

CHAPTER 17.

An Act to make temporary provision for the better Relief of the destitute Poor in Ireland. [10th May 1886.] A.D. 1886.

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:

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the Poor Relief (Ireland) Act, 1886.

Extension of power to grant out-door relief in food.

2. At any time after the fifteenth day of April one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six and before the thirty-first day of December one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six, the Local Government Board for Ireland may, from time to time, if they think fit, authorise by order under their seal the guardians of the poor of any union to administer relief in food or fuel out of the workhouse, to poor persons, whether such poor persons might, under the Acts relating to the Relief of the Destitute Poor in Ireland, have obtained relief out of the workhouse or not, for any time not exceeding two months from the date of such order.

Such order may apply to the union at large or to any electoral division or divisions thereof.

The Local Government Board may, from time to time, by an order under their seal for that purpose, revoke any such order either wholly or with reference to any particular person or class of persons in receipt of such relief.

On the receipt by the guardians of any union of any such order of the Local Government 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; and the proviso at the end of the second section of the Act passed in the session of Parliament of the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth years of the reign of Her present

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Majesty, chapter eighty-three, shall not apply to the relief to be afforded under this Act.

Revival of 46 & 47 Vict. c. 24. ss. 1 and 2.

3. The first and second sections of the Relief of Distressed Unions (Ireland) Act, 1883, shall be and are hereby re-enacted and revived, subject to the following modifications:

(*a.*) Grants may be made under the said sections as so re-enacted and revived, at any time after the passing of this Act and before the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven.

(*b.*) Grants shall not be made to the board of guardians of any union other than a union named in the Schedule to this Act; and each such grant shall be limited to such amount as the Local Government Board may find necessary to aid in defraying the charge of any electoral division or divisions in the union; having regard to the financial condition, and the pressure of distress within the limits, of such electoral division or divisions.

(*c.*) The total amount granted shall not exceed twenty thousand pounds.

(*d.*) In any island forming part of any of the unions named in the Schedule to this Act, the Lord Lieutenant may from time to time make provision for securing the proper administration of so much of any grant made to that union under this section as he thinks necessary to set apart, by prescribing rules in relation thereto; and for the employment of special agents to aid in the administration of the sum set apart, and otherwise as he thinks expedient; and the sum set apart shall be applied in carrying out the purposes of the Acts for the relief of the poor in that island, in such manner as the Lord Lieutenant from time to time may direct.

Relief under this Act not to incapacitate from voting.

4. No person shall be incapacitated from being registered or voting as a parliamentary elector by reason of his receipt of relief under this Act.

PART II.

Constitution of Piers and Roads Commission.

5. A Commission shall be constituted, to be styled the Piers and Roads Commission, for carrying this Part of this Act into effect.

The Commission shall consist of a chairman and two other members.

The members of the Commissions shall be from time to time nominated by the Lord Lieutenant, and shall hold office during his pleasure.

Powers of Commission as to roads and bridges.

6. In any of the unions named in the Schedule to this Act, the Commission may improve, complete, or put into repair any road dedicated to the public, or may build or repair any bridge, arch, or gullet: Provided that in the case of any road constructed under the authority of a grand jury, the powers conferred on the Commission by this section shall only be exercised by them with the consent of the county surveyor acting for the grand jury; and in other cases such powers shall only be exercised by agreement between the Commission and any person or persons whose rights may be affected by the works proposed to be done.

Powers of the Commissions as to piers and slips.

7. In any of the unions named in the Schedule to this Act, the Commission may, by agreement with any person or persons whose rights may be affected by the proposed works, construct or improve any pier, quay, boat-slip, or landing-place, and any road or approach thereto, and may purchase any land which they think necessary for any of those purposes, and may remove any rocks or obstructions to navigation, and may do anything which may be necessary or expedient for any of the aforesaid purposes. When any such pier or other work has been constructed, the Lord Lieutenant, and the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, and the grand jury of the county in which it is situated, shall have the same rights, powers, and duties in relation thereto, as if it were a pier to which the Act of the Session of Parliament of the sixteenth and seventeenth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter one hundred and thirty-six, applies.

The powers conferred upon the Commissioners of Public Works by the seventh section of that Act may be exercised by them, notwithstanding that the pier or other work is not vested in them.

The provisions of the Act of the session of the ninth and tenth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter three, and of any Act amending it, relative to maintenance and repair, and as to tolls and rates, and as to byelaws, rates, orders, and regulations, and otherwise, shall apply to such pier or work as if it had been constructed or done under those Acts.

Works below high water.

8. No work shall be commenced or constructed by the Commission below the line of high water of ordinary spring tides without the previous consent of the Board of Trade, to be signified in writing under the hand of one of their secretaries or assistant secretaries.

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Saving rights of the Crown in the foreshore.

9. Nothing contained in this Act shall authorise the Commission to take, use, or in any manner interfere with any portion of the shore or bed of the sea, or of any river, channel, creek, bay, or estuary, or any right in respect thereof, belonging to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, in right of Her Crown, and under the management of the Board of Trade, without the previous consent in writing of the Board of Trade on behalf of Her Majesty (which consent the Board of Trade may give); neither shall anything in this Act contained extend to take away, prejudice, diminish, or alter any of the estates, rights, privileges, powers, or authorities vested in, or enjoyed, or exerciseable by the Queen's Majesty, Her heirs or successors.

Provision of funds.

44 & 45 Vict. c. 71.

10. The Irish Land Commission shall, out of the funds which they may raise on the security of their annual income under the Irish Church Act Amendment Act, 1881, pay over from time to time, when required by the Lord Lieutenant, to the Commission constituted under this Act, a sum not exceeding in all twenty thousand pounds.

Extension of borrowing powers of Commissioners of Church Temporalities.

32 & 33 Vict. c. 42.

11. The several provisions of the Irish Church Act, 1869, as amended by the Irish Church Act Amendment Act, 1881, with respect to the raising of money by the Irish Land Commissioners, and the giving of security for the repayment thereof, and of interest thereon, and with respect to the power of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt to make advances to the said Irish Land Commissioners, and with respect to the powers of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury in relation to the moneys so to be raised, shall be extended and shall apply to the purposes of this Act as fully as such provisions apply to the purposes of the Irish Church Act, 1869.

32 & 33 Vict. c. 42.

Any advance made by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt to the Irish Land Commissioners for the purposes of this Act shall be charged upon the property accruing to and shall be payable by the Irish Land Commissioners as if it were part of the debt already owing by them to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt.

Expenses of Commission accounts.

12. Subject to the approval of the Lord Lieutenant, the Piers and Roads Commission may apply so much of the fund provided for them under this Act as may be necessary in defraying the expense of the Commissioners, and for payment of salaries and remuneration to persons employed by them in carrying this Act into effect. The Commission shall account, in such manner as the

Lord Lieutenant may direct, for all moneys received by them, and shall, if directed by him, pay over to the Irish Land Commission any balance remaining unexpended in their hands, subject to any charges affecting it. A.D. 1886.

SCHEDULE.

NAMES OF UNIONS.

Belmullet.
Clifden.
Galway.
Oughterard.
Westport.
Swinford.

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