1. Nothing in the law relating to parliamentary elections shall make it illegal for an employer to permit parliamentary electors in his employment to absent themselves from such employment for a reasonable time for the purpose of voting at the poll at a parliamentary election, without having any deduction from their salaries or wages on account of such absence, if such permission is, so far as practicable without injury to the business of the employer, given equally to all persons alike who are at the time in his employment, and if such permission is not given with a view of inducing any person to record his vote for any particular candidate at such election, and is not refused to any person for the purpose of preventing such person from recording his vote for any particular candidate at such election. Conditions on which employer may give leave of absence to employés to record their votes.

2. This Act shall not be construed to make illegal any act which would not have been illegal if this Act had not passed. Construction of Act.

3. This Act may be cited as the Parliamentary Elections Corrupt Practices Act, 1885. Short title.

CHAPTER 57.

An Act to remove doubts as to the appointment of Revising Barristers. [6th August 1885.]

WHEREAS doubts have arisen as to the judge authorised to appoint revising barristers on circuit under section twenty-eight of the Parliamentary Voters Registration Act, 1843, and section twenty-nine of the Redistribution of Seats Act, 1885, and it is expedient to remove such doubts: 6 & 7 Vict. c. 18. 48 & 49 Vict. c. 23.

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:

1. The senior judge named in the commission of assize for the counties within any circuit, who actually travels that circuit or any part thereof during the summer circuit in any year, shall be the judge having power to appoint the barristers to revise the lists of voters for that year in pursuance of section twenty-eight of the Parliamentary Voters Registration Act, 1843, and that section and section twenty-nine of the Redistribution of Seats Act, 1885, shall be construed accordingly. Senior judge actually travelling to appoint revising barristers.

Provided that, if any such judge, before he has appointed all or any of the barristers whom he is authorised to appoint, dies or becomes unable to appoint such barristers, the senior judge named in the said commission, who actually travels the remainder of the circuit, shall be the judge having power to appoint such barristers so far as they have not been already appointed.

For the purposes of this section Birmingham shall be deemed to be part of the Midland Circuit.

Any appointment of a revising barrister heretofore made shall be deemed to have been validly made.

This section shall continue in force until the end of the Summer Circuit in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five

and no longer, but the expiration thereof shall not affect any appointment of a revising barrister which otherwise would have been valid.

Short titles and construction.

2. The Act of the session of the sixth and seventh years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter eighteen, intituled "An Act "to amend the law for the registration of persons entitled to vote, "and to define certain rights of voting, and to regulate certain "proceedings in the election of members to serve in Parliament for "England and Wales," is in this Act referred to and may be cited as the Parliamentary Voters Registration Act, 1843.

This Act shall be construed as one with the Parliamentary Voters Registration Act, 1843, and that Act and this Act and the Registration Act, 1885, may be cited together as the Parliamentary Voters Registration Acts, 1843 and 1885, and this Act may be cited separately as the Revising Barristers Act, 1885.

CHAPTER 58.

An Act to amend the Telegraph Acts, 1863 to 1878.

[14th August 1885.]

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:

Construction and citation of Acts.
26 & 27 Vict. c. 112.
29 & 30 Vict. c. 3.
31 & 32 Vict. c. 110.
32 & 33 Vict. c. 73.
33 & 34 Vict. c. 88.
41 & 42 Vict. c. 76.

1. This Act shall be read as one with the Telegraph Acts, 1863 to 1878, and shall be deemed to be a Post Office Act within the meaning of the Post Office (Offences) Act, 1837; and this Act may be cited together with the Telegraph Acts, 1863 to 1878, as the Telegraph Acts, 1863 to 1885, and may be cited separately as the Telegraph Act, 1885.

Postmaster-General to make regulations for conduct of business and to fix charges.

2. Section fifteen of the Telegraph Act, 1868, shall be repealed, and in place thereof be it enacted as follows:

The Postmaster-General, with the consent of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, may from time to time make regulations for determining the hours during which the offices appointed by him to be places for the receipt and despatch of telegrams shall be open for the transaction of telegraphic business, and for fixing the sums to be from time to time paid on account of the transmission of telegrams, and on account of services rendered in connexion therewith, and on account of the use of any telegraphs by any persons, and for determining the conditions and purposes on which and for which such use may be permitted, and for the general conduct of telegraphic business: Provided that—

(1.) The charges for the transmission of written telegrams throughout the United Kingdom shall uniformly and without regard to distance be at a rate not exceeding sixpence for the first twelve words of each telegram or for each telegram of less than twelve words (counting as part of such twelve words the names and addresses of the sender and addressee of the telegram), and not exceeding one halfpenny for each additional word: