CHAPTER 53.

An Act to amend the Labourers (Ireland) Acts, 1883 to 1892. [14th August 1896.]

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 :

Amendment of 46 & 47 Vict. c. 60. ss. 4 and 7.

1.—(1.) In section four of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, "seven days" shall be substituted for "fourteen days" wherever those words occur.

(2.) The notice of a subsequent meeting of a sanitary authority required by the said section four shall not be necessary except in the case of a meeting at which a final resolution is to be passed.

(3.) A representation under section five of the said Act of 1883, or any certificate of a sanitary officer relating to the same, may be amended at any time prior or subsequent to the making of an improvement scheme in pursuance thereof, and the power of amendment hereby given shall include power to permit any such representation to be signed at any stage of the proceedings thereon by any person duly qualified to sign the same, and such signing shall have the same effect as if the representation had been originally so signed; provided that no amendment other than the addition of a signature shall be made without the consent in writing in the case of a representation of the persons who originally signed the same, and in the case of a certificate of the sanitary officer, and any signature added shall be verified by a member or officer of the sanitary authority.

(4.) In section seven of the said Act of 1883 "two consecutive weeks" shall be substituted for "three consecutive weeks" and the notices to be served under the said section may be served at the same time as, or at any time after, the publication of the advertisement in that section mentioned.

(5.) Any notice under the said section seven may be served on the agent of the person required to be served in like manner as on such person, and need not be served personally; provided that, if the service is by post, the letter shall be registered.

(6.) Where the Local Government Board direct a local inquiry to be held under the said section seven, the inspector of the Board appointed to hold the inquiry shall, not later than seven days before the day on which the inquiry will be held, forward by post in a registered letter addressed to the usual or last-known place of abode of every owner or reputed owner, lessee or reputed lessee, and occupier of the lands proposed to be taken compulsorily, or of the agents of such persons, a notice of the date on which the inquiry will be held.

Provision in case of a petition against portion of an order.

2. Where a petition has been lodged under the principal Acts respecting a portion only of a provisional order, the Local Government Board may divide the order into two orders, and the new order containing the portion of the original order to which the

petition does not relate shall become absolute in like manner as if no petition had been lodged, and the new order containing the portion of the original order to which the petition relates shall remain provisional until confirmed.

Application of Lands Clauses Acts and 53 & 54 Vict. c. 70.

3.—(1.) For the purpose of taking lands compulsorily by purchase under the principal Acts the provisions of the Lands Clauses Acts with respect to the purchase and taking of lands otherwise than by agreement shall be deemed to be amended by the provisions contained in the Second Schedule of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, and such provisions shall (subject as by this Act provided) be deemed to form part of the principal Acts in like manner as if therein expressly enacted.

(2.) In the construction for the purposes of the principal Acts of the provisions contained in the said Second Schedule to the said Act of 1890, the "local authority" shall mean the sanitary authority, the "confirming Act" shall mean the order of the Local Government Board authorising the improvement scheme, when the same has become absolute or been confirmed, the "confirming authority" shall mean the Local Government Board, and references to the said Act of 1890 or to Part I. thereof shall be deemed references to the principal Acts.

Entry on land.

4. When a provisional order sanctioning an improvement scheme has become absolute, or been confirmed, as the case may be, the sanitary authority may, subject to the provisions of this section, forthwith enter upon and use for the purposes of the principal Acts the land comprised in the order, notwithstanding that the arbitrator has not framed his award, and the interest payable in the case of a purchase, and the fair rent payable in the case of a lease, shall run as from the time of such entry.

Provided that—

(*a*) in the case of a purchase the sanitary authority, unless the persons entitled to give a discharge for the purchase money consent to such entry, shall give such security for the purchase money as those persons may require, or shall by way of security deposit in the Bank of Ireland in like manner as if it were purchase money such sum as may be specified in the order, or if no sum is so specified as the Local Government Board direct, and the sum deposited shall be applied in payment or part payment of the purchase money when determined, and if in excess of the purchase money the balance shall be returned to the sanitary authority, and if less than the purchase money the deficit shall be a charge upon any rates leviable by the sanitary authority, and may be recovered accordingly; and

(*b*) in the case of a lease, the sanitary authority shall pay on account of rent, until the fair rent is fixed, an annual sum equal to the annual value of the land under the Irish Valuation Acts.

