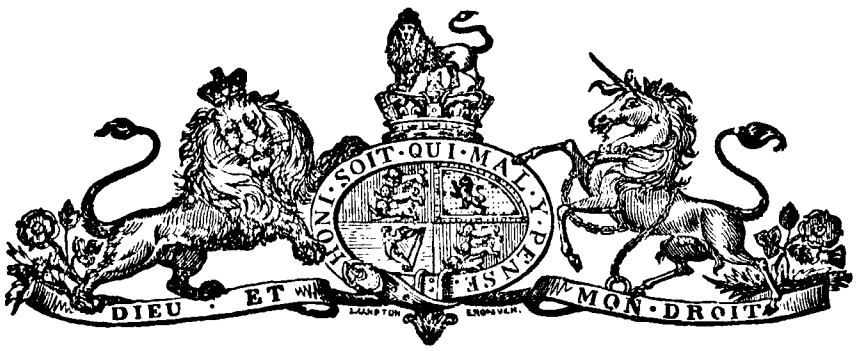


ANNO DECIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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CAP. XXXI.

An Act to make further Provision for the Relief of the destitute Poor in *Ireland*. [8th *June* 1847.]

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Second Year of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act for the more effectual Relief of the destitute Poor in* Ireland, and by subsequent Acts amending the same, Provision has been made for the Relief of the Poor in Workhouses by the Guardians of the Poor in the several Unions in *Ireland:* And whereas the Powers of the said Guardians of the Poor have not been found sufficient for the due Relief of the destitute Poor, and it is expedient to make further Provision in that Behalf: 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, That the Guardians of the Poor of every Union in *Ireland* shall make Provision for the due Relief of all such destitute poor Persons as are permanently disabled from Labour by reason of old Age, Infirmity, or bodily or mental Defect, and of such destitute poor Persons as, being disabled from Labour by reason of severe Sickness or serious Accident, are thereby deprived of the Means of earning a Subsistence for themselves and their Families, whom they are liable by Law to maintain, and of destitute poor Widows having Two or more legitimate Children dependent upon them; and it shall be lawful for the said

1 & 2 Vict. c. 56.

Relief of destitute Persons.

Guardians to relieve such poor Persons, being destitute as aforesaid, either in the Workhouse or out of the Workhouse, as to them shall appear fitting and expedient in each individual Case; and the said Guardians shall take order for relieving and setting to work in the Workhouse of the Union, at all Times when there shall be sufficient Room in the Workhouse of the Union to enable them so to do, such other Persons as the said Guardians shall deem to be destitute Poor, and unable to support themselves by their own Industry or by other lawful Means.

Out-door Relief may be authorized.

II. And be it enacted, That if at any Time it shall be shown to the Satisfaction of the Poor Law Commissioners that by reason of the Want of Room in the Workhouse of any Union, or in such additional Workhouse or Workhouses as may have been or may be provided for the Reception and Maintenance of the Poor of such Union, adequate Relief cannot be afforded therein to destitute poor Persons not being Persons permanently disabled, or destitute poor Persons disabled by Sickness or Accident as aforesaid, or such destitute poor Widows as aforesaid, or that the Workhouse or Workhouses of any Union, as the Case may be, by reason of Fever or infectious Disease, is or are unfit for the Reception of poor Persons, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners from Time to Time, by Order under their Seal, to authorize and empower the Guardians of such Union to administer Relief out of the Workhouse to such destitute poor Persons for any Time not exceeding Two Calendar Months from the Date of such Order, and at any Time after the making of such Order to revoke the same by an Order under their Seal for that Purpose, and on the Receipt by the Guardians of any Union of any such Order authorizing Relief out of the Workhouse as aforesaid they shall make Provision for the Relief of the destitute poor Persons of the said Union accordingly, for such Time as shall be specified in the said Order, or until the said Order shall be revoked: Provided always, that all Relief given out of the Workhouse to able-bodied Persons under the Authority of any such Order shall be given in Food only, save as herein-after provided in any Case of sudden and urgent Necessity.

Regulations as to Application for Relief, &c.

III. And be it enacted, That the Poor Law Commissioners, from Time to Time as they shall see fit, shall regulate and determine the Manner of Application for all Relief to be given under the Provisions of this Act, and the Manner of inquiring into the Circumstances of the Applicants for Relief, and the Kind of Relief to be afforded out of the Workhouse, when not directly specified by this Act, and the Manner of granting, ordering, and giving such Relief, and keeping the Accounts thereof, and of making and keeping Lists of the Persons so applying and of the Persons so relieved; and the Guardians of the Union and their Officers shall administer such Relief, subject to the Rules and Regulations so to be made by the said Commissioners as aforesaid.

Relieving Officers to be appointed.

IV. And be it enacted, That the Poor Law Commissioners shall direct the Guardians of each Union in *Ireland* to appoint so many Relieving Officers as the said Commissioners may deem requisite to assist

assist in the Administration of Relief under this Act, and under the Acts now in force for the Relief of the destitute Poor in *Ireland*, and the said Guardians, on receiving such Authority and Direction, shall appoint such Relieving Officers accordingly, subject to the Approval of the said Commissioners.

Medical Officers may be appointed.

V. And be it enacted, That in any Case in which it shall appear to the Poor Law Commissioners that the Appointment of a Medical Officer or Medical Officers for affording Medical Relief out of the Workhouse in any Union is necessary and expedient, it shall be lawful for the Commissioners to direct the Guardians of the Union to appoint a Medical Officer or Medical Officers, and the Guardians, on the Receipt of such Authority and Direction, shall appoint a Medical Officer or Medical Officers accordingly, subject to the Approval of the said Commissioners.

If Electoral Division be at a greater Distance than Six Miles from Place of Meeting of Guardians, it may be formed into a District for Purposes of Relief.

VI. And be it enacted, That whenever the whole of any Electoral Division or Divisions is situated at a greater Distance than Six Miles from the Place of Meeting of the Board of Guardians of the Union of which such Electoral Division or Divisions may form Part, it shall be lawful for the Commissioners, on the Application of the Board of Guardians, to form such Electoral Division or Divisions into a District, and to direct the said Guardians from Time to Time to appoint a Committee of their Members to receive Applications of poor Persons requiring Relief in such District, to examine into the Cases of such poor Persons, and to report to the said Guardians thereon.

Relieving Officers may give provisional Relief until the next Meeting of the Guardians.

VII. And be it enacted, That every Relieving Officer so appointed as aforesaid shall have Power to give provisional Relief in any Case of sudden and urgent Necessity, either by an Order of Admission to the Workhouse or Fever Hospital of the Union, provided there be Room therein respectively, and by conveying any destitute poor Person thereto if necessary, or by affording such poor Person immediate and temporary Relief in Food, Lodging, Medicine, or Medical Attendance, until the next Ordinary Meeting of the Board of Guardians, at which Meeting he shall report the Case, and the Nature and Cost of the Relief so afforded, in such Form and Manner as the Poor Law Commissioners shall prescribe, and after such Report shall give no further Relief, otherwise than by Direction of the Board of Guardians in the Case so reported; and the Guardians of the Union shall furnish the Relieving Officers with the necessary Funds for affording Relief in manner aforesaid, and for the Relief of those destitute poor Persons to whom Relief shall be granted by the Board of Guardians, at such Times and in such Manner as the Poor Law Commissioners shall determine and direct.

Relief to Wife or Child to be Relief to Husband or Parent, as the Case may be.

VIII. And be it enacted, That all Relief given under this Act to a Wife or Child shall be considered as given to the Person who under the Provisions of the first-recited Act shall be liable to maintain such Wife or Child; and the Child of any poor Person relieved under this Act shall be subject to the same Liability in respect of such Relief as

as in respect of any Relief granted under the above-recited Act passed in the Second Year of the Reign of Her present Majesty

Relief not to be given out of the Union to which it is charged.

IX. And be it enacted, That no Relief given under the Authority of this Act shall be given from the Poor Rates of any Union to any Person not being within the Union when so relieved.

Occupiers of more than a Quarter of an Acre not deemed to be destitute.

X. And be it enacted, That from and after the First Day of *November* next after the passing of this Act no Person who shall be in the Occupation of any Land of greater Extent than the Quarter of a Statute Acre shall be deemed and taken to be a destitute poor Person under the Provisions of the first-recited Act, or of the Acts amending the same, or of this Act; and if any Person so occupying more than the Quarter of a Statute Acre shall apply for Relief, or if any Person on his Behalf shall apply for Relief, it shall not be lawful for any Board of Guardians to grant such Relief, within or out of the Workhouse, to any such Person.

