shall not be true, then and in every such Case the Sum of Money paid on such Declaration shall be forfeited to the said Commissioners, to be applied by them in the Manner directed by an Act passed in the Ninth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Savings Banks.*

Exemption from Stamp Duty not applicable to Societies granting Assurances above the Limits of this Act.

XLV. And be it enacted, That nothing in the said Acts now in force relating to Friendly Societies shall be construed to extend to grant any Exemption from Stamp Duty to any Friendly Society enrolled or certified under the said Acts which shall after the passing of this Act assure the Payment to or on the Death of any Member, or on any Contingency or for any Purpose to which the Payment of Sums may be assured under this Act, of a Sum exceeding One hundred Pounds, or of any Annuity exceeding Thirty Pounds *per Annum*, or of a Sum in Sickness not exceeding Twenty Shillings *per* Week.

XLVI. And

XLVI. And be it enacted, That every Society duly enrolled or certified under any Act hereby repealed which shall not after the passing of this Act assure the Payment to or on the Death of any Member, or on any Contingency or for any Purpose for which the Payment of Sums may be assured under this Act, exceeding One hundred Pounds, or an Annuity exceeding Thirty Pounds *per Annum*, or any Sum in Sickness exceeding Twenty Shillings *per* Week, shall enjoy all the Exemptions and Privileges in this Act conferred upon any Society established under the Provisions of this Act. Societies established under repealed Acts to be entitled to Exemptions and Privileges of this Act, &c.

XLVII. And be it enacted, That no Friendly Society already established, nor any certified Society or certified Branch thereof, which has already invested or may hereafter invest any Money with the Commissioners for Reduction of the National Debt, shall be entitled to re-deposit any Monies with them, without the Consent of the said Commissioners, or of the Comptroller General or Assistant Comptroller in their Behalf. Societies not to re-deposit with National Debt Commissioners without Consent of Comptroller General.

XLVIII. 'And whereas several benevolent and charitable Institutions and Societies are 'formed by voluntary Subscriptions and Benefactions for the Purpose of relieving the 'physical Wants and Necessities of Persons in distressed Circumstances, and it is expe-'dient to afford some Protection to the Funds thereof:' Be it therefore enacted, That if the Rules of any such Institution or Society, and all Alterations and Amendments thereof, shall be registered under the Provisions of this Act, then and in that Case the Clauses and Provisions herein contained, so far as the same relate to the giving of Security from any Treasurer or other Officer or Person, and to the vesting of the Effects in the Trustees for the Time being, and to their suing and being sued, and as to the Liability of the Treasurer or Trustee or other Officer, and to the protecting, securing, or recovering the Funds vested or being in such Treasurer or Trustees, and for enforcing the rendering of Accounts by him or them, shall be extended to all and every such Institution or Society, which shall have and enjoy and be entitled to the Benefits of this Act, with respect to the several Matters aforesaid, as fully and effectually as any Friendly Society or Branch registered under this Act can or may have or enjoy the same. Provisions of this Act may be applied to benevolent and charitable Societies formed by voluntary Subscription, &c., if Rules are registered in pursuance of this Act.

XLIX. And be it enacted, That in the Construction of this Act, unless there shall be something in the Subject Matter or Context repugnant thereto, the Word "Society" shall include every Branch thereof; the Word "County" shall include County, Riding, Division, Borough, or Place; the Word "Justice" shall include Mayor, High Bailiff, Sheriff in *Scotland*, or other Magistrate; the Word "Registrar" shall signify the Registrar of Friendly Societies in *England*, *Scotland*, or *Ireland*, as the Case may be; Words importing the Singular Number shall include the Plural Number; and Words importing the Masculine Gender shall include Females. Construction of Terms.

L. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be deemed a Public Act, and shall extend to *Great Britain* and *Ireland* and *Berwick-upon-Tweed*, and the Isles of *Guernsey*, *Jersey*, and *Man*. Public Act.

LI. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be in force for One Year from the passing thereof, and from thence to the End of the then next Session of Parliament. Act to be in force for One Year.

LII. And be it enacted, That this Act may be amended or repealed by any Act to be passed in this Session of Parliament. Act may be amended, &c.

SCHEDULES referred to by the foregoing Act.

SCHEDULE (A.)

Form of Registrar's Certificate to Rules of Registered Friendly Societies.

I hereby certify, That these Rules [*or* Alterations of Rules] are in conformity to Law and to the Provisions of the Statute in force relating to Registered Friendly Societies.

A. B.
The Registrar of Friendly Societies in England
[Ireland *or* Scotland].
Day of

SCHEDULE (B.)

Form of Registrar's Certificate to Rules of Certified Friendly Societies.

I hereby certify, That these Rules [*or* Alterations of Rules] are in conformity to Law and to the Provisions of the Statute in force relating to Certified Friendly Societies.

A.B.
The Registrar of Friendly Societies in England [Ireland *or* Scotland].
Day of .

SCHEDULE (C.)

Form of Actuary's Certificate.