Conditions of letting to agricultural labourers.

5. The tenancy under a letting by a sanitary authority of any cottage and allotment to an agricultural labourer shall be deemed to be a cottier tenancy within the meaning of the Landlord and

23 & 24 Vict. c. 154.

Tenant Law Amendment Act (Ireland), 1860, notwithstanding that the allotment exceeds half an acre, and that by the terms of such letting the tenant is bound to keep the windows of such cottage and the fences of such allotment in repair.

Amendment of 54 & 55 Vict. c. 71. s. 8.

6. The inspector who holds a local inquiry under section four of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1891, and the inspector who makes a complaint, and the inspector to whom authority is given by an order of the Local Government Board under section eight of the said Act, need not be the same person, but may be any inspector of the Local Government Board.

Conditions for sale of cottages not required for labourers.

7. A sanitary authority may, with the sanction of the Local Government Board, sell any cottage erected or acquired by them under the principal Acts with the land attached, which has ceased to be required for the purposes of those Acts, subject to the following conditions :—

(1.) The purchaser shall be liable for the repayment of the amount charged on such cottage and land under section eighteen of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, and shall not let the same, save in accordance with the conditions of letting specified in section thirteen of the said Act of 1883 :

(2.) Such cottage and land shall be offered for sale at a reserve price, being not less than the amount of the costs and expenses paid by the sanitary authority in respect thereof :

(3.) Such cottage and land shall be offered for sale at the said reserve price first to the owner or successor in title of the owner from whom the land was originally purchased or taken on lease :

(4.) If such owner or his successor in title declines, or within a reasonable time to be specified in the offer made to him neglects, to purchase, such cottage and land shall be offered for sale at the said reserve price to the occupier of the holding from which the land was taken :

(5.) If such occupier declines, or within a reasonable time to be specified in the offer made to him neglects, to purchase, such cottage and land shall be offered for sale by public auction or private tender after publication of advertisements of the sale in the newspapers circulating in the district, at a price not less than the said reserve price.

Extension of 48 & 49 Vict. c. 77. s. 12.

8. The power to make rules conferred upon the Lord Lieutenant in Council by section twelve of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1885, shall be construed as including a power to rescind, revoke, amend, or vary such rules.

Duration of Acts.

9. The principal Acts as amended by this Act shall continue in force for five years from the passing of this Act, and until the end of the session of Parliament next ensuing.

Short title and construction.

10. This Act may be cited as the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1896, and save where inconsistent therewith shall be construed as one with the Labourers (Ireland) Acts, 1883 to 1892 (in this Act referred to as the principal Acts) and the said Acts and this Act may be cited collectively as the Labourers (Ireland) Acts, 1883 to 1896.

11. The Acts specified in the schedule to this Act are hereby repealed to the extent in the third column of that schedule mentioned. Repeal.

12. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of November next after the passing thereof, and shall apply to all proceedings begun under the principal Acts in like manner as if they had been begun after the commencement of this Act. Commencement of Act.

SCHEDULE.

ACTS REPEALED.

Session and Chapter.	Short Title.	Extent of Repeal.
46 & 47 Vict. c. 60. -	The Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883.	In section seven, the words "during the month next "following the month "in which such adver- "tisement is published." Section twenty-two.
48 & 49 Vict. c. 77. -	The Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1885.	Section twenty-six.

CHAPTER 54.

An Act to amend the Acts relating to Public Health in Ireland. [14th August 1896.]

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:

Powers of Sanitary Authorities.

1. The Local Government Board may, on the application of the sanitary authority of any rural district, or of persons rated to the relief of the poor, the assessment of whose hereditaments amounts at the least to one tenth of the net rateable value of such district, or of any contributory place therein, by order to be published in the Dublin Gazette, or in such other manner as the Local Government Board may direct, declare any provisions of the Public Health (Ireland) Acts, 1878 to 1890, in force in urban districts to be in force in such rural district or contributory place, and may invest such authority with all or any of the powers, rights, duties, capacities, liabilities, and obligations of an urban authority under Local Government Board may invest rural authority with powers of urban authority.