How Cost of Out-door Relief shall be charged.

XI. And be it enacted, That, for the Purpose of charging the Relief afforded out of the Workhouse under the Provisions of this Act, the Poor Law Commissioners shall cause to be printed, and shall furnish to every Clerk of an Union in *Ireland*, a Register Book, to be called "The Out-door Relief Register," in a Form similar to the Workhouse Register prescribed by the first-recited Act, in which the Clerk of the Union shall register, together with the other Particulars in the said Form required, the Name of the Electoral Division in which every Person relieved under this Act, out of the Workhouse, shall have been resident at the Time of his beginning to receive such Relief; and all the Provisions of the said Acts now in force for the Relief of the destitute Poor in *Ireland*, which determine the Circumstances under which any Person shall be deemed to have been resident in an Electoral Division, and the Manner of charging the Expence of the Relief of Persons stated in the Register to have been so resident in some Electoral Division, and of Persons not stated in the Register to have been so resident, and all the Provisions of the said Acts which relate to the Production of the Register at every Meeting of Guardians for their Approval, Examination, and Correction, and the signing and countersigning of the same, and all Provisions of the said Acts which relate to the Power of appealing against the Decision of the Board of Guardians, touching the Description of the Residence of any Person in the said Register, and to the Costs which may be incurred in such Appeal, shall extend and apply to the Out-door Relief Register to be kept as aforesaid under the Provisions of this Act, and to the Persons relieved under this Act out of the Workhouse, and to the Manner of charging the Expence of the Relief so afforded to such Persons under this Act, and to the Decisions of the Board of Guardians touching the Description of the Residence of any Person in the Out-door Relief Register.

What to constitute Residence in Electoral Division.

XII. And be it enacted, That for the Purpose of charging the Expence of Relief to any Electoral Division no Person shall after the passing of this Act be deemed to have been resident in such Electoral Division, unless during the Three Years before his Application for Relief

Relief he had occupied some Tenement within such Division for Thirty Calendar Months, or, if he had not so occupied some Tenement, had usually slept within such Division for the Period of Thirty Calendar Months.

Assistance to Emigration.

XIII. And be it enacted, That if it shall be proved to the Satisfaction of the Board of Guardians at any Time that any Occupier of Land within such Union, rated at a net annual Value not exceeding Five Pounds, shall be willing to give up to his Landlord his Right and Title, and the actual Possession of the said Land, whether held under Lease or as Tenant at Will, and to emigrate together with all Persons who may be dependent upon him for their Support and Maintenance, and that such Occupier shall have been approved by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, or such Person as he may appoint for that Purpose, as a fit and proper Person to be admitted as an Emigrant, and that the immediate Lessor of such Occupier is willing, upon the Emigration of such Occupier and his Family, and upon the Surrender of the Land occupied by him, to forego any Claim for Rent which he may have upon the said Occupier, and also to provide Two Thirds of such fair and reasonable Sum as shall be required for the Emigration of such Occupier and his Family, then and in such Case it shall be lawful for the Board of Guardians of such Union, if they shall think fit, upon Payment to them of such last-mentioned Sum, to charge upon the Rates of the Electoral Division in which such Person shall be resident, and to pay, in addition to such Sum, in such Manner as shall be directed by the Poor Law Commissioners, in aid of the Emigration of such Occupier and his Family, any Sum not exceeding One Half of the Sum contributed and paid by such immediate Lessors as aforesaid, notwithstanding that any Sum or Sums so charged and paid may exceed in any One Year One Shilling in the Pound on the Rates of such Electoral Division, and notwithstanding that such Occupier and his Family may not be nor have been Inmates of the Workhouse of such Union.

Extension of 6 & 7 Vict. c. 92.

XIV. And whereas by an Act passed in the Seventh Year of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act for the further Amendment of an Act for the more effectual Relief of the destitute Poor in* Ireland, Provision is made for assisting any poor Person who is and has been for Three Months an Inmate of the Workhouse of any Union to emigrate, and it is expedient to extend the said Enactment to Persons not being and not having been Inmates of any Workhouse for the Period of Three Months; be it therefore enacted, That all the Provisions in the said Act which relate to the Emigration of poor Persons who are and have been for Three Months Inmates of any Workhouse shall also extend and apply to destitute poor Persons not being or not having been Inmates of any Workhouse, and to Persons having been Inmates of a Workhouse for a less Period than Three Months; provided that all Persons so assisted to emigrate shall have been approved as fit and proper Emigrants by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, or such Person as he may appoint for that Purpose.

Expences of Emigration how to be charged.

XV. Provided always, and be it enacted, That all Expences incurred in aid of the Emigration of any Occupier and his Family, under the Provisions of this Act, shall be charged to the Electoral Division in which the Land occupied by such Occupier is situated; and no Expences incurred in aid of the Emigration of any Occupier and his Family, or any destitute poor Person, under the Provisions of this Act or any of the Acts for the Relief of the destitute Poor in Ireland, shall be deemed to be Expences incurred for the Relief of the Poor.

Ex-officio Guardians not to exceed the Number of Elective Guardians.

XVI. And whereas it is expedient to increase the Number of qualified Justices which, according to the Provisions of the said first-recited Act, may be appointed to act as *ex-officio* Guardians of any Union; be it enacted, That so much of the said Act as provides that the Number of *ex-officio* Guardians of any Union shall in no Case exceed One Third of the Number of Guardians to be elected by the Rate-payers of such Union shall be repealed; and from and after the passing of this Act every Justice of the Peace resident in an Union in *Ireland*, and acting for the County in which he resides, who shall be qualified under the Provisions of the said first-recited Act to be or to be appointed an *ex-officio* Guardian of the Union, shall be an *ex-officio* Guardian thereof, unless the Number of Justices so qualified shall exceed the Number of Guardians to be elected by the Rate-payers of such Union; and in every Case in which the Number of Justices so qualified as aforesaid shall exceed the Number of Guardians to be elected by the Rate-payers, so many only of the qualified Justices who shall be rated on the highest Amount of rateable Property in the Rate Books of any Electoral Division in such Union as shall be equal to the Number of elective Guardians shall be entitled to act as *ex-officio* Guardians: Provided always, that each of such highest rated Justices shall have previously declared, in Writing, to the Clerk of the Union his Willingness to act as such *ex-officio* Guardian: Provided always, that whenever the Number of Justices qualified as aforesaid to act as *ex-officio* Guardians in any Union shall, by Death, Removal, Disqualification to act, or from any other Cause, be reduced to or below the Number of the elective Guardians, then and so long as the Number shall not exceed the Number of elective Guardians the whole of the Justices so qualified shall be entitled to act as *ex-officio* Guardians.

Unions may be altered without Consent of Guardians.

XVII. And whereas by the said first-recited Act it is provided that no Dissolution or Alteration of a Union shall take place or be made unless a Majority of the Guardians of the Union affected by such Change shall consent thereto in Writing, and it is expedient to amend the said Enactment as herein-after is provided; be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Poor Law Commissioners, as and when they shall see fit, to dissolve or alter any Union or Unions in *Ireland*, and from the Townlands comprised in such Unions to form such other Union or Unions as to them shall appear fitting and expedient, and that so much of the said Act as requires the Consent of a Majority of the Guardians of a Union to any Dissolution or Alteration thereof shall be repealed: Provided nevertheless, that all the other Provisions

of the said Act which relate to the Dissolution or Alteration of Unions, and to the Adjustment of the Sums thereupon to be paid or received by any Union or Townland affected by such Alteration, shall extend and apply to the Case of any Union which shall be dissolved or altered, or formed anew under the Provisions of this Act.

The Poor Law Commissioners may dissolve a Board of Guardians, on Default, without any intermediate Election.

