CHAPTER 83.

An Act to amend the Law relating to Securities for Loans contracted by Local Authorities. [13th August 1875.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law relating to securities for loans contracted by local authorities:

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, as follows:

(1.) *Preliminary.*

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The Local Loans Act, 1875."

Limits of Act.

2. This Act shall not extend to Scotland or Ireland.

Commencement of Act.

3. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, which day is herein-after referred to as the commencement of this Act.

Definition of borrowing under Act.

4. A local authority shall be deemed to borrow, subject to the provisions of this Act, whenever it raises a loan by the issue of debentures or debenture stock or annuity certificates, purporting to be created under its powers, or partly in one way and partly in another; subject to this proviso, that where a loan is directed to be raised by debentures or debenture stock or annuity certificates under this Act, the prescribed mode only shall be adopted.

(2.) *Debentures.*

Regulations as to debentures.

5. A debenture under this Act shall be an instrument taking effect as a deed, and charging the local rate or property in such debenture specified with payment, as in the debenture mentioned, of the principal sum and interest therein specified.

Where a debenture under this Act charges property other than the local rate, and it is intended that in default of payment of the principal sum due on such debenture, or of the interest thereon, the property is to be sold, a statement to that effect shall be inserted in the debenture.

The principal sum may be made payable to the bearer of the debenture, or to a person to be named therein, his executors, administrators, or assigns.

A debenture in which the principal sum is made payable to the bearer shall be transferable by delivery.

A debenture in which the principal sum is made payable to a person named therein, his executors, administrators, or assigns, is in this Act referred to as a nominal debenture, and shall be transferable by writing in manner directed by the local authority.

There may be attached to a debenture under this Act, or be thereafter issued in respect thereof, or partly in one way and partly in the other, coupons making the interest as therein mentioned payable to the bearer of each coupon, or to the person named in each coupon or his order, or the interest on a debenture may be made payable to the owner for the time being of such debenture, or may be otherwise made payable in such manner as in the said debenture mentioned.

A coupon making the interest therein mentioned payable to the person named therein or his order is in this Act referred to as a coupon payable to order.

A debenture under this Act shall not be issued for a less sum than the prescribed sum, or, where no sum is prescribed, than twenty pounds.

(3.) *Debenture Stock.*

Regulations as to debenture stock.

6. A debenture stock may be created and issued by a local authority having power to raise a loan or any part thereof by the issue of debenture stock. Such debenture stock shall be of a nominal amount, not exceeding the amount of money authorised to be raised

by such stock, and shall, unless otherwise provided by the conditions of issue, be redeemable at par at the option of the local authority at such times and upon such conditions as the local authority may declare at the time of the issue thereof.

The title of any person to any share in debenture stock shall be evidenced by the entry in the register as in this Act mentioned of the name of such person as owner of such share.

Debenture stock shall bear such rate of interest, to be payable at such times as the local authority may declare at the time of issue of the stock.

Debenture stock and the interest thereon shall be a charge on the local rate or property specified at the time of the issue thereof, in the same manner as if it were a principal sum and interest charged thereon by deed.

Where debenture stock and the interest thereon is a charge on property other than the local rate, and it is intended that in default of the payment of the interest thereon, or for the purpose of raising the money required for the redemption of the stock, the property is to be sold, a declaration to that effect shall be made by the local authority at the time of the issue of the stock, and shall be deemed to form one of the conditions of such issue.

Debenture stock shall have all the incidents of personal estate, and shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, be transferable by writing in manner directed by the local authority.

The interest on any share of debenture stock shall be recoverable by the owner of such share in the same manner in all respects as if such interest were an annuity of like amount secured to him by an annuity certificate under this Act.

The owner of any share in debenture stock shall not be entitled to require payment of the nominal amount of stock held by him, except at the time and upon the conditions declared by the local authority at the time of the issue of such stock.

The conditions of issue of debenture stock shall be declared by the local authority at the time of such issue, and a printed copy of such conditions shall be supplied to every owner of debenture stock requiring the same, and shall be entered in the register of such stock.

The local authority may, if it thinks fit, on the application of the owner of any share in debenture stock, grant to him a certificate of title to his share in such stock, or any part of such share, with coupons attached entitling the bearer of the coupons to the interest on the share or part of a share specified in such certificate.

A certificate of title to a share in debenture stock under this section (in this Act called a stock certificate to bearer) shall entitle the bearer to the stock therein described, and to the interest thereon, and shall be transferable by delivery.

Any share in stock in respect of which a stock certificate to bearer has been issued, shall, so long as such certificate is outstanding, cease to be dealt with through the medium of the register.

Debenture stock, in respect of which a stock certificate to bearer has not been issued, is in this Act referred to as nominal debenture stock.

(4.) *Annuity Certificates.*

Regulations as to annuity certificates.

7. An annuity certificate under this Act shall be an instrument taking effect as a deed, and charging the local rate or property in such certificate specified with payment, as in the certificate mentioned, of the annual sum therein specified.

Where an annuity certificate under this Act charges property other than the local rate, and it is intended that in default of payment of the annual sum secured by such annuity certificate, or of some part thereof, the property is to be sold, a statement to that effect shall be inserted in the annuity certificate.

The annual sum may be made payable to the bearer of the certificate or to a person to be named therein, his executors, administrators, or assigns.

An annuity certificate in which the annual sum is made payable to the bearer shall be transferable by delivery.

An annuity certificate in which the annual sum is made payable to a person named

therein, his executors, administrators, or assigns, is in this Act referred to as a nominal annuity certificate, and shall be transferable by writing in manner directed by the local authority.

An annuity certificate under this Act shall not be issued for a less annual sum than the prescribed sum, or, where no sum is prescribed, than three pounds.

(5.) *Priority of Loans.*

Priority of loans.

8. All sums for the time being due or authorised to be raised on or in respect of any securities issued in respect of the same loan by a local authority under this Act shall be paid without any preference the one over the other by reason of the priority of date of any of such securities.

Where more than one loan has been raised under this Act by the same local authority, the sums for the time being due or authorised to be raised on or in respect of any securities issued in respect of each loan shall take priority according to the date of such loan.

Where any sum of money is authorised to be borrowed in manner provided by this Act, such sum may, unless it is otherwise prescribed, be raised under this Act as one loan or several loans, as may be deemed most convenient by the borrowing authority, so that the aggregate amount authorised to be borrowed be not exceeded.

The date of each loan shall, with a view to the priority of the loan and to the period within which such loan is to be discharged, and for the other purposes of this Act, so far as relates to that period, be fixed by the local authority, and may be so fixed irrespectively of the dates of the particular securities issued in respect of such loan, so that the period within which the loan is required to be discharged be not exceeded.

(6.) *Notice of Trusts.*

Notice of trust not receivable.

9. No notice of any trust, expressed, implied, or constructive, shall be received by the local authority, or by any registrar or officer of the local authority, in relation to any security issued by such authority under this Act.

Owners of securities not responsible for acts of local authority.

10. A person advancing any money to a local authority and receiving in consideration of such advance any security under this Act, shall not be bound to inquire into the application of the money advanced, or be in any way responsible for the non-application or misapplication thereof.

(7.) *Remedy for Non-payment.*

Remedy by mandamus for non-payment of money.

11. The local authority shall pay or raise all sums for the time being due or authorised to be raised on or in respect of any security issued by them under this Act, and if default is made in payment of any sum so due, such sum shall be deemed to be a specialty debt due to the person entitled thereto from the local authority of such a nature that a mandamus will be granted to enforce the payment thereof; and an action may be brought accordingly, in which a mandamus may be claimed.

Remedy by appointment of receiver for non-payment of money.

12. Where a local authority makes default for a period of twenty-one days in paying an amount of not less than five hundred pounds (whether in one sum or separate sums) for the time being due on or in respect of any security issued under this Act, the persons entitled to the said amount, or any of such persons, may, instead of or in addition to bringing an action or actions, apply to the county court for the appointment of a receiver, and any receiver so appointed (subject to any direction which may be given by the court) shall from time to time raise as herein-after mentioned, by or out of the local rate or property charged, sufficient money to pay the amount the payment of which is so in default, and all sums due while he is receiver on or in respect of any such security, together with all costs, charges, and expenses incurred in or about the appointment of such receiver and the execution of his duties under this section, including a proper remuneration for his trouble, and shall render to the defaulting authority the balance, if any, remaining in his hands after making the said payments.

Where the amount so due or authorised to be raised is charged on the local rate, the

receiver may raise the money he is authorised to raise under this section by means of the local rate, and for that purpose shall have the same power as the defaulting authority of levying the local rate, and the receiver shall have such access to and use of the documents of the defaulting authority relative to the local rate as he may require.

Where the amount so due or authorised to be raised is charged on any property, other than the local rate, the receiver may raise the sum which he is authorised to raise under this section by receipt of the rents and profits of the property, and if the security involves a power of sale, as in this Act mentioned, by sale of the property in such manner and subject to such conditions of sale and otherwise as the court may direct.

A county court may appoint a receiver under this section with respect to any local rate levied, or any property situate wholly or partly within the jurisdiction of such court, and may remove such receiver and appoint another in his stead, and so from time to time; and may make such orders and give such directions as to the powers and duties of the receiver, and otherwise as to the disposal of the moneys received by him, as may be thought fit for carrying this section into effect.

(8.) *Discharge of Loan.*

Loan borrowed to be discharged within prescribed period.

13. Every loan borrowed in manner provided by this Act shall be discharged within the prescribed period from the date thereof, and if no period is prescribed, within the period of twenty years from the date thereof, which period of twenty years shall for the purposes of this Act be included under the term "prescribed period," and such discharge shall be secured by one or more of the following methods; that is to say,

By the issue of annuity certificates limited to expire within the prescribed period; or,

By the issue of debentures made payable in such a manner that in each year such number of debentures will become due and be paid off as will secure the repayment of the whole sum secured by such debentures by equal annual instalments, extending over the whole of the prescribed period, or over a less time than the prescribed period; or,

By the annual appropriation, as in this Act mentioned, of a fixed sum to the discharge of a certain portion of such loan; or,

Where a sinking fund is prescribed, but not otherwise, by the establishment of a sinking fund and the application thereof in manner in this Act mentioned.

Discharge of loan by appropriation of annual sum.

14. Where a fixed annual sum is appropriated to the discharge of a loan, or part of a loan, the local authority shall raise in every year an equal sum of money of such amount as will, at or before the expiration of the prescribed period, pay off the whole of such loan or part of a loan, and the interest thereon. The local authority shall in each year pay out of such fixed sum the interest due on the loan or part of a loan during the current year, and appropriate the residue of such sum, in the case of money borrowed on debentures, to the payment off of a corresponding amount of the principal sum secured by such debentures, and in the case of money borrowed by the issue of debenture stock to the redemption of a corresponding amount of such stock.

The debentures or portion of debenture stock to be paid off in every year shall be ascertained in such manner as may have been fixed at the time of the issue of the debentures or debenture stock, or may thereafter have been arranged. Where the debentures or portion of debenture stock to be paid off are or is to be determined by lot, the lots shall be drawn in presence of the local authority, and any owners of debenture or debenture stock who choose to be present; the local authority shall cause not less than one month's previous notice of the time and place at which lots are to be drawn to be given by advertisement, published once at the least in each of four successive weeks in some newspaper circulating in the district within which the local authority has jurisdiction.

Any fractional sum remaining of such residue as aforesaid, after payment of the debentures or debenture stock, payable as aforesaid, shall be carried to the credit of the annual sum to be raised in the ensuing year. All expenses incurred by the local authority in respect of any drawings by lot or otherwise in respect of the discharge of a loan shall be paid out of the current revenue of the local authority.

Discharge of loan by sinking fund.

15. Where a sinking fund is prescribed for any loan or part of a loan, the local authority shall create a sinking fund as herein-after mentioned; that is to say,

(1.) Such equal yearly or half-yearly sums shall be paid into the sinking fund in each year as, being accumulated at compound interest at the prescribed rate, or if no rate is prescribed, at such rate as in the opinion of the local authority, (regard being had to the securities in which they are authorised to make investments,) will at the expiration of some period not longer than the prescribed period, be sufficient, after payment of all expenses, to discharge such loan or part of a loan; and,

(2.) The first of such payments shall be made within one year from the date of the loan; and,

(3.) All sums paid into the sinking fund shall be, as soon as may be, invested by the local authority in the prescribed manner, and if no manner is prescribed, or if a manner having been prescribed, the Local Government Board shall assent, in securities in which trustees are by law for the time being authorised to invest, or in debentures, debenture stock, or annuity certificates issued under this Act, and any such investments may be from time to time varied or transposed, and all dividends and other annual sums received in respect of such investments shall, as soon as may be after they are received, be paid into the sinking fund and invested by the local authority in like manner; and,

(4.) The local authority may from time to time apply the sinking fund, or any part thereof, in or towards the discharge of the loan or part of a loan for which it was created, and until such loan or part is wholly discharged shall not apply the same for any other purpose:

(5.) The debentures or portion of debenture stock, to the payment of which such sinking fund is for the time being applicable, shall be ascertained in such manner as may have been fixed at the time of the issue of the debentures or debenture stock, or may thereafter have been arranged. Where the debentures or portion of debenture stock to be paid off are or is to be determined by lot, the lots shall be drawn and notice shall be given in manner herein-before in this Act mentioned:

(6.) Any surplus of the sinking fund remaining after the discharge of the loan or part of a loan for the discharge of which it was created shall be paid into some other sinking fund under the control of the local authority, or if there is no such fund shall be applied to any purpose to which such loan is applicable, or otherwise, as the local authority may, with the assent of the Local Government Board, think expedient:

(7.) Where any part of the sinking fund is invested in any securities of the local authority, or is applied in paying off any part of the loan before the prescribed period, the interest which would otherwise be payable on such securities or on such part of the loan shall be paid into the sinking fund and invested in manner provided by this Act:

(8.) If the annual income of the sinking fund is not less than the annual interest payable on so much of the loan or part of the loan in respect of which it was created as remains undischarged, the equal annual sums required by this section to be paid into the sinking fund may cease to be so paid.

Annual return as to sinking fund.

16. Where a sinking fund is created for the purpose of discharging any loan or part of a loan the local authority shall, until such loan or part of a loan is discharged, within twenty-one days after the expiration of each year, transmit to the Local Government Board a return in such form and verified in such manner as the Board from time to time directs, showing the amount which has been invested or applied for the purpose of such sinking fund during the year next preceding the making of such return, and the description of the securities upon which any investment has been made, and the purposes to which any portion of the sinking fund has been applied during the same period, and the total amount (if any) remaining invested at the end of the year. If it appears to the Local Government Board, by such return or otherwise, that the local authority

have failed to comply with the provisions of this Act with respect to the sinking fund, that Board may, if they think fit and after hearing the local authority, if desirous to be heard, by order direct that the sum in respect of which default has been made is to be raised and invested or applied as part of the sinking fund, and any such order may be enforced by mandamus.

SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS.

(1.) *As to Coupons.*

Temporary issue of coupons.

17. Coupons in respect of any debenture or stock certificate to bearer under this Act may be issued comprising the interest payable during the whole period of years for which the debenture or stock certificate is in force, or any less period, and at the expiration of any such less period fresh coupons may be issued in respect of the debenture or stock certificate, or such debenture or stock certificate may be exchanged for another debenture or stock certificate with coupons for a further period.

Endorsement and crossing of coupons.

18. A coupon payable to order, which when presented for payment purports to be endorsed by the person named therein, shall be a sufficient authority to the person paying the money to pay the amount due in respect of such coupon to the bearer thereof, and it shall not be incumbent on the person paying such coupon to prove that such endorsement or any subsequent endorsement was made by or under the direction or authority of the person who is named in the coupon, or to whom the coupon was made payable by any endorser.

Where a coupon bears across its face an addition in written, printed, or stamped letters of the name of any banker or of the words "and company" in full or abbreviated, between two transverse lines, such addition shall be deemed to be a material part of the coupon, and have the force of a direction to the person by whom such coupon is to be paid that the same is to be paid only to or through the banker named, or if none is so named, to or through some banker, and the same shall be payable only to or through the banker named, or some banker.

Coupons issued in respect of a security are exempt from stamp duty as if attached thereto.

19. Any coupons issued in respect of any debenture or stock certificate to bearer under this Act shall for the purpose of the Acts relating to stamp duties be deemed to have been attached to and issued with such security.

(2.) *As to Stock Certificates.*

Conversion into nominal debenture stock of stock in certificate to bearer.

20. The bearer of a stock certificate to bearer may, on delivery to the local authority of his certificate and of all unpaid coupons belonging thereto, require the local authority to enter him in the register of the local authority as an owner of the share of stock described in the stock certificate to bearer, and thereupon that stock shall become nominal debenture stock and the interest thereon shall be payable as if no stock certificate to bearer had been issued in respect of that share of stock.

Trustee not to apply for stock certificate to bearer.

21. A trustee of debenture stock shall not apply for or hold a stock certificate to bearer unless authorised to do so by the terms of his trust, and any contravention of this provision by a trustee shall be deemed a breach of trust. But this provision shall not impose on the local authority an obligation to inquire whether a person applying for a stock certificate to bearer is or is not a trustee, or subject the local authority to any liability in the event of their issuing a stock certificate to bearer to a trustee, or invalidate any stock certificate to bearer issued.

(3.) *As to Execution and Supply of Securities.*

Execution and supply of securities.

22. Every debenture, stock certificate to bearer, and annuity certificate under this Act shall be deemed to be well executed if under the common seal of the local authority, where that authority is a body corporate, and if signed by two or more members of the local authority, where the local authority is not a body corporate, or if otherwise

executed in such manner as the Local Government Board may direct on the application of any local authority, whether corporate or unincorporate.

The Commissioners of Inland Revenue may, when required by any local authority, and on payment of such sum as may, with the sanction of the Treasury, be agreed upon, supply such authority with debentures, stock certificates to bearer, coupons, and annuity certificates under this Act in such form and of such materials as the local authority may direct.

(4.) *As to Register of Nominal Securities.*

Register of nominal securities.

23. A local authority issuing nominal debentures, nominal debenture stock, or nominal annuity certificates under this Act, shall cause a register of such securities to be kept in one or more book or books, and there shall be entered in such register—

(1.) The names and addresses and the descriptions of the owners for the time being of every such security, with a statement of the securities held by each person registered, and

(2.) The date at which the name of any person was entered in the register in respect of any such security.

The register under this section shall be evidence of any matters by this Act directed or authorised to be inserted therein.

Inspection of register.

24. Any person may inspect the register at any reasonable time upon payment of such fee not exceeding one shilling as may be fixed by the local authority, and shall be entitled to obtain from the registrar, copies or extracts certified by him to be true copies or extracts of such register, upon payment of such fee not exceeding two shillings and sixpence, and twopence for every folio of seventy-two words, as the local authority may from time to time fix, and any copy or extract so certified shall be admissible in evidence.

Rectification of register.

25. If the name of any person is without sufficient cause entered in or omitted from the register, or if default is made or unnecessary delay takes place in making any entry in such register, the person aggrieved or the local authority may apply to the court for an order that the register may be rectified.

The court may either refuse the application with or without costs to be paid by the applicant, or may, if satisfied of the justice of the case, whether there has or has not been any default on the part of the registrar, make an order for the rectification of the register, and make such order as to the payment of the costs of the application or of damages to the person aggrieved as to the court may seem just.

The court may, in any proceeding under this section, decide any question relating to the title of any party to such proceeding to have his name entered in or omitted from the register, and generally any question which it may be necessary or expedient to decide for the rectification of the register.

The court for the purposes of this section means any of Her Majesty's superior courts of law or equity, or any court to which the jurisdiction of such courts may be transferred, and where the value of any security or securities to which the application relates does not exceed fifty pounds shall include a county court, and the jurisdiction by this Act given to a superior court may be exercised in a summary manner by any judge or judges of such court sitting in chambers or otherwise.

(5.) *As to Loans under Official Sanction.*

Permissive issue of securities under official sanction.

26. Any local authority about to raise a loan by the issue of any securities under this Act may apply to the Local Government Board to authorise the issue of such securities under official sanction.

The Local Government Board, before granting their official sanction to such issue, shall require the local authority to furnish in such form, and with such particulars, and supported by such evidence as the Local Government Board may require, such returns of the financial condition of such authority and borrowing powers of such authority and of the indebtedness of such authority, whether incurred before or after the passing of this Act, and such other particulars as will enable the Local Government Board to ascertain

the facts required by this section to be stated in relation to such issue, and the Local Government Board may make such examination or inquiries for ascertaining the said matters and the accuracy of such returns as they may think expedient, and they shall not give their sanction unless they are satisfied with the information given and the result of the inquiries made.

