it is expedient to authorise the issue of the sum herein-after mentioned: Be it therefore enacted as follows:

With a view to the adjustment of accounts of money issued for loans by the Public Works Loan Commissioners prior to the first day of April one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, the Treasury may, out of the moneys authorised by this Act to be issued for the purpose of loans by the Public Works Loan Commissioners, issue the sum of seventeen thousand five hundred and fifty-one pounds nine shillings and one penny, to make good money applied prior to the first day of April one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, for the purpose of loans by the Public Works Loan Commissioners.

CHAPTER 32.

An Act to amend the Friendly Societies Act, 1875. [24th July 1876.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend on some points the Friendly Societies Act, 1875:

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:

Construction of Act. Short title.

1. This Act shall be construed as one with the Friendly Societies Act, 1875, (herein termed "the principal Act,") and may be cited as "The Friendly Societies Amendment Act, 1876," or together with the principal Act as "The Friendly Societies Acts."

Meaning of "Treasury regulations."

2. In this Act the term "Treasury regulations" means any regulations made and approved by the Treasury and for the time being in force under and by virtue of the principal Act.

Conversion of registered societies into branches.

3. With respect to the conversion of registered societies into branches the following provisions shall have effect:

(1.) A society registered before the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six may, by a resolution passed by three fourths of the members or delegates present and entitled to vote at any general meeting, of which notice specifying the intention to propose such resolution has been duly given according to the rules, determine to become a branch under the Friendly Societies Acts of any other registered society, and also, if thought fit, of any registered branch thereof; and if the rules of such society do not comply with all the provisions of the principal Act and of the Treasury regulations in respect of the registry of branches, the meeting at which such resolution is passed may amend such rules so as to bring the same in compliance with the principal Act and with the Treasury regulations.

(2.) A copy of the rules of such first-mentioned society marked to show the amendments, if any, made at such meeting, and two copies of such resolution as aforesaid, and of such amendment of rules, if any, each signed by the chairman of the meeting and by the secretary of the society so determining to become a branch of any other society, and countersigned by the secretary of such other society, shall be sent to the registrar, and if the registrar finds that such rules, with or without such amendment as aforesaid, comply with the provisions of the Act and of the Treasury regulations, he shall cancel the registry of such first-mentioned society and register the same as a branch of such other society, and also, if so specified in the resolution before mentioned, of any branch of such other society, without further request or notice, and shall register such amendment of rules without further application or evidence, and until such registry such resolution as aforesaid shall not take effect.

(3.) No advertisement of any cancelling of registry under this section shall be requisite.

(4.) The rules of a society which becomes a branch under this section shall, so far as the same are not contrary to any express provision of the principal Act or of the Treasury regulations, and subject to any amendment thereof as hereinbefore provided, continue in force as the rules of such branch until amended.

Registered societies may contribute to funds of other societies.

4. Nothing in the principal Act or in this Act contained shall prevent any registered society or branch from contributing to the funds or taking part by delegates or otherwise in the government of any other registered society or registered branch of a society, as may be provided in the rules of such first-named society or branch, without becoming a branch under the Friendly Societies Acts of such other society or branch.

Forms of acknowledgment of registry for branches.

5. The acknowledgment of registry of a branch, and of any amendment of the rules of a branch, shall be in the forms provided in the schedule to this Act.

Term "society" when to include registered branch.

6. It is declared that the word "society" extends to a registered branch in sub-sections (5) and (6) of section 13, sub-sections (2), (3), and (4) of section 14, sub-sections (1) to (7), both included, (9) and (10) of section 15, sub-sections (1), (6), (7), (9), and (10) of section 16, sections 17, 19, and 20, sub-sections (2) and (4) of section 21, sections 22, 26, 28, 30, 31, 32, and 33 of the principal Act.

As to deaths at sea.

7. Section 14, sub-section (2) of the principal Act shall not apply to deaths at sea.

Amendment in fees payable on certificates of births or deaths.

8. Whenever application is made at one time to any registrar or other person having the care of any register of births or deaths for more certificates than one of the same birth or death for the purposes of and in the manner prescribed by section fifteen, sub-section nine, or section twenty-eight, sub-section three of the principal Act, the sum charged for every such certificate other than the first shall not exceed sixpence; and whenever the registrar or other person having the care of the register is required by the person applying for any certificate of birth or death to fill up the form of application, he may demand a sum not exceeding threepence for so doing.

What shall be sufficient distribution of annual return.

9. It shall be a sufficient compliance with section 14, sub-section (1), sub-head (*h*) of the principal Act, if the society supplies gratuitously every member or person interested with a balance sheet or other document duly audited, containing the same particulars as to the receipts and expenditure, funds and effects of the society as are contained in the annual return.

Amendment of sub-sections (3) and (6) of s. 15 of principal Act.

10. Section 15, sub-section (3) of the principal Act shall be read as if after the words "not being an officer or servant of the society" there were inserted the words "unless "such officer or servant is the husband, wife, father, mother, child, brother, sister, "nephew, or niece of the nominator," and sub-section (6) of the said section shall be read as if instead of the words "absent from England or Ireland respectively," there were substituted the words "absent from Great Britain or Ireland respectively."

Notice of proceedings or order to set aside dissolution.

11. Notice shall be sent to the central office of any proceeding to set aside the dissolution of a society or branch, not less than seven days before it is commenced, by the person taking such proceeding, and of any order setting a dissolution aside, by the society or branch, within seven days after such order is made.

Correction of misprint in Schedule II.

12. In Schedule II. to the principal Act the provision marked 5 and beginning with the words "the right of one fifth" shall be read as if, instead of the words "five "thousand," there were inserted therein the words "ten thousand."

SCHEDULE.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REGISTRY OF BRANCH.

The is registered as a branch of the Society [and of the branch of the same] under the Friendly Societies Act, 1875, this day of

[*Seal of central office or signature of assistant registrar for Scotland or Ireland.*]

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REGISTRY OF AMENDMENT OF BRANCH RULES.

The foregoing amendment of the branch rules of the is registered under the Friendly Societies Act, 1875, this day of

[*Seal of central office or signature of assistant registrar for Scotland or Ireland.*]