12. A husband shall not, by reason of any marriage which shall take place after this Act has come into operation, be liable for the debts of his wife contracted before marriage, but the wife shall be liable to be sued for, and any property belonging to her for her separate use shall be liable to satisfy, such debts as if she had continued unmarried. Husband not to be liable on his wife's contracts before marriage.

13. Where in England the husband of any woman having separate property becomes chargeable to any union or parish, the justices having jurisdiction in such union or parish may, in petty sessions assembled, upon application of the guardians of the poor, issue a summons against the wife, and make and enforce such order against her for the maintenance of her husband as by the thirty-third section of "The Poor Law Amendment Act, 1868," they may now make and enforce against a husband for the maintenance of his wife who becomes chargeable to any union or parish. Where in Ireland relief is given under the provisions of the Acts relating to the relief of the destitute poor to the husband of any woman having separate property, the cost price of such relief is hereby declared to be a loan from the guardians of the union in which the same shall be given, and shall be recoverable from such woman as if she were a feme sole by such and the same actions and proceedings as money lent. Married woman to be liable to the parish for the maintenance of her husband.

14. A married woman having separate property shall be subject to all such liability for the maintenance of her children as a widow is now by law subject to for the maintenance of her children: Provided always, that nothing in this Act shall relieve her husband from any liability at present imposed upon him by law to maintain her children. Married woman to be liable to the parish for the maintenance of her children.

15. This Act shall come into operation at the time of the passing of this Act. Commencement of Act.

16. This Act shall not extend to Scotland. Extent of Act.

17. This Act may be cited as the "Married Women's Property Act, 1870." Short title.

CHAP. 94.

An Act to provide for Superannuation Allowances to Medical Officers of Unions, Districts, and Parishes in England and Wales.

[9th August 1870.]

WHEREAS it is expedient that provision should be made to enable superannuation allowances to be granted to medical officers of unions, districts, and parishes in England and Wales, who become disabled, either by infirmity or age, to discharge the duties of their offices:

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. The board of guardians of any union or parish, and the board of management of any district, may, at their discretion, with the consent of the Poor Law Board, grant to any medical officer of such union, district, or parish an annual allowance, under and subject to the provisions of the Act to provide for superannuation allowances to officers of the unions, passed in the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth year of the reign of Her Majesty, chapter forty-two, notwithstanding such medical officer shall not have devoted his entire time to the services of the union, district, or parish, and such allowance shall be paid out of the common fund of the union or district, or out of the poor rate of the parish, as the case may require, exclusively, and no contribution shall be made thereto out of any moneys voted by Parliament. Power to guardians, with consent of Poor Law Board, to grant superannuation allowance to medical officers in certain cases.

No allowance to be allowed without a certificate of inspector.

2. No allowance shall be obtained by any officer under this Act on the ground of permanent infirmity of mind or body unless a poor law inspector, or some person in that behalf authorised by the Poor Law Board, shall have first certified that in his opinion such officer has by reason of such infirmity become incapable of performing the duties of his office with efficiency.

Short title. Construction of Act.

3. This Act may be called "The Medical Officers Superannuation Act, 1870," and shall be construed in like manner as in the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1834, and the subsequent Acts extending or amending the same.

CHAP. 95.

An Act to authorise the carriage of Naval and Military Stores in Passenger Ships. [9th August 1870.]

18 & 19 Vict. c. 119. s. 29.

WHEREAS by section twenty-nine of the Passengers Act, 1855, it is enacted that "no passenger ship shall clear out or proceed to sea if there shall be on board as "cargo, horses, cattle, gunpowder, vitriol, lucifer matches, guano, or green hides, nor if there "shall be on board any other article or number of articles, whether as cargo or ballast, "which, by reason of the nature or quantity or mode of stowage thereof, shall, either "singly or collectively, be deemed by the emigration officer at the port of clearance likely "to endanger the health or lives of the passengers, or the safety of the ship:"

And whereas it is expedient that any of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State should be empowered to authorise the carriage in passenger ships of naval and military stores whenever requisite for the public service:

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 Passengers Act Amendment Act, 1870.

Construction of Act.

2. This Act shall be construed as one with the Passengers Act, 1855, (in this Act referred to as the principal Act,) and the Passengers Act Amendment Act, 1863.

Authority by Secretary of State to carry naval and military stores in passenger ships.

3. Any one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State may, by order under his hand, authorise the carriage as cargo in any passenger ship, (subject to such conditions and directions as may be specified in the order) of naval and military stores for the public service, and such stores may, notwithstanding anything contained in the principal Act, be carried accordingly in such passenger ship.

Such order shall be addressed to the emigration officer or person performing the duties of emigration officer at the port of clearance, and shall be by him countersigned, and delivered to the master of the passenger ship to which it refers, and shall be delivered up by the master to the chief officer of Customs at the port where the stores are discharged.

The master shall comply with all the conditions and directions specified in the order, and non-compliance therewith shall be deemed non-compliance with the requirements of the said section twenty-nine of the principal Act.