(Scotland) Act, 1878, or under the Local Act for the county, as the case may be, and as regards other counties, the justices of the peace of the county in general or quarter sessions assembled:

"Road authority of a burgh" means the authority having the management of the highway within the burgh to which it is sought to apply the provisions of this Act:

"Highway" means and includes any road, street, or bridge maintained out of public funds derived from tolls or assessments or other sources of revenue.

CHAPTER 59.

An Act to amend the Law relating to the Drainage and Improvement of Land in Ireland. [16th August 1878.]

WHEREAS by reason of the absence of many proprietors, as well as the omission of others to sign the necessary assents even in cases where they do not wish to dissent, unnecessary difficulties have been thrown in the way of the formation of elective drainage districts, under the Drainage and Improvement of Lands Act, Ireland, 1863: And whereas it is expedient to remove these and other difficulties in the way of the formation of such districts:

26 & 27 Vict. c. 88.

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:

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the Drainage and Improvement of Lands (Ireland) Act, 1878.

To apply to Ireland only.

2. This Act shall extend to Ireland only.

Shortening periods of notice prescribed by 26 & 27 Vict. c. 88.

3. In sub-section one of the sixth section of the said Act of 1863 the day to be named as the day on or before which objections shall be required to be transmitted to the petitioners shall be not sooner than six weeks from the publication and posting or service of the notice mentioned in the said sub-section, instead of two months as provided by the said sub-section; and in sub-section five of said sixth section of said Act of 1863 the period of twenty-one days shall be substituted for one month as the period within which objections in writing to the report of inspection or any part thereof may be served on or transmitted by post to Her Majesty's Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland.

Amount of assent of proprietors necessary in order to authorise provisional order.

4. In sub-section five of the sixth section of the said Act of 1863 the assents required shall be the assents of the proprietors of a moiety in value of the land in the proposed district, instead of the proprietors of two thirds in value of such land; provided always, that no provisional order shall be made under the provisions of this section in any case in which the proprietors of one-third part in value of such lands in the said district have, within six weeks after the lodging of the report of the inspector, expressed in writing their dissent to the formation of the drainage district.

This Act and former Acts to be read together.

5. The said Act of 1863 and the several Acts amending the same and this Act shall be read together as one Act.

CHAPTER 60.

An Act to make better provision for Idiots, Imbeciles, and other afflicted persons in Ireland. [16th August 1878.]

WHEREAS it is expedient that facilities should be given to guardians of the poor in Ireland to provide for the reception, maintenance, and instruction of poor afflicted persons in certain cases where they are not empowered to do so by the laws now in force:

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 as the Poor Afflicted Persons Relief (Ireland) Act, 1878. Short title.

2. This Act shall extend to Ireland only. Extent of Act.

3. The guardians of any union may provide for the reception, maintenance, and instruction of any pauper above the age of eighteen, being blind, or deaf and dumb, in any hospital or institution established for the reception of persons suffering under such infirmities, and may pay out of the rates the charges incurred in the conveyance of such pauper to and from the same, as well as those incurred in his maintenance, support, and instruction therein: Provided always, that the amount to be paid by such union for the reception, maintenance, and instruction of every such pauper so received in any such hospital or institution shall not exceed the sum of five shillings weekly. Guardians may provide for the reception of certain paupers in suitable institutions.

4. The guardians of any union may, with the consent of the Local Government Board for Ireland, send any idiotic or imbecile pauper to the workhouse of any other union, with the consent of the guardians of such last-mentioned union, or may, with the consent of the said Board, contract for the reception, maintenance, and support of any idiotic or imbecile pauper in any public or licensed asylum or establishment for the reception and relief of idiots or imbeciles, and pay out of the rates the cost of the maintenance, clothing, and lodging of such pauper in such workhouse, asylum, or establishment, as well as the cost of his conveyance thereto, or his removal therefrom, and the expenses of his burial when necessary: Provided always, that the amount to be paid by the guardians of such union for the maintenance of every such idiotic or imbecile pauper shall not exceed the sum of five shillings weekly. Guardians may provide for the reception of pauper idiots, &c. in suitable institutions.

5. The guardians may at any time, at their discretion, and shall upon the requisition of the managers of any such hospital, institution, asylum, or establishment, cause any such pauper to be removed therefrom and brought back to their parish or union. Guardians may bring back paupers to union.

6. No idiotic or imbecile pauper shall be sent by the guardians of any union to any hospital, institution, asylum, or establishment under the provisions of this Act, other than a hospital, institution, asylum, or establishment maintained out of public rates, unless with the consent of such relatives, if any, of the said pauper nearest of kin as can conveniently be found. Conscience clause.

CHAPTER 61.

An Act to remove doubts as to the validity of certain Marriages solemnized in the Islands of Fiji prior to their erection into a British Colony.

[16th August 1878.]

WHEREAS, before the erection of the islands of Fiji into a British colony, certain marriages of British subjects were solemnized by ministers of the Christian religion in accordance with the custom then in use, such marriages not having been solemnized according to the provisions of the Act of the session of the twelfth and thirteenth years of the reign of Her Majesty, chapter sixty-eight, intituled "An Act for facilitating the "Marriages of British subjects in foreign countries:"

And whereas it is expedient, under the circumstances aforesaid, to remove all doubts touching the validity of the marriages so solemnized, and to render the same valid:

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: