defrayed out of money provided by Parliament for that purpose, and shall be repaid to the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom from the Greenwich Hospital Income Account in like manner as money expended out of money provided by Parliament for the purposes of the Greenwich Hospital Act, 1865, is repaid thereto. and money to be repaid.

6. All gratuities or allowances purporting to have been granted or made before the passing of this Act under the authority of an Order of Her Majesty in Council dated the fourth day of February one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, shall be deemed to have been authorised by the Greenwich Hospital Act, 1865. Removal of doubts as to grants under Order in Council of 1875. 28 & 29 Vict. c. 89.

7. The decision of the Admiralty respecting the eligibility of any person to receive any benefit under the Acts, Orders in Council, and regulations which govern the administration of the revenues of Greenwich Hospital, or respecting any other question arising as to the appointment or grant of any pension, allowance, gratuity, or benefit under those Acts, Orders, and regulations, shall be binding and conclusive to and for all intents and purposes. Decision of Admiralty respecting grants conclusive.

Vesting of Property Mortgaged to Admiralty.

8. All lands, rates, and other property which have been or been expressed to be conveyed, assigned, or assured by way of mortgage to the Admiralty or to trustees on behalf of the Admiralty, by any instrument in force at the time of the passing of this Act, shall by virtue of this Act continue to be or be vested in the Admiralty for the time being for the same estates, but subject to the equities of redemption subsisting in or affecting the same respectively; and all lands, rates, and other property conveyed, assigned, or assured after the passing of this Act by way of mortgage to secure any moneys advanced by the Admiralty shall be conveyed, assigned, or assured to and vest in the Admiralty for the time being; and all lands, rates, and other property vested in the Admiralty under this section shall go to and be held by the Lord High Admiral for the time being or the Commissioners for the time being for executing the office of Lord High Admiral in succession, in trust for Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, for the exclusive benefit of Greenwich Hospital. Vesting in Admiralty of property mortgaged.

CHAPTER 33.

An Act to amend the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act, 1874. [20th August 1883.]

WHEREAS under the provisions of an Act of Parliament passed in the session of thethirty-seventh and thirty-eighth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter eighty-six, intituled the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act, 1874, as amended by an Act of Parliament passed in the forty-fifth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act to amend the Irish Reproductive Loan "Fund Act, 1874," the property in the fund known as the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund was passed to and vested in the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland upon trust that the said Commissioners should dispose of the same by way of loan for the promotion of such purposes or objects of public utility not otherwise 37 & 38 Vict. c. 86.

provided for in whole or in part by local rate or assessment, including the instruction in and the promotion of agricultural science in the counties of Clare, Cork, Galway, Kerry, Leitrim, Limerick, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo, and Tipperary:

And whereas it was by the said Acts further enacted that in eight of the said counties referred to in the former of the said Acts as "maritime counties" (being the counties above enumerated with the exception of the counties of Roscommon and Tipperary), such purposes should be deemed to include purposes defined in the said Acts as "fishery purposes," for which fishery purposes the Commissioners were empowered to advance by way of loan such amount not exceeding in the whole the amount standing to the credit of each of the eight counties in any year as the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries might from time to time recommend:

And whereas doubts have arisen with regard to the scope and meaning of the expression "such purposes of public utility not "otherwise provided for in whole or in part by local rate or "assessment," and by reason of such doubts the counties of Roscommon and Tipperary, not being maritime counties, have been debarred from participating in the benefits of the said Irish Reproductive Loan Fund:

And whereas it is desirable that the counties of Roscommon and Tipperary should be enabled to participate in the benefit of such portions of the said funds as may stand to the credit of each of such counties respectively in any year:

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 for all purposes as the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Amendment Act, 1883.

Amendment of sec. 4 of 37 & 38 Vict. c. 86.

2. As regards the counties of Roscommon and Tipperary the words contained in the fourth section of the Act thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth Victoria, chapter eighty-six, "not otherwise pro- "vided for in whole or in part by local rate or assessment," are hereby repealed.

Loans to town commissioners from Irish Reproductive Loan Fund.

3. Subject to the provisions of this Act it shall be lawful for the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland to advance by way of loan to the town commissioners of every town situated wholly or partially within the counties of Roscommon or Tipperary which has adopted the provisions of the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act, 1854, such amount of the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund, not exceeding in the whole the amount standing to the credit of each of the said counties respectively in any year, as the Commissioners, with the consent of the Treasury, may from time to time think proper for such objects of public utility as may be approved by the Treasury.

Steps to be taken to procure loan.

