6. The assistant shall, subject as herein-after mentioned, be allowed on one week-day in each week a holiday of not less than seven hours (in this schedule referred to as a weekly half-holiday).

Unless the employer and the shop assistant otherwise agree, the weekly half-holiday shall commence either at the time at which the shop opens on that day (in this paragraph referred to as "a morning half-holiday"), or at a time not less than seven hours before the time at which the shop closes on that day (in this paragraph referred to as "an afternoon half-holiday"), and the aforesaid half-holidays shall be so arranged that the assistant shall be allowed a morning half-holiday and an afternoon half-holiday alternately.

7. An assistant who has been employed by the same employer for a period of not less than twenty-six consecutive weeks about the business of one or more shops of the employer shall, so long as he continues in the employment of that employer, be allowed an annual holiday of at least seven consecutive days, or, if he has been employed as aforesaid for a period of not less than fifty-two consecutive weeks, an annual holiday of at least fourteen consecutive days.

8. In any week in which an assistant is absent from his employment in or about the business of the shop, either on his annual holiday or on account of ill-health or otherwise, the weekly half-holiday may be disallowed in the case of every other assistant employed in or about the business of the shop and the number of hours of weekly employment of every such other assistant may be increased by seven hours accordingly: Provided that, where the assistant is absent for more than four consecutive weeks on account of ill-health, the weekly half-holiday of the other assistants shall not be disallowed and their hours of employment shall not be increased by reason of such absence except in the first four weeks in which he is absent.

9. No deduction from wages or salary payable to the assistant shall be made on account of any such holidays or half-holidays as aforesaid.

. . . . . .

CHAPTER 4.

An Act to amend section twenty-three of the Metropolitan Police Act, 1829, with respect to the Limit imposed by that section as amended by subsequent enactments on the Amount to be provided annually for the purposes of the Metropolitan Police. [29th March 1912.]

BE it enacted by the King'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:

. . .

Alteration of limit on sum to be raised for police expenses.

10 Geo. 4. c. 44. 31 & 32 Vict. c. 67.

1. The maximum rate in the pound for the purposes of the proviso to section twenty-three of the Metropolitan Police Act, 1829, as amended by section two of the Police Rate Act, 1868, (by which enactments a limit is imposed on the annual sum to be provided for the purposes of the metropolitan police), shall be elevenpence instead of ninepence; and those sections shall,

subject to the provisions of any subsequent enactment, have effect accordingly:

Provided that—

(*a*) in calculating for the purposes of paragraph (*k*) of subsection (2) of section twenty-four of the Local Government Act, 1888, (which regulates the amount to be paid by county councils to the receiver for the metropolitan police district and charged to the Exchequer Contribution Accounts) the amount actually raised by rates from the parishes in any county, only such part thereof shall be reckoned as does not exceed the maximum amount which could have been so raised if this Act had not been passed; and 51 & 52 Vict. c. 41.

(*b*) before approving the issue of any warrants under section twenty-three of the Metropolitan Police Act, 1829, by the effect of which the annual sum to be provided for the purposes of the Metropolitan Police to which the said limit applies will be in any year for the first time increased above the rate of tenpence in the pound, the Secretary of State shall lay before Parliament a minute stating the reasons for such increase; and, if within the next twenty days on which either House has sat after any such minute has been laid before it, an address is presented to His Majesty by either House praying that the said increase be not made, no further proceedings shall be taken in virtue of the said minute without prejudice to the presentation to Parliament of any new minute.

2. This Act may be cited as the Metropolitan Police Act, 1912, and shall be construed with the Metropolitan Police Acts, 1829 to 1909; and those Acts and this Act may be cited together as the Metropolitan Police Acts, 1829 to 1912. Short title and construction.

CHAPTER 5.

An Act to provide, during Twelve Months, for the Discipline and Regulation of the Army.

[30th April 1912.]

WHEREAS the raising or keeping of a standing army within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in time of peace, unless it be with the consent of Parliament, is against law:

And whereas it is adjudged necessary by His Majesty and this present Parliament that a body of forces should be continued for the safety of the United Kingdom and the defence