limits of the Central Criminal Court district, and to apply, with such modifications and exceptions (if any) as to Her Majesty may seem fit, the Central Criminal Court Act to the said county or part of a county and offences committed therein as if the same were a county or part of a county mentioned in that Act.

An Order in Council purporting to be made in pursuance of this section shall be deemed to be within the powers of this Act, and shall, while it is in force, have effect as if it were enacted in this Act.

6. In this Act— Definitions.

The expression "winter assizes" means any court of assize or any sessions of oyer and terminer or gaol delivery held in the month of November, the month of December, or the month of January.

The expression "Central Criminal Court district" means the district within the limits of the Act of the session of the fourth and fifth years of the reign of King William the Fourth, chapter thirty-six, intituled "An Act for establishing a new court for "the trial of offences committed in the metropolis and parts adjoining;" and the expression "Central Criminal Court Act" means the last-mentioned Act.

The expression "county" in this Act shall include any county of a city or county of a town, and any such division of any county as is constituted by Order in Council under the Act passed in the third and fourth years of King William the Fourth, chapter seventy-one, and intituled "An Act for the appointment of convenient places "for the holding of Assizes in England and Wales."

CHAPTER 58.

An Act to amend the Law relating to Parochial Records.

[11th August 1876.]

WHEREAS doubts have arisen as to whether the Public Records (Ireland) Act, 1867, Amendment Act, 1875, applies to marriage register books kept in duplicate under 7 & 8 Vict. c. 81. by the officiating ministers of the Church in the said Act referred to as the Church of Ireland, or in this Act referred to as the said Church; and it is desirable that said doubts should be removed, and the said books excluded from the operation of the said Public Records (Ireland) Act, 1867, Amendment Act, 1875:

And whereas books called or known as "vestry books," containing entries relating to matters other than baptisms, burials, and marriages, have been kept in many parishes in Ireland, and it is desirable that same should not be removed from said parishes, and accordingly that same should not be deemed "records" within the meaning of the said last-mentioned Act:

And whereas many parishes contain fit and secure buildings for the safe custody of their records, and other parishes may hereafter construct or obtain such fit and secure buildings, and it is desirable to give the Master of the Rolls in Ireland special powers to deal with such cases:

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. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the Parochial Records Act, 1876. Short title.

2. The description "Master of the Rolls" shall mean "Master of the Rolls of Ireland." Interpretation.

3. The Public Records (Ireland) Act, 1867, the Public Records (Ireland) Act, 1867, Amendment Act, 1875, and this Act, shall be read and construed together as one Act. Act to be read with other Acts.

4. The term "record" in the Public Records (Ireland) Act, 1867, Amendment Act, 1875, shall not mean or be held to apply to any marriage register books kept pursuant to the provisions of "the Act for Marriages in Ireland" (7 & 8 Vict. c. 81.), nor to any vestry books which contain entries exclusively relating to matters other than baptisms, "Record" in 38 & 39 Vict. c. 59. shall not include marriage or

vestry books, and such books, if removed, shall be restored.

burials, and marriages; and in any cases where such books have been removed by order of the Master of the Rolls they shall be committed by a further order of the Master of the Rolls to the charge of any rector, vicar, or curate of the said Church in the parish to which such records belong.

Master of Rolls may make special orders in case of parish with fit and safe buildings for records.

5. The Master of the Rolls may, if satisfied by a report or reports to be from time to time made to him on his request by one of their officials nominated in that behalf by the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland (the said Commissioners being hereby authorised and required on the request of the Master of the Rolls to obtain such report or reports) that "records" are kept in fit and safe buildings, and that due provision is made for their safe custody, order and permit the same to remain in the care of any rector, vicar, or curate of the said Church in the parish to which such records belong; and may, in the case of parishes where records have been removed by the Master of the Rolls before this Act, if satisfied by such report as aforesaid that fit and safe accommodation has been provided for said records, and due provision made for their future custody, order said records to be committed to the charge of any rector, vicar, or curate of the said Church in the parish to which such records belong: Provided always, that the Master of the Rolls may at any time, if satisfied that any records permitted to be retained or committed to such charge as aforesaid under this section are kept in unfit and unsafe buildings, or that due provision is not made for their safe custody, as soon as conveniently may be, issue warrants directed to the several persons having the care of any such record or records, ordering such persons to allow the same to be removed from its or their place of custody, and deposited in the Record Office; and such records shall in all particulars be regarded as within all the provisions of the Public Records (Ireland) Act, 1867, Amendment Act, 1875, and the orders made in relation thereto shall have the same effect, and be attended with the same consequences, as if made under said Act.

Annual reports to be made to the Master of the Rolls.

6. Every rector, vicar, or curate to whose custody any such records shall be entrusted under the provisions of this Act, shall once in every year make a report to the Master of the Rolls, at such time and in such form as the Master of the Rolls shall from time to time prescribe, touching the condition and the safety of the records so entrusted to him, and of the building in which the same are kept.

Powers of examining and certifying copies of records extended to third officer in Record Office.

7. All the powers of examining and certifying copies of records conferred by the said recited Acts upon the Deputy Keeper of the Records and the Assistant Deputy Keeper of the Records may at any time be exercised by the officer who shall be next in rank in the Public Record Office after the Assistant Deputy Keeper of the Records, and every copy of a record in the custody of the Master of the Rolls certified by such officer, and purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the Public Record Office, shall be received as evidence in every court of justice and before any legal tribunal, and before either House of Parliament or any committee of either House, without any further or other proof thereof, in every case in which the original record could have been received there as evidence.

CHAPTER 59.

An Act for amending the Law in respect of the Appellate Jurisdiction of the House of Lords; and for other purposes. [11th August 1876.]

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:

Preliminary.

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The Appellate Jurisdiction Act, 1876."

Commencement of Act.

2. This Act shall, except where it is otherwise expressly provided, come into operation on the first day of November one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, which day is herein-after referred to as the commencement of this Act.