4. Prior to the advance of any such loan as is in the last section mentioned, the town commissioners requiring a loan shall forward a written representation to the Commissioners of Public Works stating the object of public utility for which the loan is required, accompanied by an estimate of the amount to be expended upon the proposed works or objects, and by such maps, plans, and

explanations as may be sufficient to satisfy the Commissioners of the public utility of the proposed works or objects, and that the amount required to be advanced is reasonably adequate to carry out the proposed works or objects; the town commissioners shall likewise specify the period within which they propose that the said loan should be repaid and the fund or rate upon which it is intended to be secured, and shall satisfy the Commissioners of the adequacy of such security.

Conditions of loan.

5. The exercise of the powers of borrowing conferred by this Act shall be subject to the following regulations:—

(1.) Money shall not be borrowed except for permanent objects of public utility (including under the expression any works of which the cost ought in the opinion of the Commissioners to be spread over a term of years):

(2.) The money may be borrowed for such time not exceeding thirty-five years as the Commissioners determine in each case, and subject as aforesaid the town commissioners shall repay the moneys so borrowed in such manner as the Commissioners, with the consent of the Treasury, may from time to time determine:

(3.) There shall be charged by way of interest in respect of loans such interest (if any) not exceeding two pounds ten shillings per centum as the Commissioners may from time to time determine:

(4.) No money shall be expended under this Act on any institution having for its object the reformation of criminals.

Rate for repayment of loan.

6. It shall be lawful for the town commissioners of any town to which a loan is made in pursuance of the provisions of this Act in case no fund exists or no sufficient portion of the rates of such town is available for the repayment of such loan to levy a rate for the purpose of repaying such loan, provided that the rate levied under this section does not exceed one penny in the pound upon the entire assessable value of the area over which the jurisdiction to levy rates of such town commissioners extends, and such town commissioners shall have all such powers to enforce the payment of any rate levied in pursuance of this section as are now possessed by them to enforce payment of the ordinary rates payable in respect of such town.

Power of mortgaging.

7. The town commissioners of any town requiring a loan under the provisions of this Act are hereby authorised and empowered to charge and mortgage to the Commissioners any portion of the rates of such town or the special rate levied in pursuance of the last preceding section for securing the repayment of such loan with interest at the time or times specified by the Commissioners, and in the event of the nonpayment of such loan or any part thereof at the time or times so specified it shall be lawful for the Commissioners to sequester such portion of the rates or such special rate as may have been mortgaged or charged to them for the purposes aforesaid, and to collect the same until the loan or the portion thereof unpaid shall have been satisfied, and for this purpose the Commissioners shall have and are hereby empowered to use all the remedies possessed by the town commissioners for the collection and enforcement of such rates or special rate.

Interpretation.

8. In this Act, if not inconsistent with the context, the following terms have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them; that is to say,

"Commissioners" means the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland.

17 & 18 Vict. c. 103.

"Town commissioners" means the commissioners appointed under the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act, 1854, and any Act amending the same; and in the case of towns in which the governing body is a town council, but in which the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act, 1854, is in force, the term "town commissioners" includes such town council.

17 & 18 Vict. c. 103.

"Town" means any town as defined by section one of the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act, 1854, which has adopted that Act.

"Treasury" means the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

This Act to be construed with 37 & 38 Vict. c. 86.

9. This Act and the Act thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth Victoria, chapter eighty-six, shall be read and construed as one Act, except in so far as the provisions of the said Act are inconsistent with or repealed by the provisions of the present Act.

CHAPTER 34.

An Act to amend the Law relating to Railway Passenger Duty, and to amend and consolidate the Law relating to the conveyance of the Queen's Forces by Railway.

[20th August 1883.]

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 Cheap Trains Act, 1883.

Abolition of passenger duty for cheap trains, and reduction on urban traffic.

2. After the commencement of this Act the duties now payable in respect of passengers conveyed for hire on a railway shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, be varied as follows:

(1.) Fares not exceeding the rate of one penny a mile shall be exempt from duty; but fares for return or periodical tickets shall be exempt from duty only where the ordinary fare for the single journey does not exceed that rate:

(2.) Duty shall be payable at the rate of two per cent. on fares exceeding the rate of one penny a mile for conveyance between railway stations within one urban district certified so to be in manner provided in this section:

(3.) Where the Board of Trade are satisfied that any two or more railway stations are within an area which has a continuous urban as distinguished from a rural or suburban character, and contains a population of not less than one hundred thousand inhabitants, the Board of Trade may certify that those stations are within one urban district for the purposes of this Act. The Board of Trade may from time to time and at any time rescind or vary any certificate given by them under this section.

Provision for proper third-class accommodation and workmen's trains.

3. (1.) If at any time the Board of Trade have reason to believe—

(*a.*) that upon any railway or part of a railway, or upon any line or system of railways, whether belonging to one company or to two or more companies, which forms a continuous means of communication, a due and sufficient proportion of the accom-