3. This Act may be cited as the Chimney Sweepers Act, 1894, and shall be read as one with the Chimney Sweepers Act, 1875. Short title and construction.

4. This Act shall not apply to Scotland. Extent of Act.

5. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five. Commencement of Act.

CHAPTER 52.

An Act to amend the Provisions of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887, with respect to Check Weighers.

[25th August 1894.]

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:

1. If the owner, agent, or manager of any mine, or any person employed by or acting under the instructions of any such owner, agent, or manager, interferes with the appointment of a check weigher, or refuses to afford proper facilities for the holding of any meeting for the purpose of making such appointment, in any case in which the persons entitled to make the appointment do not possess or are unable to obtain a suitable meeting place, or attempts, whether by threats, bribes, promises, notice of dismissal, or otherwise howsoever, to exercise improper influence in respect of such appointment, or to induce the persons entitled to appoint a check weigher, or any of them, not to re-appoint a check weigher, or to vote for or against any particular person or class of persons in the appointment of a check weigher, such owner, agent, or manager shall be guilty of an offence against the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887. Penalty for interference with office of check weigher. 50 & 51 Vict. c. 58.

2. This Act may be cited as the Coal Mines (Check Weigher) Act, 1894. Short title.

CHAPTER 53.

An Act to make better provision for the Equalisation of Rates as between the different parts of London.

[25th August 1894.]

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:

1.—(1.) For aiding the equalisation of the rates in London, the London County Council shall in every year form a fund (in this Equalisation of sanitary authorities

rates by general rate over all London.

Act called the Equalisation Fund) equal to a rate of sixpence in the pound on the rateable value of London according to the valuation lists as they stand on the sixth day of April in that year.

(2.) The London County Council shall half-yearly determine the contribution from each parish in London to one half of the Equalisation Fund, and the grant due from that one half of the fund to each parish.

(3.) They shall determine the contribution by apportioning the amount of half the Equalisation Fund among the parishes in proportion to their rateable value according to the said valuation lists.

(4.) They shall determine the grant due by apportioning the amount of half the Equalisation Fund among the sanitary districts in proportion to their population, and where a sanitary district comprises two or more parishes by dividing that grant among those parishes in proportion to their population, with this exception, that where the aggregate of the contributions from the parishes in the district is less than the grant apportioned to the district, the difference shall be paid out of the Equalisation Fund to the sanitary authority of the district, and no payment towards any equalisation charge shall be required from any parish in the district.

(5.) Subject as aforesaid, where the contribution from a parish—

(*a*) is less than the grant due, the difference shall be paid out of the Equalisation Fund to the sanitary authority of the district forming or comprising the parish; but

(*b*) if it exceeds the grant due to the parish, the council shall, for the special purpose of meeting the excess, levy on the parish a county contribution (called the equalisation charge) as a separate item of the county rate.

(6.) Every sum paid under this section to a sanitary authority shall be applied in defraying the expenses of the sanitary authority incurred under the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, and so far as not required for that purpose those incurred in respect of lighting, and so far as not required for that purpose those incurred in respect of streets: Provided that where the district of such sanitary authority comprises two or more parishes, the sum paid shall be apportioned among the parishes in proportion to their population, and the amount so apportioned to each parish shall be credited to the parish in reduction of the rates required from such parish towards the above-mentioned expenses.

54 & 55 Vict. c. 96.

(7.) Every sanitary authority to whom a sum is paid under this Act in any year shall, within the prescribed time after the following thirty-first day of March, render to the Local Government Board a true account in the prescribed form showing, for the twelve months preceding the said day, the total amount of the

sum so paid, and the total amount of the expenses incurred by the authority under each of the following heads:—

(*a*) under the Public Health (London) Act, 1891;

(*b*) in respect of lighting; and

(*c*) in respect of streets;

and showing the amount expended in respect of each head out of the sums paid to such authority under this Act.

(8.) Where the Local Government Board under section one hundred and one of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, are satisfied that a sanitary authority have been guilty of such default as in that section mentioned, and have made an order limiting a time for the performance of the duty of the authority, the London County Council shall, if so directed by the Local Government Board, withhold the whole or any part of the payment (if any) next accruing due from the equalisation fund to such sanitary authority.

Any sums which may during any financial year be withheld in accordance with the foregoing enactment shall be carried forward to the credit of the equalisation fund in the following year, and the amount to be apportioned among the sanitary districts for determining the grant due shall be proportionately increased.

(9.) The account of the Equalisation Fund shall be a separate account of the county fund.

Form of contribution orders, demand notes, and receipts.

2. The Local Government Board shall by order prescribe the forms of contribution orders, precepts, demand notes, and receipts, so far as seems to the Board to be necessary for stating therein as a separate item any equalisation charge, and any credit in respect of a receipt under this Act which affects the sum named therein.

Provision for intermediate census.

3.—(1.) A census shall be taken for the purpose of ascertaining the number of persons present within each parish in the administrative county of London on the night of Sunday the twenty-ninth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six, and the provisions of the Census (England and Wales) Act, 1890, including the penal provisions, shall, subject to such modifications as may be prescribed for the purposes of this Act, apply in the case of the census so taken as if it were taken in pursuance of that Act; except that the expenses certified by the Registrar General to have been incurred in respect of the census shall be paid by the London County Council out of the Equalisation Fund, and the amount to be apportioned among the sanitary districts for determining the grant due shall be proportionately reduced.

53 & 54 Vict. c. 61.

(2.) The authority making the poor rate in each such parish shall in every year make to the Local Government Board a return of the total number of houses entered in the rate book of their parish. The return shall be made at such time and in such form, and the numbers shall be ascertained, and the return shall be verified, in such manner as may be prescribed. The Local Government Board shall forward such returns to the Registrar General, and thereupon he shall estimate the population of the parish on the sixth day of April in that year, and the population so estimated shall for the purposes of this Act be the population of the parish during the twelve months beginning on that day.

(3.) Provided that the first return under this section, and a like return with reference to the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one, shall be made within six weeks after the passing of this Act, and the population estimated upon the basis of such returns shall for the purposes of this Act be the population of the parish for the year beginning on the sixth day of April one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four.

(4.) If any authority making the poor rate fail to make a return under this section within one month after the time at which such return is required, each of the persons constituting the authority who is in fault shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds, and not exceeding ten pounds for every day during which the failure continues after the first conviction for such failure.

Definitions, commencement of Act, short title.

4.—(1.) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

The expression "London" means the administrative county of London.

The expression "sanitary authority" has the same meaning as in the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, but does not include the port sanitary authority, and "sanitary district" means the district of any authority as so defined.

54 & 55 Vict. c. 76.

The expression "population" means population according to the last published census for the time being, including the census taken in pursuance of this Act, or in any year in which a census is not taken according to the population estimated by the Registrar General under this Act.

The expression "prescribed" means prescribed by the Local Government Board.

(2.) This Act shall, except for the purposes of section three thereof, come into operation on the thirtieth day of September one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four, and the amount of half the Equalisation Fund for the half year beginning on that day shall be equal to threepence in the pound on the rateable value of London according to the valuation lists as they stood on the said day.

(3.) This Act may be cited as the London (Equalisation of Rates) Act, 1894.

CHAPTER 54.

An Act to amend the Railway and Canal Traffic Act, 1888. [25th August 1894.]

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:

Complaints as to rates or

1.—(1.) Where a railway company have, either alone or jointly with any other railway company or companies, since the last