XVIII. And whereas by the first-recited Act it is provided, that in case regular Meetings of the Board of Guardians of any Union shall not be holden at the Times enjoined by the Orders of the Poor Law Commissioners, or in case through the Default of the Guardians the Duties of such Board of Guardians shall not be duly and effectually discharged according to the Intention of the said first-recited Act, the Commissioners shall declare such Board of Guardians to be dissolved, and shall order a fresh Election of the Guardians of such Union; and in case the Guardians elected at such fresh Election shall not hold regular Meetings at the Times enjoined by the Orders of the Commissioners, or in case through the Default of such Guardians the Duties of such Board of Guardians shall not be duly and effectually discharged according to the Intention of the said first-recited Act, then the Commissioners may appoint such and so many paid Officers as they may think fit to carry into execution the Provisions of the said Act, and from Time to Time revoke and determine such Appointments: And whereas it is expedient for the more prompt and effectual Execution of the Acts now in force for the Relief of the destitute Poor in *Ireland*, and of this Act, to amend the above-recited Provision as herein-after is provided; be it enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, in case regular Meetings of the Board of Guardians of any Union shall not be holden at the Times enjoined by the said Commissioners, or in case through the Default of the Guardians the Duties of such Board of Guardians shall not be duly and effectually discharged according to the Intention of the several Acts which now are or hereafter shall be in force for the Relief of the destitute Poor in *Ireland* and of this Act, it shall be lawful for the Poor Law Commissioners to dissolve the said Board of Guardians, and the said Commissioners shall thereupon at once, and without ordering such fresh Election of the Guardians as in the said Act is provided, appoint such and so many paid Officers as they may think fit to carry into execution the Provisions of the said Acts and of this Act; and all the Provisions of the first-recited Act which relate to the Powers, Duties, and Salaries of such paid Officers appointed by the Commissioners after a fresh Election of the Board of Guardians as aforesaid, and to the Security to be given by such paid Officers, and to their Continuance in Office, shall extend and apply to the Powers, Duties, and Salaries of such paid Officers as shall be appointed by the said Commissioners under this Act, without ordering a fresh Election of the Board of Guardians, and to the Security to be given by such Officers, and to their Continuance in Office respectively.

As to the Performance of Religious Service in Workhouses.

XIX. And whereas by the said first-recited Act it is provided, that the Poor Law Commissioners shall take Order for the due Performance of Religious Service in Workhouses in *Ireland*, and for appointing fit Persons to be Chaplains for that Purpose; be it enacted, That

That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, if they shall think fit, to provide a Chapel, or to direct that a suitable Apartment of the Workhouse shall be specially appropriated for the Religious Worship of any Denomination of Christians being Inmates of the Workhouse, and to make such Orders and Regulations for securing and regulating the Use of such Chapel or Apartment for such Purpose as they shall deem expedient.

Commissioners empowered to purchase on hire additional Land to be occupied with Workhouses;

XX. And whereas by the said first-recited Act the Poor Law Commissioners are empowered to purchase or hire Land, not exceeding Twelve Acres Imperial Measure, to be occupied with the Workhouse of any Union in *Ireland;* be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Poor Law Commissioners to purchase or hire, in addition to such Twelve Acres, Land not exceeding Three Statute Acres, to be occupied by the Guardians of any Union, any Portion of the said last-mentioned Land so to be occupied being either contiguous to or detached from the Site on which any Workhouse stands, as shall be found most convenient in each Case; and it shall be lawful for such last-mentioned Land to be used for the Site of a Fever Ward, or as a Cemetery for the Burial of deceased Inmates of the Workhouse, or for any other Purpose which the said Commissioners shall approve; and the Poor Law Commissioners are hereby empowered to erect such Fever Ward on such Land to be so purchased or hired as last aforesaid.

and also for the Erection of a School for certain Children in the North and South Dublin Unions.

XXI. And whereas Provision is now made in each of the Unions called the *North Dublin* Union and *South Dublin* Union respectively for the Maintenance and Education of destitute poor Children, and it is expedient that the Guardians of the Poor of the said Unions should be enabled to join in the Occupation of a School for the Maintenance and Education of the Children receiving Relief in the Workhouses of the said Unions; be it enacted, That the Poor Law Commissioners be empowered to hire or purchase Land not exceeding Twenty-five Statute Acres, and to erect thereon a suitable Building, according to a Plan approved by them, and sealed with their Seal, to be used and occupied as a School for the Reception, Maintenance, and Education of Children not above the Age of Fifteen Years, being Inmates of one or other of the Workhouses of the *North Dublin* and *South Dublin* Unions, and the Guardians of each of the said Unions shall contribute to the Cost of hiring or purchasing such Lands, and of erecting such Building, and of upholding, repairing, or altering the same, in the Proportion which the net annual Value of the one Union bears to the net annual Value of the other, and shall contribute in the same Proportion to defray the Expences of furnishing and fitting up the said School, and providing all Articles, Implements, and Requisites, for the common Use of the Inmates thereof; but the Maintenance of the Children belonging to each Union which the Guardians of such Union shall direct and send to be educated in such School shall be at the separate Cost of the Union, and the Proportion of the Cost of Maintenance to be charged on each Union shall be calculated, and shall be defrayed by the Guardians of the Union, in such Manner as the Poor Law Commissioners shall direct: Provided that the Guardians of each Union shall not be entitled to send to be maintained and educated in such School

School a Number of Children exceeding that Proportion of the whole Number to be at one Time maintained in the said School which agrees with the Proportion borne by the net annual Value of the Union to the net annual Value of both Unions, except with the Consent of the Poor Law Commissioners in that Behalf first had and obtained; provided also, that the Quantity of Land to be purchased or hired for the Purpose aforesaid shall not be greater than the Quantity which, under the Provisions of the said first-recited Act and this Act, may be purchased or hired and occupied together with the Workhouses of the said Two Unions, and that the Expenditure to be incurred in building the said School shall not be greater than might be incurred for the Erection of Workhouses or additional Workhouses in the said Unions under the said Acts.

Quantity of Land to be purchased limited.

XXII. And be it enacted, That the Management of the said School shall be conducted by a Board of Management, consisting of so many Members of the respective Boards of Guardians of the *North Dublin* and *South Dublin* Unions as the Poor Law Commissioners shall by Order under their Seal direct, and such Members shall be chosen by the Guardians of the said Unions, in such Proportions, and at such Times and in such Manner, as the Commissioners shall direct; and the Chairman of each of the said Unions shall be an *ex-officio* Member of the said Board of Management; and the said Board of Management shall meet, Three Members thereof being present to form a Board, and shall exercise their Functions and perform their Duties in accordance with the Rules and Regulations issued by the Poor Law Commissioners for their Guidance and Control; and it shall be lawful for the Poor Law Commissioners to authorize and direct the said Board of Management to appoint Officers for the Superintendence of the said School, of such Description and with such Qualifications as the said Commissioners shall deem fitting and expedient, and to prescribe the Duties to be performed by the said Officers respectively; and every such Officer shall be subject in all respects to the Control of the Poor Law Commissioners and the Board of Management, in the same Manner as other Officers appointed under the Acts in force for the Relief of the Poor are subject to the Control of the Poor Law Commissioners and the Guardians of the Union whereof they are Officers, and shall be liable to Removal in the same Manner.

School to be conducted by a Board of Management chosen from the Guardians of the North and South Dublin Unions.

XXIII. And be it enacted, That all the Provisions of the said first-recited Act which relate to the Purchase and Conveyance of Land for the Erection of Workhouses, and which empower the Poor Law Commissioners to direct the Guardians of any Union to raise or borrow the Sums necessary to defray the Expence of hiring or purchasing such Land and building such Workhouses, and all Provisions of the said Act which relate to the borrowing of Money by the Guardians for the Purposes aforesaid, shall extend and apply to the Purchase and Conveyance of Land, and the Erection of Buildings thereon under the Provisions of this Act.

Powers to purchase Land and erect Buildings.

XXIV. And for the Purpose of extending to other Parts of *Ireland* the Benefit of the Provisions of this Act, as herein-before made applicable for the Establishment of Schools in the *North* and *South Dublin*

Unions may be formed into School Districts for the Manage-

ment of infant Poor.

Dublin Union, be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, as and when they may see fit, by Order under their Hands and Seals, to combine Unions into School Districts for the Management of any Class or Classes of infant Poor not above the Age of Sixteen Years, being chargeable to any such Union or any Part thereof, who are Orphans, or are deserted by their Parents, or whose Parents or surviving Parent or Guardian are consenting to the placing of such Children in the School of such District.

Qualifications, Duties, Appointment, Removal, and Salaries of Officers.

XXV. And be it enacted, That the Poor Law Commissioners shall have the same Power and Authority in respect of all Officers appointed under this Act to define and prescribe the Qualifications of such Officers, and their Duties, and the Places or Limits within which those Duties shall be performed respectively, and to determine the Continuance in Office or Removal of such Officers, and to appoint fit and proper Persons in their Room, on the Neglect or Refusal of the Parties competent in that Behalf to appoint, and to regulate from Time to Time the Salaries payable to such Officers, and the Mode of Payment thereof, and the Proportions in which the Salaries shall be charged to the Electoral Divisions of a Union, as the said Commissioners have in respect of paid Officers appointed under the Acts now in force for the Relief of the destitute Poor in *Ireland;* and the Officers appointed under this Act shall be subject to the same Disqualification or Removal from Office, and shall be liable to the same Penalties and Forfeitures, Actions, Indictments, or other Proceedings, criminal or civil, as the paid Officers appointed under the Provisions of the said Acts now in force as aforesaid.

