CHAPTER 58.

An Act to give power to make Regulations with respect to Cotton Cloth Factories. [6th August 1897.]

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; that is to say:

Power to make regulations. 52 & 53 Vict., c. 62.

1. The Secretary of State may by order, subject to the conditions as to the making of an order under section six of the Cotton Cloth Factories Act, 1889, make regulations for the purpose of giving effect to such of the recommendations contained in the report, dated the seventeenth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, of the committee appointed by the Secretary of State on the twenty-eighth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six, to inquire into the working of the Cotton Cloth Factories Act, 1889, as he may deem necessary for the protection of health in cotton cloth factories, and may thereby require any additional readings of the thermometers, and make any consequential alterations in the schedules to that Act, and the regulations when made shall have effect as if embodied in that Act.

Short title and construction.

2. This Act may be cited as the Cotton Cloth Factories Act, 1897, and shall be read as part of the Cotton Cloth Factories Act, 1889, and that Act and this Act may be cited collectively as the Cotton Cloth Factories Acts, 1889 and 1897.

CHAPTER 59.

An Act to amend the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, with respect to the Power of Detention for undermanning. [6th August 1897.]

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:

Extension of powers of detention for unsafety to undermanning. 57 & 58 Vict. c. 60.

1.—(1.) Section four hundred and fifty-nine of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (which gives power to detain unsafe ships), shall apply in the case of undermanning, and accordingly that section shall be construed as if the words "or by reason of undermanning" were inserted therein after the word "machinery," and as if the words "or for ascertaining the sufficiency of her crew" were inserted after the word "surveyed," and as if the words "or the manning of the ship" were inserted therein after the words "reloading of cargo," and the powers exerciseable under or for the purposes of that section shall include power to muster the crew.

(2.) Section four hundred and sixty-two of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (which relates to foreign ships), shall also

apply in the case of undermanning, and accordingly that section shall be construed as if the words "or by reason of undermanning" were inserted therein after the words "improper loading."

Short title.

2. This Act may be cited as the Merchant Shipping Act, 1897.

CHAPTER 60.

An Act for the Prevention of Accidents by Chaff-Cutting Machines. [6th August 1897.]

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:

Feeding mouth to have fittings to secure safety.

1. The feeding mouth or box of every chaff-cutting machine which is worked by any motive power other than manual labour shall, so far as is reasonably practicable and consistent with the due and efficient working of the machine, be of such construction or fitted with such apparatus or contrivance as to prevent the hand or arm of the person feeding the machine from being drawn between the rollers to the knives.

Fly-wheel and knives to be securely fenced.

2. The fly-wheel and knives of every chaff-cutting machine which is worked by any motive power other than manual labour, shall, so far as is reasonably practicable and consistent with the due and efficient working of the machine, be kept sufficiently and securely fenced at all times during the working thereof.

Penalty for offences.

3. If any person permits to be worked any chaff-cutting machine belonging to him, or used for his service or benefit, which does not comply with the requirements of this Act,

or if any foreman or other person in charge of any chaff-cutting machine, which does not comply with the requirements of this Act, works it or permits it to be worked,

or if any person, during the working of any chaff-cutting machine, unnecessarily and without due cause removes any guard or thing provided in compliance with the requirements of this Act,

Every person so offending on any day shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding five pounds.

In prosecutions, owner of machine to prove he has taken proper precautions.

4. If in the prosecution of any person to whom the chaff-cutting machine belongs, or for whose service or benefit it is used, it is shown that the machine did not during the working thereof comply with the requirements of this Act, such person shall be deemed to have permitted the same unless he satisfy the court that he took all reasonable precautions to ensure compliance with the requirements of this Act.

Defendant and husband or wife to be

5. Every person charged with an offence under this Act before any court of criminal jurisdiction, and the husband or wife of the