I hereby certify, That the preceding Table or Tables, to each of which my Name is subscribed, may be fairly and safely adopted for the Purposes of the Society, subject to the Terms, Conditions, and Provisions of Clauses Nos. of the Rules, to each of which my Initials are affixed: And I hereby declare, that I consider each of the said Tables fairly to represent for each Year or Term of Age (which said Term does not exceed Five Years) the Rate of Contribution necessary to provide the respective Benefits intended to be provided thereby, and that they are in conformity with the Provisions of the Act passed in the Years of Her present Majesty, Chapter and fairly represent the Interest of Members entering at those Years or Terms of Age, without Prejudice to any; and that the said Tables are calculated on the Supposition that the Capital of the Society will realize at least per Cent. Compound Interest [*if any Addition has been made to the Rates of Contribution for Expenses of Management, here state the same*], and are founded on the Rate of Sickness and Mortality [*here describe the same; and if the Data on which the Calculation has been based is published, state the Work and Date of Publication*], upon the following Data:

Age.	Number out of which One will die in each Year.	Average Amount of Sickness annually experienced in each Year.
20		
25		
30		
35		
40		
45		
50		
55		
60		

And I declare, that I have read the Rules of the said Society, and find nothing in them inconsistent with the said Tables, or which is calculated, in my Opinion, to endanger the Stability of the Society.

A. B.
Actuary of .
Day of .

SCHE-

SCHEDULE (D.)

Form of Medical Certificate.

I hereby certify, That late of Street died the Day of and I have no Reason to attribute his Death to Poison, Violence, or criminal Neglect.

(Signed) *A. B.*

Profession.
Residence.

Day of .

Form of Coroner's Certificate.

I hereby certify, That I have held an Inquest on the Body of late of , who was found dead; and the Jury have returned the following Verdict

And it does not appear to me that he has been deprived of Life by means of any Person beneficially interested in obtaining Burial Money from any Society.

Day of .

A. B., Coroner.

SCHEDULE (E.)

Form of Bond.

Know all Men by these Presents, That we *A. B.* of Treasurer [*or* Steward, *&c.*] of the Society, established at in the County of and *C. D.* of and *G. H.* of (as Sureties on behalf of the said *A. B.*) are jointly and severally held and firmly bound to *A. B.* of , *C. D.* of , and *E. F.* of the Trustees of the said Society, in the Sum of to be paid to the said *A. B.*, *C. D.*, and *E. F.* as such Trustees, or their Successors Trustees for the Time being, or their certain Attorney, for which Payment well and truly to be made we jointly and severally bind ourselves, and each of us by himself, our and each of our Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, firmly by these Presents sealed with our Seals. Dated the Day of in the Year of our Lord .

Whereas the above-bounden *A. B.* hath been duly appointed Treasurer [*or* Steward, *&c.*] of the Society, established as aforesaid, and he, together with the above-bounden *C. D.* and *G. H.* as his Sureties, have entered into the above-written Bond, subject to the Condition herein-after contained: Now, therefore, the Condition of the above-written Bond is such, that if the said *A. B.* shall and do justly and faithfully execute his Office of Treasurer [*or* Steward, *&c.*] of the said Society established as aforesaid, and shall and do render a just and true Account of all Monies received and paid by him, and shall and do pay over all the Monies remaining in his Hands, and assign and transfer or deliver all Securities and Effects, Books, Papers, and Property of or belonging to the said Society in his Hands or Custody, to such Person or Persons as the said Society shall appoint, according to the Rules of the said Society, together with the proper or legal Receipts or Vouchers for such Payments, and likewise shall and do in all respects well and truly and faithfully perform and fulfil his Office of Treasurer [*or* Steward, *&c.*] to the said Society, according to the Rules thereof, then the above-written Bond shall be void and of no Effect; otherwise shall be and remain in full Force and Virtue.

SCHE-

SCHEDULE (F.)

Heads of Information to be furnished yearly to the Registrars by every Society.

Return of Society, established at for the Year ending

DATE of balancing Books in each Year

MEMBERS:—
- Number admitted since last Balance
- Number died since last Balance
- Number withdrawn or expelled
- Number of Members at this Date { Male / Female / Honorary

SICKNESS:—
- Number of Members sick in the Year { Male / Female
- Weeks and Days of Sickness

INCOME:—
- Donations and Honorary Subscriptions
- Entrance Money
- Contributions for Sickness
- Contributions for Annuities
- Contributions for Sums on Death
- Contributions for Endowments
- Interest received
- Total Income
- Total Capital of Society [*here state where the same is placed*]

EXPENDITURE:—
- Sick Pay or Allowances
- Annuities
- Death of { Members / Wives
- Endowments
- Extra Expenses
- Total Expenditure

OBSERVATIONS:—

Day of in the Year

To be signed by Two Trustees and Secretary, Treasurer, or other Officer.

CAP. CXVI.

An Act to amend an Act passed in the Tenth Year of Her present Majesty's Reign, for empowering the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Woods to purchase Land for a Harbour of Refuge and Breakwater in the *Isle of Portland*; and to make further Provisions for the Division and Application of the Purchase Money. [15th *August* 1850.]

10 & 11 Vict. c. 24.

'WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Session of Parliament holden in the Tenth Year of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act to empower the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Woods to purchase Land for the Purposes of a Harbour of Refuge and Breakwater in the* Isle of Portland *in the County of* Dorset, and thereby the Commissioners of Her Majesty's