Administration of Relief to be subject to the Control of the Poor Law Commissioners.

XXVI. And be it enacted, That the Administration of Relief under this Act shall be subject to the Direction and Control of the Poor Law Commissioners; and all Orders, Rules, and Regulations made by the said Commissioners in execution of this Act shall be of the same Force and Effect, and shall be subject to the same Conditions, as Orders, Rules, and Regulations of the said Commissioners issued in execution of the said Acts now in force.

Accounts of Expenditure to be kept.

XXVII. And be it enacted, That the Guardians of every Union and their Officers shall keep Accounts, in such Form as the Poor Law Commissioners shall prescribe, of all Expenditure under this Act, and all the Provisions of the said Acts now in force for the Relief of the destitute Poor in *Ireland*, which relate to the auditing of Accounts of the Guardians and other Persons liable to account under the said Acts, and to the Verification of such Accounts on Oath or otherwise, and to the Disallowance or Reduction of Charges and to the Recovery of Balances found by the Auditor to be due from such Guardians or other Persons as aforesaid; and all the Provisions of the said Acts which relate to the Powers, Duties, and Proceedings of the Auditors of Unions shall extend and apply to the Accounts of the Expenditure of the Guardians and their Officers under this Act, and to the Balances found to be due thereon from the said Guardians or Officers respectively, and to the Recovery of the said Balances.

Recovery of Sums disallowed.

XXVIII. And be it enacted, That in every Case of Disallowance or Reduction by the Auditor in the Accounts of any Union, the Auditor

 shall

shall make and sign a Certificate of such Disallowance or Reduction on the Face of the Book or Account wherein the Charges so disallowed or reduced shall appear, and shall debit the Amount disallowed to the Guardian or Guardians by whose Signature or Initials the Expenditure of the Sum so disallowed shall have been authorized, or if not authorized by the Guardians, then to the Officer or Officers by whom such Expenditure shall have been made, and the Sum so disallowed shall be payable by the Person or Persons debited therewith to the Treasurer of the Union, and it shall be lawful for the said Auditor to proceed for the Recovery thereof, by all the Ways and Means provided by the said first-recited Act for the Recovery of Balances found by the Auditor to be due from any Guardian, Treasurer, or other Person having the Control of the Poor Rate, or accountable for such Balances, or in lieu thereof the said Auditor may summon the Person or Persons so debited to appear before any Two Justices of the County in which the Workhouse of the Union shall be situate, and the said Justices shall, on the Production of the said Certificate of Disallowance or Reduction, inquire whether the Sum disallowed has been paid to the Treasurer of the Union, and on Failure of due Proof thereof by or on the Part of the Person or Persons so debited as aforesaid, shall adjudge the said Person or Persons to pay the said Sum, together with the Costs of the Application, to the said Auditor; and on Failure of such Payment forthwith, shall cause the said Sum and Costs to be levied by Warrant of Distress upon the Goods and Chattels of the said Person or Persons, wheresoever the same may be found, and to be paid to the said Auditor, who shall thereupon pay over the Sum so disallowed and recovered to the Treasurer of the Union.

Annual Return of Expenditure and Number relieved.

XXIX. And be it enacted, That so much of the said first-recited Act as provides that there shall be laid annually before both Houses of Parliament, on or before the First Day of *May* in every Year, an Account of the Expenditure upon the Relief of the Poor in each Union in *Ireland*, and of the total Number relieved in each Union, during the Year ended on the First Day of *January* preceding, shall be repealed; and that in lieu thereof an Account shall annually be laid before Parliament, on or before the First Day of *May*, of the Expenditure on the Relief of the Poor in each Union in *Ireland*, and of the total Number relieved in each, during the Year ended on the Twenty-ninth Day of *September* preceding.

Former Acts and this Act to be One Act.

XXX. And be it enacted, That the said Acts now in force for the Relief of the destitute Poor in *Ireland* and this Act shall be construed as One Act, except so far as the Provisions of any one of such Acts may alter the Provisions of any previous Act.

Act may be amended, &c.

XXXI. And be it enacted, That this Act may be amended or repealed by any Act to be passed in this Session of Parliament.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE, Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1847.