As to Vice-Admiralty Courts.

4. Her Majesty the Queen in Council may make rules of court for regulating the procedure and practice, including fees and costs, in a Vice-Admiralty Court, whether under this Act or otherwise.

Repeal of 39 & 40 Geo. 3. c. 79. s. 25.

5. Section twenty-five of the Government of India Act, 1800, is hereby repealed.

CHAPTER 40.

An Act to provide for the attendance of Assessors at the trial and hearing of Maritime Causes in the Court of Session and Sheriff Courts in Scotland, and in Appeals to the House of Lords. [17th 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:

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Nautical Assessors (Scotland) Act, 1894, and shall apply to Scotland only.

Appointment of assessors in Court of Session or Sheriff Court.

2. In any action or proceeding in the Court of Session or in the Sheriff Court arising out of or relating to collision at sea, salvage, towage, or any other maritime matter, the Court, if it thinks fit, may, and on the application of any party, shall, summon to its assistance at the trial, or at any subsequent hearing, whether on reclaiming note, appeal or otherwise, one or more persons of nautical skill and experience, who may be willing to sit with the Court and act as assessor or assessors, but, where it is proposed to summon any person as an assessor, objection to him, either personally or in respect of his qualification, may be stated by any party to the action or proceeding, and shall be disposed of by the Court.

Note to be made of questions submitted to assessors.

3. The judge before whom any cause is tried with the assistance of an assessor or assessors summoned under the provisions of this Act, shall make a note of the questions submitted by him to such assessor or assessors, and of the answer or answers thereto.

List of assessors to be kept.

4. The assessors shall be appointed from a list of persons approved for the purpose, as regards the Court of Session by the Lord President, and as regards the Sheriff Court by the Sheriff of the Sheriffdom. Such lists shall be published as the Lord President, or the Sheriff, as the case may be, shall direct, and shall be in force for three years only, but persons entered in any such list may be again approved in any subsequent list. It shall be lawful for the Sheriff to defer the preparation of such a list until an application has been made to summon an assessor or assessors in an action depending in one of the courts of his sheriffdom.

Court of Session may frame Act of Sederunt.

5. The Court of Session may, by Act of Sederunt, prescribe such rules as it shall think fit with regard to the summoning and duties of assessors under this Act, and to their remuneration, and such remuneration shall be treated as expenses in the action or proceeding, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

6. For the hearing and determination of any appeal against a judgment of any Scottish Court in any such action or proceeding as aforesaid, the House of Lords may, if it shall think it expedient to do so, call in the aid of one or more assessors specially qualified, and hear such appeal wholly or partially with the assistance of such assessor or assessors. Assessors in the House of Lords.

This section shall be carried into effect in pursuance of Orders made by the House of Lords.

7. The expression "Court" shall include the Lord Ordinary and either Division of the Court of Session, and the Sheriff and Sheriff Substitute, but the expression "Sheriff" shall not include Sheriff Substitute. Definitions.

CHAPTER 41.

An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the Prevention of Cruelty to, and Protection of, Children.

[17th 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:

Cruelty to Children.

1.—(1.) If any person over the age of sixteen years who has the custody, charge, or care of any child under the age of sixteen years, wilfully assaults, ill-treats, neglects, abandons, or exposes such child, or causes or procures such child to be assaulted, ill-treated, neglected, abandoned, or exposed in a manner likely to cause such child unnecessary suffering, or injury to its health (including injury to or loss of sight, or hearing, or limb, or organ of the body, and any mental derangement), that person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor; and Punishment for cruelty to children.

(*a*) on conviction on indictment, shall be liable, at the discretion of the court, to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds, or alternatively, or in default of payment of such fine, or in addition thereto, to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding two years; and

(*b*) on summary conviction shall be liable, at the discretion of the court, to a fine not exceeding twenty-five pounds, or alternatively, or in default of payment of such fine, or in addition thereto, to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding six months.

(2.) A person may be convicted of an offence under this section either on indictment or by a court of summary jurisdiction notwithstanding the death of the child in respect of whom the offence is committed.

(3.) If it is proved that a person indicted under this section was interested in any sum of money accruable or payable in the event of the death of the child, and had knowledge that such sum of