The issue of any securities under official sanction shall be authenticated by an official stamp on such securities or otherwise as the Local Government Board may from time to time direct.

The sanction of the Local Government Board given in respect of any securities shall be conclusive evidence that the local authority by whom such securities may be issued had power to issue the same, and that the same have been duly issued, and are as to form and otherwise in conformity with this Act.

The owner of any security issued under official sanction shall on request made by him to the Local Government Board be furnished with a statement of the following particulars; that is to say,

Where a security is charged on a rate, of the rateable value, at the date of the issue of such security, of the property subject to the rate, and where the security is a charge on property, of the estimated value of such property; also of

The relative priority of the loan, in respect of which such security is issued, and of the other loans (if any) of the borrowing authority;

and such statement shall be evidence of the particulars therein stated.

(6.) *As to Investments on Loans under Act.*

Power for trustees to invest in loans under Act.

27. Any trustees or other persons for the time being authorised or directed to invest any moneys in the debentures or debenture stock of any railway or other company shall, unless the contrary is provided by the instrument authorising or directing such investment, have the same power of investing such moneys in any nominal debentures or nominal debenture stock issued under this Act as they have of investing such moneys in debentures or debenture stock of any railway or other company as aforesaid.

Power for Public Works Loan Commissioners to take securities under Act.

28. When the Public Works Loan Commissioners are authorised to grant any loan to a local authority under any Act, passed either before or after the passing of this Act, and are satisfied with the sufficiency of the rates or other property on which such loan is charged to defray the loan, they may, notwithstanding anything contained in any other Act of Parliament, take debentures, debenture stock, or annuity certificates under this Act as a security for such loan.

(7.) *As to General Rules.*

Application of rules in schedule.

29. The general rules in the schedule to this Act with respect to the transfer and transmission of nominal securities shall have the same force as if they were enacted in the body of this Act.

Power to make general rules.

30. The local authority may from time to time, with the consent of the Local Government Board, make, and when made, add to, rescind, or alter, such rules as they think fit with respect to the following matters:

(1.) The issue of coupons, the registry of securities, the mode of transferring securities not transferable by delivery, the fees, if any, to be charged in respect of registry and otherwise in respect of any security issued by them under this Act; and,

(2.) With respect to any matter or thing required for the purposes of carrying into effect this Act, and not inconsistent therewith.

The local authority may also by such rules as aforesaid add to, rescind, or alter any of the rules in the schedule hereto.

Any general rules made by the local authority in pursuance of this section shall, so far as they are consistent with this Act, have the same force as if they were enacted therein.

Provided, that any rules made, added to, rescinded, or altered in pursuance of this section shall not affect any securities issued in respect of any loan the date of which is prior to the date of such making, addition, rescission, or alteration.

(8.) *As to Borrowing.*

Borrowing and re-borrowing by local authorities.

31. Any local authority, notwithstanding any provision in any other Act of Parliament passed before the passing of this Act, may, if it thinks fit, borrow in manner provided by this Act any loan which it is authorised to borrow.

Any local authority may from time to time in like manner re-borrow money for the purpose of discharging any loan lawfully contracted by them either before or after the passing of this Act; provided that the time for repayment of any money so borrowed shall not be extended beyond the unexpired portion of the term for which the original loan was contracted, unless with the sanction of the Local Government Board, and in no case shall be extended beyond the prescribed period.

(9.) *As to Forgery and Loss of Securities.*

Forgery of securities.

32. For the purposes of the Act of the session of the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter ninety-eight, intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Statute Law of England relating to indictable offences by forgery," debenture stock under this Act shall be deemed to be capital stock of a body corporate, and any other security issued in pursuance of this Act shall be considered to be a writing obligatory, and any coupon bearing across its face an addition in written, printed, or stamped letters of the name of any banker, or of the words "and company" in full or abbreviated, between two transverse lines, shall be deemed to be a cheque or draft on a banker.

Loss of securities.

33. If any security issued under this Act is lost, mislaid, or destroyed, the local authority shall, on such indemnity being given as they may require, and on payment of the expense of the issue, issue a fresh security in the place of the security so lost, mislaid, or destroyed.

(10.) *Definitions.*

Definitions.

34. For the purposes of this Act—

"Prescribed" means prescribed by any Act passed either before or after the passing of this Act authorising a local authority to borrow money:

"Local authority" means the justices of any county, liberty, riding, parts, or division of a county in general or quarter sessions assembled, the council of any municipal borough, also any authority whatsoever having power to levy a rate, as in this Act defined, also any prescribed authority:

"Municipal borough" means any borough for the time being subject to the Act of the session of the fifth and sixth years of the reign of King William the Fourth, chapter seventy-six, intituled, "An Act to provide for the regulation of municipal corporations in England and Wales," and any Acts amending the same:

A "rate" means a rate the proceeds of which are applicable to public local purposes and leviable on the basis of an assessment in respect of property, and includes any sum which, though obtained in the first instance by a precept, certificate, or other document requiring payment from some authority or officer, is or can be ultimately raised out of a rate, and the levy of a rate includes the issue and enforcement of any such precept, certificate, or document as aforesaid, and expressions relating to the levy and the assessment and making of a rate shall be construed accordingly:

"Local rate" means any rate as before defined which a local authority have power to levy or charge by way of mortgage or otherwise:

"Security" means any debenture, debenture stock, annuity certificate, coupon, or stock certificate to bearer issued under this Act:

"Person" includes a body of persons corporate or unincorporate:

"Executors and administrators" includes successors.

(11.) *Repeal and consequential Enactment.*

Repeal of 36 & 37 Vict. c. 35.

35. The County Debentures Act, 1873, is hereby repealed, as from the commencement of this Act; but this repeal shall not abridge or prejudicially affect the incorporation of

any county authority under that Act, or any right in respect of any debenture issued in pursuance of that Act before the commencement of this Act, or any remedy for non-payment of moneys secured by any such debenture, and all such rights and remedies may be enforced as if this Act had not been passed.

Incorporation of county authority for purposes of Act.

36. The justices of any county, liberty, riding, parts, or division of a county in general or quarter sessions assembled, issuing any securities under this Act, shall, so far as relates to such securities, be deemed to be incorporated by the name of the justices of the county, liberty, riding, parts, or division of the county to which they belong, or by any other name by which such justices are ordinarily known, or by which they granted the said securities, and may sue and be sued in any action or other legal proceeding relating thereto by such corporate name.

SCHEDULE.

GENERAL RULES.

Transfer of Nominal Securities.

(1.) A number of persons, not exceeding such number as may from time to time be directed by the local authority, may be registered as joint owners of the same nominal security, with right of survivorship between them.

(2.) Unless otherwise directed by a general rule of the local authority, the instrument of transfer of any nominal security issued by a local authority shall be executed both by the transferor and transferee, and the transferor shall be deemed to remain owner of such security until the name of the transferee is entered in the register in respect thereof.

(3.) The transfer books of nominal securities may be closed at such times, not exceeding twice in each year, and not exceeding fourteen days at each time of closing, as the local authority may direct.

Transmission of Nominal Securities.

(4.) The executors or administrators of a deceased owner of a nominal security shall be the only persons recognised by the local authority as having any title to such security.

(5.) Any person becoming entitled to a nominal security in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of any owner, or in consequence of the marriage of any female owner, may be registered as owner upon such evidence being produced as may from time to time be required by the local authority.

(6.) Unless otherwise directed by a rule of the local authority, any person who has become entitled to a nominal security in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of any owner, or in consequence of the marriage of any female owner, may, instead of being registered himself, elect to have some person to be named by him registered as a transferee of such security.

(7.) The person so becoming entitled shall testify such election by executing to his nominee an instrument of transfer of such security.

(8.) The instrument of transfer shall be presented to the local authority, accompanied with such evidence as the local authority may require to prove the title of the transferor, and thereupon the local authority shall register the transferee as owner.

(9.) In the construction of this schedule the term "nominal security" means any nominal debenture, nominal debenture stock, or nominal annuity certificate.

CHAPTER 84.

An Act to regulate the Expenses and to control the Charges of Returning Officers at Parliamentary Elections. [13th August 1875.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law relating to the expenses and charges of returning officers at parliamentary elections:

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and