And I further certify, that to the best of my belief the age of the said *A.B.* on his last birthday was years.

(Signed) *M.N.*,
Principal Teacher of School.

Dated of one thousand eight hundred and .

Note.—All numbers in this form must be inserted in words and not in figures.

CHAPTER 68.

An Act for extending the Period of Service in the Militia; and for other purposes. [5th August 1873.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to extend the period of service in the militia, and to make certain other amendments of the law:

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:

Enrolment of militia.

1. Private men for the militia may, by voluntary enlistment only without regard to quota, be recuited by such officers, non-commissioned officers, and men, whether belonging to the militia or to the army, as may be determined by Her Majesty, and may be enrolled to serve for any period not exceeding six years, and any person who, at the date of the passing of this Act, is or may hereafter be enrolled in the militia, may, at any time during the period of his existing enrolment, be re-enrolled to serve in the militia for a further period not exceeding six years from the date of his re-enrolment.

Oath of militiamen.

2. Whereas it is expedient to substitute one form of oath for the various forms of oaths required to be taken by the non-commissioned officers and men of the militia of the United Kingdom, be it enacted that the oath to be taken by any such non-commissioned officer or man shall be as follows; that is to say,

'I *A.B.* do solemnly promise and swear, that I will be faithful to Her Majesty Queen 'Victoria, her heirs and successors, and that I will faithfully serve, in the militia, in any 'part of Great Britain and Ireland for the defence of the same, until I shall be 'discharged.'

And such oath may be administered by any justice of the peace or any lieutenant or deputy lieutenant of a county having jurisdiction in the place in which the person about to take the oath may for the time being be found, or by any commissioned officer of the regiment in which the militiaman is about to be enrolled.

Command and discipline of militia recruits.

3. Militia recruits shall during the period of their recruit training, when the militia battalions to which they belong are not for the time being out for training and exercise, be subject to the command of such officers, whether of the militia or the regular forces, as may from time to time be appointed to serve with the force with which such recruits are being trained, and the officers in this section mentioned shall be competent to sit on any court-martial appointed for the trial of any such recruit for an offence committed by him during the period of his recruit training.

Repeal of sec. 107. of 42 G. 3. c. 90. and sec. 103. of c. 91. and sec. 38. of 49 G. 3. c. 120.

4. Section one hundred and seven of the Act chapter ninety, and section one hundred and three of the Act chapter ninety-one, of the forty-second year of the reign of King George the Third, and section thirty-eight of the Act chapter one hundred and twenty, of the forty-ninth year of the same reign, shall be repealed.

Command of militia in the absence of superior officer.

5. When the commanding officer of any regiment of militia is absent on leave, the command of such regiment shall devolve without special authority from the Crown in accordance with the usual custom of the service.

Amendment of section 4 of Militia Reserve Act, 1867.

6. The fourth section of "The Militia Reserve Act, 1867," providing for the term and mode of enlistment of men in the militia reserve shall be construed as if the words "six years" were inserted therein in the place of the words "five years."

Dealings with lands of the Duchy of Lancaster for the purposes of the Act.

7. The Chancellor and council for the time being of the Duchy of Lancaster may, if they think fit, from time to time contract and agree with Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department, for the sale of, and may absolutely make sale and dispose of, for such sum or sums of money as to the said Chancellor and council appear sufficient consideration for the same, any lands or rights belonging to Her Majesty, her heirs or successors, in right of the said duchy, which for the purposes of the Defence Acts, 1842 and 1860, the said Secretary of State may from time to time deem it expedient to purchase, and such lands or rights may be granted and assured to the said Secretary of State, and the said moneys shall be paid and dealt with, as if the said lands or rights had been sold under the authority of the Duchy of Lancaster Lands Act, 1855.

Amendment of the Military Forces Localization Act, 1872, s. 10.

8. Where any municipal borough or boroughs has or have contributed towards the expense of providing any barracks, storehouses for arms and ammunition, or other buildings or land which may be transferred to the Secretary of State in pursuance of the tenth section of the Military Forces Localization Act, 1872, such borough or boroughs shall be entitled to share in any moneys paid by the Secretary of State as a consideration for such transfer, in the proportion which the amount of their contribution bears to the original amount expended in providing such barracks, storehouses, buildings, or lands.

"Municipal borough" shall, in this section, have the same meaning which it has in the Military Forces Localization Act, 1872.

CHAPTER 69.

An Act to provide for proceeding on Petitions of Right in the Courts of Law and Equity in Ireland. [5th August 1873.]

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the session of Parliament held in the twenty-third and twenty-fourth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act to "amend the law relating to petitions of right, to simplify the proceedings, and to make "provision for the costs thereof:"

And whereas it is expedient to make provision for the trial of petitions of right in the courts of law and equity in Ireland in the same manner as under the said statute they may be tried in England:

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:

Short title of Act.

1. This Act may upon all occasions and for all purposes be cited as "The Petitions of Right (Ireland) Act, 1873."

Petition of right may be entitled in Irish court.

2. Any petition of right may, if the suppliant think fit, be entitled in any one of the superior courts of common law or equity at Dublin in which the subject matter of such petition, or any material part thereof, would have been cognizable if the same had been a matter in dispute between subject and subject; and every such petition shall be in the form by the said Act prescribed, and upon the presentation of such petition the proceedings shall be the same as are provided for by the said Act, save and except that same may be, if Her Majesty shall be pleased to grant her fiat to that effect, prosecuted in the court in