the Victoria University having the degree which would be a qualification if it had been granted by the University of Oxford, Cambridge, or London, may become candidates for and may hold any such office and shall be entitled to all such privileges as fully as graduates of any of the last-mentioned Universities.

2. This Act may be cited as the Victoria University Act, 1888. Short title.

CHAPTER 46.

An Act to amend the Law as to Oaths.

[24th December 1888.]

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:

1. Every person upon objecting to being sworn, and stating, as the ground of such objection, either that he has no religious belief, or that the taking of an oath is contrary to his religious belief, shall be permitted to make his solemn affirmation instead of taking an oath in all places and for all purposes where an oath is or shall be required by law, which affirmation shall be of the same force and effect as if he had taken the oath; and if any person making such affirmation shall wilfully, falsely, and corruptly affirm any matter or thing which, if deposed on oath, would have amounted to wilful and corrupt perjury, he shall be liable to prosecution, indictment, sentence, and punishment in all respects as if he had committed wilful and corrupt perjury. When affirmation may be made instead of oath.

2. Every such affirmation shall be as follows:

"I, A.B., do solemnly, sincerely, and truly declare and affirm," and then proceed with the words of the oath prescribed by law, omitting any words of imprecation or calling to witness. Form of affirmation.

3. Where an oath has been duly administered and taken, the fact that the person to whom the same was administered had, at the time of taking such oath, no religious belief, shall not for any purpose affect the validity of such oath. Validity of oath not affected by absence of religious belief.

4. Every affirmation in writing shall commence "I, _____, of _____, do solemnly and sincerely affirm," and the form in lieu of jurat shall be "Affirmed at _____, this _____ day of _____, 18___. Before me." Form of affirmation in writing.

5. If any person to whom an oath is administered desires to swear with uplifted hand, in the form and manner in which an oath is usually administered in Scotland, he shall be permitted so to do, and the oath shall be administered to him in such form and manner without further question. Swearing with uplifted hand.

Repeal.

6. The Acts mentioned in the schedule to this Act are hereby repealed to the extent in the third column of the schedule mentioned.

Short title.

7. This Act may be cited as the Oaths Act, 1888.

SCHEDULE.

Session and Chapter.	Title.	Extent of Repeal.
17 & 18 Vict. c. 125.	The Common Law Procedure Act, 1854.	Section twenty.
19 & 20 Vict. c. 102.	The Common Law Procedure Amendment Act (Ireland), 1856.	Sections twenty-three and twenty-four.
24 & 25 Vict. c. 66.	An Act to give relief to persons who may refuse or be unwilling, from alleged conscientious motives, to be sworn in criminal proceedings.	The entire Act.
28 & 29 Vict. c. 9.	The Affirmation (Scotland) Act, 1865.	The entire Act.
30 & 31 Vict. c. 35.	An Act to remove some defects in the administration of the Criminal Law.	Section eight.
31 & 32 Vict. c. 39.	The Jurors Affirmation (Scotland) Act, 1868.	The entire Act.
31 & 32 Vict. c. 75.	The Juries Act (Ireland), 1868 -	Section three.
32 & 33 Vict. c. 68.	The Evidence Further Amendment Act, 1869.	Section four.
33 & 34 Vict. c. 49.	The Evidence Amendment Act, 1870.	The entire Act.

CHAPTER 47.

An Act to amend the Law relating to execution for Small Debts and the levying of Distress for Rent in Ireland, with special provisions for the City of Dublin.

[24th December 1888.]

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: