manner as if it were herein enacted with the substitution of exchequer bond for exchequer bill.

Count of advances.

7. An account of all sums issued out of the Consolidated Fund in pursuance of this Act, and of all sums paid by the Government of the Province of British Columbia in respect of the interest or principal of any advance in pursuance of this Act, shall be annually laid before Parliament in such form as the Treasury direct, so long as any such advance remains outstanding.

CHAPTER 53.

An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to Public Libraries. [27th June 1892.]

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:

Adoption of Act and Constitution of Library Authority.

Extent and application of Act.

1.—(1.) This Act shall extend to every library district for which it is adopted.

(2.) For the purposes of this Act and subject to the provisions thereof every urban district and every parish in England and Wales which is not within an urban district shall be a library district.

(3.) This Act shall have effect as regards any parish which is partly within and partly without an urban district as if the part which is without the district were a separate parish, and the overseers for the parish shall be deemed for the purposes of this Act to be the overseers for that part.

Limitations on expenditure for purposes of Act.

2.—(1.) A rate or addition to a rate shall not be levied for the purposes of this Act for any one financial year in any library district to an amount exceeding one penny in the pound.

(2.) This Act may be adopted for any library district subject to a condition that the maximum rate or addition to a rate to be levied for the purposes of this Act in the district or in any defined portion of the district in any one financial year shall not exceed one halfpenny or shall not exceed three farthings in the pound, but such limitation if fixed at one halfpenny may be subsequently raised to three farthings, or altogether removed, or where it is for the time being fixed at three farthings may be removed.

Proceedings for adoption of Act.

3. With respect to—

(*a*) the adoption of this Act for any library district; and

(*b*) the fixing, raising, and removing of any limitation on the maximum rate to be levied for the purposes of this Act; and

(*c*) the ascertaining of the opinion of the voters with respect to any matter for which their consent is required under this Act;

the following provisions shall have effect; that is to say,

(1.) Any ten or more voters in the library district may address a requisition in writing to the authority hereafter in this section mentioned requiring that authority to ascertain the opinion of the voters in the district with respect to the question or questions stated in the requisition: Provided that where the library district is a municipal borough the requisition may be made by the council of the borough:

(2.) On receipt of the requisition the said authority shall proceed to ascertain by means of voting papers the opinion of the voters with respect to the said question or questions; but the said authority shall not ascertain the opinion of the voters on any question with respect to the limitation of the rate unless required to do so by the requisition, or with respect to any limitation of the rate other than the limitations specified in this Act:

(3.) The procedure for ascertaining the opinion of the voters shall be in accordance with the regulations contained in the First Schedule to this Act; and those regulations shall have effect as if they were enacted in the body of this Act:

(4.) Every question so submitted to the voters shall be decided by the majority of answers to that question recorded on the valid voting papers, and where the majority of those answers are in favour of the adoption of this Act the same shall forthwith, on the result of the poll being made public, be deemed to be adopted:

(5.) Where the opinion of the voters in any library district is ascertained upon the question as to the adoption of this Act, or upon a question as to the limitation of the rate, no further proceeding shall be taken for ascertaining the opinion of the voters until the expiration of one year at least from the day when the opinion of the voters was last ascertained, that is to say, the day on which the voting papers were collected:

(6.) The authority to ascertain the opinion of the voters for the purposes of this section shall be in a municipal borough the mayor, and in any other urban district the chairman of the urban authority, and in a parish the overseers.

Act when adopted to be executed by library authority.

4. This Act when adopted for any library district shall be carried into execution, if the library district is an urban district, by the urban authority, and, if it is a parish, by the commissioners appointed under this Act; and any such authority or commissioners executing this Act are herein-after referred to as a "library authority."

Constitution of commissioners for executing Act in parish.

5.—(1.) Where this Act is adopted for any parish the vestry shall forthwith appoint not less than three nor more than nine voters in the parish to be commissioners for carrying this Act into execution.

(2.) The commissioners shall be a body corporate by the name of "The Commissioners for Public Libraries and Museums for

the parish of , in the county of ," and shall have perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to acquire and hold lands for the purposes of this Act, without any licence in mortmain.

Rotation of commissioners.

6.—(1.) The Commissioners shall, as soon as conveniently may be after their appointment, divide themselves by agreement, or in default of agreement by ballot, into three classes, one third or as nearly as may be one third of them being in each class.

(2.) The offices of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of one year, the offices of the second class at the expiration of two years, and the offices of the third class at the expiration of three years from the time of their appointment.

(3.) The offices of vacating commissioners shall be filled by an equal number of new commissioners to be appointed by the vestry from among the voters in the parish; and every newly elected commissioner shall hold his office for the term of three years from the date when the office became vacant, and no longer, unless re-elected; but a person, on ceasing to be a commissioner, shall, unless disqualified, be re-eligible.

(4.) Any casual vacancy among the commissioners, whether arising by death, resignation, incapacity, or otherwise, shall as soon as may be after the occurrence thereof be filled up by the vestry; but the term of office of a commissioner appointed to fill up a casual vacancy shall expire at the date at which the term of office of the commissioner in whose place he is appointed would have expired.

Meetings of commissioners.

7. The commissioners shall meet at least once in every month, and at such other times as they think fit, at some convenient place; and any one commissioner may summon a special meeting by giving three clear days notice in writing to each commissioner, specifying therein the purpose for which the meeting is called. Business shall not be transacted at any meeting of the commissioners unless at least two of them are present.

Proceedings of commissioners to be recorded.

8. All orders and proceedings of the commissioners shall be entered in books to be kept for that purpose, and shall be signed by the commissioners or any two of them; and all such orders and proceedings so entered, and purporting to be so signed, shall be deemed to be original orders and proceedings, and such books may be produced and read as evidence of all such orders and proceedings upon any judicial proceeding.

Power to vestries of neighbouring parishes to combine.

9.—(1.) Where this Act is adopted for any two or more neighbouring parishes, the vestries of those parishes may by agreement combine for any period in carrying this Act into execution, and the expenses of carrying this Act into execution shall be defrayed by the parishes in such proportions as may be agreed on by the vestries.

(2.) The vestry of each of the said parishes shall appoint not more than six commissioners in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and the commissioners so appointed for the several parishes shall form one body of commissioners, and shall act accordingly in the execution of this Act.

10. Where the voters in a parish adjoining or near any library district for which either this Act has been adopted, or the adoption thereof is contemplated, consent to such parish being annexed to the said district, such parish, subject to the consent of the library authority of the said district being also given, shall be annexed to and form part of that district for the purposes of this Act; the vestry of such parish shall appoint not more than six commissioners in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and the commissioners so from time to time appointed shall during their respective terms of office be deemed for all the purposes of this Act to be members of the library authority of the said district.

Power to annex parish to adjoining district.

Execution of Act.

11.—(1.) The library authority of any library district for which this Act has been adopted may, subject to the provisions of this Act, provide all or any of the following institutions, namely, public libraries, public museums, schools for science, art galleries, and schools for art, and for that purpose may purchase and hire land, and erect, take down, rebuild, alter, repair, and extend buildings, and fit up, furnish, and supply the same with all requisite furniture, fittings, and conveniences.

Provision of libraries, museums, and schools of science and art.

(2.) Where any of the institutions mentioned in this section has been established either before or after the passing of this Act by any library authority under this Act or the Acts hereby repealed, that authority may establish in connexion therewith any other of the said institutions without further proceedings being taken with respect to the adoption of this Act.

(3.) No charge shall be made for admission to a library or museum provided under this Act for any library district, or, in the case of a lending library, for the use thereof by the inhabitants of the district; but the library authority, if they think fit, may grant the use of a lending library to persons not being inhabitants of the district, either gratuitously or for payment.

12.—(1.) For the purpose of the purchase of land under this Act by a library authority the Lands Clauses Acts, with the exception of the provisions relating to the purchase of land otherwise than by agreement, shall be incorporated with this Act.

Provision as to acquisition and disposal of land.

(2.) The library authority of any library district which is an urban district may with the sanction of the Local Government Board appropriate for the purposes of this Act any land which is vested in that authority.

(3.) A library authority may with the sanction of the Local Government Board sell any land vested in them for the purposes of this Act, or exchange any such land for other land better adapted for those purposes, and the money arising from the sale or received by way of equality of exchange shall be applied in or towards the purchase of other land better adapted for the said purposes, or may be applied for any purpose for which capital money may be applied, and which is approved by the Local Government Board.

(4.) A library authority may let a house or building, or any part thereof, or any land vested in them for the purposes of the Act,

which is not at the time of such letting required for those purposes, and shall apply the rents and profits thereof for the purposes of this Act.

Power to grant charity land for purposes of this Act.

13.—(1.) Any person holding land for ecclesiastical, parochial, or charitable purposes may, subject as herein-after provided, grant, or convey, by way of gift, sale, or exchange, for any of the purposes of this Act any quantity of such land, not exceeding in any one case one acre, in any manner vested in such person.

(2.) Provided that—

(*a*) ecclesiastical property shall not be granted or conveyed for those purposes without the consent of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners; and

(*b*) parochial property shall not be so granted or conveyed save by the board of guardians of the poor law union comprising the parish to which the property belongs, or without the consent of the Local Government Board; and

(*c*) other charitable property shall not be so granted or conveyed without the consent of the Charity Commissioners; and

(*d*) the land taken in exchange or the money received for such sale shall be held on the same trusts as the land exchanged or sold; and

(*e*) land situated in the administrative county of London, or in any urban district containing according to the last published census for the time being over twenty thousand inhabitants, which is held on trusts to be preserved as an open space, or on trusts which prohibit building thereon, shall not be granted or conveyed for the purposes of this Act.

(3.) Any land granted or conveyed to any library authority under this section may be held by that authority without any licence in mortmain.

Vesting of property in library authority.

14. All land appropriated, purchased, or rented, and all other real and personal property presented to or purchased or acquired for any library, museum, art gallery, or school under this Act shall be vested in the library authority.

Management of libraries, &c. by library authority or committee.

15.—(1.) The general management, regulation, and control of every library, museum, art gallery, and school provided under this Act shall be vested in and exercised by the library authority, and that authority may provide therein books, newspapers, maps, and specimens of art and science, and cause the same to be bound and repaired when necessary.

(2.) The library authority may also appoint salaried officers and servants, and dismiss them, and make regulations for the safety and use of every library, museum, gallery, and school under their control, and for the admission of the public thereto.

(3.) Provided that a library authority being an urban authority may if they think fit appoint a committee and delegate to it all or any of their powers and duties under this section, and the said committee shall to the extent of such delegation be deemed to be the library authority. Persons appointed to be members of the committee need not be members of the urban authority.

Power to library authorities to

16.—(1.) The commissioners separately appointed for any two or more parishes for which this Act has been adopted

may with the consent of the voters in each of those parishes agree to share in such proportions and for such period as may be determined by the agreement the cost of the purchase, erection, repair, and maintenance of any library building situate in one of those parishes, and also the cost of the purchase of books and newspapers for such library, and all other expenses connected with the same. make agreements for use of library.

(2.) The library authority of any library district may with the consent of the voters in the district and of the Charity Commissioners make the like agreement with the governing body of any library established or maintained out of funds subject to the jurisdiction of the Charity Commissioners, and situate in or near the library district, and, in case of inability, objection, or failure on the part of the governing body to enter into such agreement, the Charity Commissioners may, if they think fit, become party to the agreement on behalf of the governing body.

(3.) This section shall apply, with the necessary modifications, to a museum, school for science, art gallery, or school for art in like manner as to a library.

17. Where a library authority accepts a grant out of money provided by Parliament from the Department of Science and Art towards the purchase of the site, or the erection, enlargement, or repair, of any school for science and art, or school for science, or school for art, or of the residence of a teacher in any such school, or towards the furnishing of any such school, that authority may accept the grant upon the conditions prescribed by the Department of Science and Art, and may execute any instruments required by that Department for carrying into effect those conditions, and upon payment of the grant shall be bound by such conditions and instruments, and have power and be bound to fulfil and observe the same. Power to library authority to accept parliamentary grant.

Financial Provisions.

18.—(1.) The expenses incurred in a library district in and incidental to the execution of this Act, including all expenses in connexion with ascertaining the opinion of the voters in the district, may be defrayed,— Expenses of library authority how defrayed.

(*a*) where the library district is a municipal borough, out of the borough fund or borough rate, or a separate rate to be made, assessed, and levied in like manner as the borough rate; and

(*b*) where the library district is an urban district other than a borough, out of the rate applicable to the general expenses incurred in the execution of the Public Health Acts, or a separate rate to be made, assessed, and levied in like manner as the rate so applicable; and

(*c*) where the library district is a parish, out of a rate to be raised with and as part of the poor rate, subject, however, to this qualification, that every person assessed to the poor rate in the said parish in respect of lands used as arable, meadow, or pasture ground only, or as woodlands or market gardens, or nursery grounds, shall be entitled to an allowance of two

thirds of the sum assessed upon him in respect of those lands for the purposes of this Act.

(2.) Where the library district is a parish, and is not combined with any other parish for the execution of this Act, then—

(i.) such amount only shall be raised out of a rate for the purposes of this Act as is from time to time sanctioned by the vestry of the parish; and

(ii.) the vestry to be called for the purpose of sanctioning the amount shall be convened in the manner usual in the parish; and

(iii.) the amount for the time being proposed to be raised for the purposes of this Act shall be expressed in the notice convening the vestry, and (if sanctioned) shall be paid according to the order of the vestry to such person as may be appointed by the library authority to receive it; and

(iv.) in the notices requiring the payment of the rate there shall be stated the proportion which the amount to be thereby raised for the purposes of this Act bears to the total amount of the rate.

(3.) Where a parish or a part of a parish is annexed in pursuance of this Act to any library district, so much of the said expenses as is chargeable to such parish or part shall be defrayed in like manner as if such parish or part were a separate library district, but the sanction of the vestry shall not be required for raising the sums from time to time due from the parish for meeting those expenses.

Borrowing by library authority.

19.—(1.) Every library authority, with the sanction of the Local Government Board, and in the case of a library authority being commissioners appointed for a parish, with the sanction also of the vestry of such parish, may borrow money for the purposes of this Act on the security of any fund or rate applicable for those purposes.

(2.) Sections two hundred and thirty-three, two hundred and thirty-four, and two hundred and thirty-six to two hundred and thirty-nine, both inclusive, of the Public Health Act, 1875, relating to borrowing by a local authority shall apply, with the necessary modifications, to all money borrowed by any library authority for the purposes of this Act, as if the library authority were an urban authority, and as if references to this Act were substituted in those sections and in the forms therein mentioned for references to the Public Health Act, 1875.

38 & 39 Vict. c. 55.

(3.) The Public Works Loan Commissioners may in manner provided by the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, lend any money which may be borrowed by a library authority for the purposes of this Act.

38 & 39 Vict. c. 89.

Accounts and audit.

20.—(1.) Separate accounts shall be kept of the receipts and expenditure under this Act of every library authority and their officers, and those accounts shall be audited in like manner and with the like incidents and consequences, in the case of a library authority being an urban authority, and of their officers, as the accounts of the receipts and expenditure of that authority and their officers under the Public Health Acts.

(2.) The accounts of the receipts and expenditure of a library authority being commissioners appointed under this Act, and of their officers, shall be audited yearly by a district auditor in like manner and with the like incidents and consequences as in the case of an audit under the Acts relating to the relief of the poor, and those commissioners shall be a local authority within the meaning of the District Auditors Act, 1879.

(3.) The accounts of the receipts and expenditure under this Act of any library authority other than the council of a municipal borough shall be open at all reasonable times to the inspection, free of charge, of any ratepayer in the library district, and any such ratepayer may without charge make copies of and extracts from those accounts; and if any library authority or any person being a member thereof or employed by them and having the custody of the accounts fails to allow the accounts to be inspected, or copies or extracts to be made, as required by this section, such authority or person shall for each offence be liable on summary conviction in manner provided by the Summary Jurisdiction Acts to a fine not exceeding five pounds. 42 & 43 Vict. c. 6.

Provisions affecting London only.

21.—(1.) The city of London shall be a library district, and on this Act being adopted for the city, the common council shall be the library authority. Application of Act to city of London.

(2.) The opinion of the voters in the city of London with respect to any question under this Act shall be ascertained by the mayor on the requisition of the common council.

(3.) The expenses incurred in the city of London in and incidental to the execution of this Act, including all expenses in connexion with ascertaining the opinion of the voters, shall be defrayed out of the consolidated rate levied by the commissioners of sewers, or a separate rate to be made, assessed, and levied by those commissioners in like manner as the consolidated rate.

(4.) So much of this Act as limits the rate or addition to a rate to be levied in any library district for any one financial year to one penny in the pound shall not extend to the city of London.

22. Every district mentioned in Schedule B. to the Metropolis Management Act, 1855, as amended by any subsequent Acts, shall be a library district, and the provisions of this Act shall apply accordingly with the following modifications:— Power for district in London to adopt Act. 18 & 19 Vict. c. 120.

(1.) The opinion of the voters in any such district with respect to any question under this Act shall be ascertained by the district board on the requisition in writing of any ten or more of such voters:

(2.) The library authority for such district shall be commissioners appointed by the district board, and the provisions of this Act relating to commissioners appointed for a parish shall apply with the substitution of "district" for "parish" and of "district board" for "vestry":

(3.) The expenses incurred in any such district in and incidental to the execution of this Act, including all expenses in connexion

with ascertaining the opinion of the voters, shall to such amount as is sanctioned by the district board be defrayed by that board in like manner as if they had been incurred for the general purposes of the Metropolis Management Act, 1855, and the sums from time to time required for defraying those expenses, to the extent so sanctioned, shall be paid by the district board to any person appointed by the commissioners to receive the same; but nothing in this enactment shall enable a district board to levy for the purposes of this Act any greater sum in any financial year than the amount produced by a rate of one penny in the pound, or any less rate specially fixed for the purpose of this Act in the district:

(4.) The enactments authorising two or more neighbouring parishes to combine in carrying this Act into execution shall have effect as if any such district were included in the term "parish" and the district board of such district in the term "vestry":

(5.) Where a parish in any such district has adopted the Acts hereby repealed or any of them, or hereafter adopts this Act, it shall be treated in all respects for the purposes of this Act as if it were outside the district, and, in particular,—

(*a*) a person shall not, by reason of being a voter in the parish, be accounted for the purposes of this section as a voter in the district; and

(*b*) a representative of the parish on the district board shall not take part in any proceeding of the board under this section; and

(*c*) the parish shall not be called on to contribute to the payment of any expenses incurred in pursuance of this section; and

(*d*) any question of accounts arising between the parish and the other parishes in the district, or between the parish and the district, in consequence of this section, shall be decided finally by the Local Government Board:

(6.) After the adoption of this Act for any such district, proceedings shall not, except with the sanction of the Local Government Board, be taken for the separate adoption thereof for any parish in the district.

Power to vestry or district board in London to appropriate land for library, &c.

23. The vestry or district board constituted under the Metropolis Management Act, 1855, for any parish mentioned in Schedule A. or district mentioned in Schedule B. to that Act, as amended by any subsequent Acts, may, if this Act is in force in such parish or district, appropriate with the sanction of the Local Government Board for the purposes of this Act any land which is vested in such vestry or board.

Supplemental Provisions.

Adjustment of interests on termination of agreement.

24. Any agreement under this Act between two or more vestries or library authorities, or between a library authority and any other body, may provide that on the termination of the agreement an adjustment shall be made of the interests of the several parties thereto in any property to the provision of which they have

contributed, and as to the mode in which the adjustment shall be arrived at, and in the event of any dispute the adjustment shall on the application of any of the parties be made by an arbitrator appointed by the Local Government Board.

Saving for Oxford.

25. Nothing in this Act shall interfere with the operation of the Act of the session of the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter one hundred and eight, so far as it relates to the collection of a rate for a public library in Oxford.

Constitution and proceedings of vestry for purposes of Act.

26. For the purposes of this Act the vestry of a parish shall be any body of persons acting by virtue of any Act of Parliament as or instead of a vestry, and, where there is no such body, shall be the inhabitants of the parish in vestry assembled, but in the latter case the persons registered as county electors in respect of the occupation of property situate in the parish, and no other persons, shall be members of the vestry.

Definitions.

27. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

the expression "urban district" means a municipal borough, Improvement Act district, or local government district; and "urban authority" means, as regards each such district, the council, improvement commissioners, or local board:

the expression "financial year" means the period of twelve months for which the accounts of a library authority are made up:

the expression "voter" means a person who is registered as a county elector or enrolled as a burgess in respect of the occupation of property situate in the district or parish in connexion with which the voter is mentioned:

the expression "overseers" includes any persons authorised and required to make and levy poor rates in a parish, and acting instead of overseers:

the expression "common council" means in relation to the city of London the mayor, commonalty, and citizens, acting by the mayor, aldermen, and commons in common council assembled.

Repeal.

28.—(1.) The Acts mentioned in the Second Schedule to this Act shall be repealed as from the commencement of this Act, save so far as any of them extend beyond England and Wales; and where those Acts have been adopted for any library district, that adoption shall be deemed to have been an adoption of this Act, and this Act shall apply accordingly.

(2.) For the purpose of this section the said Acts shall be deemed to have been adopted for any district in which they were in force immediately before the commencement of this Act.

Saving as to local Acts.

29. Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to limit, or to reduce or alter the limit of any rate which any library authority is authorised to levy under or by virtue of any local Act.

Commencement.

30. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of October next after the passing thereof.

Short title.

31. This Act may be cited as the Public Libraries Act, 1892.

SCHEDULES.

Section 3.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

REGULATIONS for ascertaining the opinion of the voters in a library district.

In these regulations the expression "presiding officer" means, in relation to any library district, the authority required under this Act to ascertain the opinion of the voters in that district on any question, or a person appointed by that authority, and that authority is referred to in these regulations as the "district authority."

PART I.—PROCEDURE BY VOTING PAPERS.

1. The district authority shall, before the day appointed for the issuing of the voting papers, provide the presiding officer with a copy of the burgess roll or county register, as the case may be, or of the part or parts thereof containing the names of all the voters in the library district.

2. On the day appointed for issuing the voting papers the presiding officer shall send by post or cause to be delivered to every voter at his address appearing in the roll or register a voting paper in the form contained in Part II. of this schedule or to the like effect.

3. Every voting paper shall bear the number of the voter on the roll or register, as the case may be, and shall contain directions to the voter, in accordance with these regulations, as to the day on which and the hours within which the voting paper is to be collected or sent, and as to the place at which, if sent, it will be received.

4. The district authority shall, before the issue of the voting papers, appoint such a number of competent persons as may be necessary to collect and receive the voting papers and to assist in the scrutiny thereof on such terms and for such remuneration as may be reasonable, and shall also appoint a convenient place within the district at which the voting papers are to be received, but the district authority shall not be required to collect any voting papers which have been sent by them to addresses beyond the limits of the district.

5. Voting papers shall be collected between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. of the third day after that on which they were issued. Such day is herein-after in these regulations referred to as the polling day, and such last-mentioned hour is herein-after referred to as the "conclusion of the poll."

6. A voting paper shall not after collection be delivered up to any person except the presiding officer or a person appointed to receive voting papers.

7. The persons appointed to collect the voting papers shall, either before or as soon as may be after the conclusion of the poll, deliver the voting papers collected by them to the presiding officer or to a person appointed to receive the same.

8. A voting paper may be sent by prepaid post or by hand to the presiding officer at the place appointed by the district authority for the receipt thereof, so that it be received by the presiding officer at such appointed place before the conclusion of the poll. Voting papers, except those collected by persons appointed by the district authority, shall not be received at the appointed place after the conclusion of the poll.

9. Every person appointed to collect voting papers shall be appointed in writing by the district authority, and shall carry such writing with him while employed in the collection, and shall show it to any voter who may require him to do so. If any person so appointed fails to comply with this regulation, or if any unauthorised person fraudulently receives or induces any voter to part with a voting paper, such person shall be guilty of a

misdemeanor, and liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to a fine not exceeding twenty pounds, or to both imprisonment and fine.

10. A voting paper which contains the answer "yes" or "no" to any question put to the voters and is duly signed shall be deemed to be a valid voting paper with respect to that question.

A voting paper shall be deemed to be duly signed if signed by the voter with his full name or ordinary signature.

11. Where any voter is unable to write he may cause his voting paper to be filled up by another person. In such case he shall attach his mark to the voting paper, and such mark shall be attested by such other person, who shall sign his name and append his address thereto. A voting paper to which such mark is attached, and which is duly attested, shall be deemed to be duly signed.

12. Any person fabricating a voting paper, or presenting or returning a fabricated voting paper, knowing that the same does not bear the true answer or signature of the voter to whom it was sent or intended to be sent, shall be guilty of personation, and liable to the penalties of that offence, as provided by the Ballot Act, 1872.

13. The presiding officer shall, as soon as may be after the conclusion of the poll, proceed to a scrutiny of the voting papers, and shall compare the same with his copy of the roll or register, and ascertain how far the voting papers have been duly signed by the voters. 35 & 36 Vict. c. 33.

14. A question put to the voters shall be deemed to be answered and determined in the affirmative or negative, according as the majority of valid voting papers returned contain the answer "yes" or "no" to that question.

15. Immediately on the conclusion of the scrutiny the presiding officer shall report to the district authority the number of voters who have voted "yes" and "no" respectively to each question put to them, and the number of voting papers which are invalid.

16. The presiding officer shall seal up in separate packets the valid and the invalid voting papers respectively, and shall transmit them, together with his report, to the district authority.

17. Upon receiving the report of the presiding officer the district authority shall cause the result of the poll to be made public in such manner as they think fit.

PART II.—FORM OF VOTING PAPER.

Public Libraries Act, 1892.

BOROUGH (Parish or other Library District) of

No. (Here insert number of voter in burgess roll or county register, as the case may be.)

Question 1 -	Are you in favour of the adoption of the Public Libraries Act, 1892, for the borough (*or* parish, *&c.*) of .	Answer 1. (*To be filled in* "Yes" *or* "No.")	[*To be omitted if Libraries Act already adopted.*]
Question 2 -	Are you in favour of the rate being limited to one halfpenny in the pound? (*Or* to three farthings, *or* of the existing limitation of the rate under the Public Libraries Act, 1892, being removed, *or* of the existing limitation to one halfpenny being raised to three farthings, *as the case may require.*)	Answer 2. (*To be filled in* "Yes" *or* "No.")	[*To be omitted if no question stated in the requisition as to limitation of rate.*]

[*To be omitted if no such question raised.*]	Question 3 -	Are you in favour of an agreement being made with (*here designate the body or bodies, according to section ten or section sixteen of this Act*) for the purpose of (*briefly state objects of proposed agreement*).	Answer 3. (*To be filled in* "Yes" *or* "No.")

Signature of Voter.

Note.

1. This voting paper will be collected by an authorised collector between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. on day, the 18 (*insert polling day*), or may be sent by prepaid post or by hand, addressed to (*state name or designation of presiding officer, and place appointed by the district authority*). If it is sent it must be received at that address before 8 p.m. on the above-mentioned day.

2. You may require the collector to show his authority in writing. No authority is valid unless it is (signed by *A.B.*, *or* sealed, or *as the district authority may direct*).

Section 28.

SECOND SCHEDULE.

ACTS REPEALED.

Session and Chapter.	Short Title.
18 & 19 Vict. c. 70.	The Public Libraries Act, 1855.
29 & 30 Vict. c. 114. -	The Public Libraries Amendment Act (England and Scotland), 1866.
34 & 35 Vict. c. 71. -	The Public Libraries Act, 1855, Amendment Act, 1871.
47 & 48 Vict. c. 37. -	The Public Libraries Act, 1884.
50 & 51 Vict. c. 22. -	The Public Libraries Acts Amendment Act, 1887.
52 & 53 Vict. c. 9. -	The Public Libraries Acts Amendment Act, 1889.
53 & 54 Vict. c. 68. -	The Public Libraries Acts Amendment Act, 1890.

CHAPTER 54.

An Act to facilitate the provision of Allotments for the Labouring Classes in Scotland. [28th June 1892.]

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 as the Allotments (Scotland) Act, 1892.