CHAPTER 36.

An Act to make temporary provision for the Relief of Distress in Ireland. [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 power to grant out-door relief in food and fuel.

1.—(1.) At any time before the first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, the Local Government Board for Ireland may, if they think fit, by order under their seal authorise the board of guardians of any poor law union to administer relief in food or fuel, out of the workhouse, for any time not exceeding two months from the date of such order, to any poor persons resident in the union, and the said Board may, by a like order, revoke any such order either wholly or partly or with reference to any particular person or class of persons.

(2.) On the receipt by the guardians of any union of any order of the said Board authorising such relief, the guardians shall make provision for affording such relief accordingly for such time and on such conditions as may be specified in the order, or until the order is revoked.

25 & 26 Vict. c. 83.

(3.) The proviso in section two of the Poor Relief (Ireland) Act, 1862, shall not apply in the case of any persons for whom relief is authorised under this Act.

(4.) The expenses incurred in affording relief to any person relieved under this Act shall be charged in the same manner as if such expenses had been incurred in affording relief in the workhouse to such person under the Poor Relief (Ireland) Acts, 1838 to 1892.

Confirmation of expenditure by guardians and indemnity.

2. If at any time before the passing of this Act any outlay has been made by any board of guardians with the sanction of the Local Government Board for Ireland for the purpose of providing out-door relief in food or fuel, such outlay and all resolutions and proceedings of the board of guardians and of their officers in relation thereto shall be ratified and confirmed, and be as valid and effectual as if the outlay had been made and the resolutions and proceedings had been passed and taken under the authority and in compliance with the provisions of this Act; and all persons who have acted in any manner in making any such outlay or otherwise in providing such relief shall be released and indemnified from and against any penalties and surcharges in consequence thereof.

Power to borrow money and mortgage rates.

3. The board of guardians of any poor law union may, with the sanction of the Local Government Board for Ireland, and subject to such conditions as to the period and mode of repayment, rate of interest, and otherwise, as that Board may prescribe, borrow and take up at interest on the credit of the rates of such of the electoral divisions of the union as the guardians, with the sanction of the Local Government Board for Ireland, may determine, any sums of money necessary for the purpose of carrying the provisions of

this Act into execution; and for securing the repayment of any sums so borrowed, with interest thereon, the guardians may mortgage to the persons by or on behalf of whom such sums are advanced the rates leviable on such electoral divisions.

Out-door relief not to involve electoral disability.

4. No electoral disability or loss of any parliamentary or other franchise shall be incurred by any person by reason of a grant of out-door relief having been made to him under this Act, or by reason of any such grant ratified under this Act.

Short title.

5. This Act may be cited as the Out-door Relief (Ireland) Act, 1897.

CHAPTER 37.

An Act to amend the Law with respect to Compensation to Workmen for accidental Injuries suffered in the course of their Employment. [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:

Liability of certain employers to workmen for injuries.

1.—(1.) If in any employment to which this Act applies personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment is caused to a workman, his employer shall, subject as herein-after mentioned, be liable to pay compensation in accordance with the First Schedule to this Act.

(2.) Provided that:—

(*a.*) The employer shall not be liable under this Act in respect of any injury which does not disable the workman for a period of at least two weeks from earning full wages at the work at which he was employed;

(*b.*) When the injury was caused by the personal negligence or wilful act of the employer, or of some person for whose act or default the employer is responsible, nothing in this Act shall affect any civil liability of the employer, but in that case the workman may, at his option, either claim compensation under this Act, or take the same proceedings as were open to him before the commencement of this Act; but the employer shall not be liable to pay compensation for injury to a workman by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment both independently of and also under this Act, and shall not be liable to any proceedings independently of this Act, except in case of such personal negligence or wilful act as aforesaid;

(*c.*) If it is proved that the injury to a workman is attributable to the serious and wilful misconduct of that workman, any compensation claimed in respect of that injury shall be disallowed.

(3.) If any question arises in any proceedings under this Act as to the liability to pay compensation under this Act (including any