or officer sitting alone or with others at some court or other place appointed for the administration of justice for the time being empowered by law to do alone any act authorised to be done by more than one justice of the peace;

In Scotland, in accordance with the provisions of the Summary Procedure Act, 1864, and of any Act or Acts amending the same; and 27 & 28 Vict. c. 53.

In Ireland, within the police district of Dublin metropolis in accordance with the provisions of the Acts regulating the powers and duties of justices of the peace for such district, or of the police of such district, and elsewhere in Ireland in accordance with the provisions of the Petty Sessions (Ireland) Act, 1851, and any Act amending or affecting the same. 14 & 15 Vict. c. 93.

CHAPTER 35.

An Act to remit certain Loans made by the Exchequer Loan Commissioners and the Public Works Loan Commissioners, and by the Irish Exchequer Loan Commissioners and the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland. [24th July 1879.]

WHEREAS certain loans at the expense of the Consolidated Fund have been made by the Exchequer Loan Commissioners or the Public Works Loan Commissioners for the objects mentioned in the first part of the Schedule to this Act, and by the Irish Exchequer Loan Commissioners or the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for the objects mentioned in the second part of that Schedule, and in respect of each of those loans the amount mentioned in the fifth column of that Schedule, together with interest, is unpaid, and is due to the said Commissioners on behalf of the Consolidated Fund:

And whereas no further sums can be recovered, either by way of principal or interest, in respect of the said loans, and it is inexpedient to keep open for any further period the account of such loans:

And whereas it is also inexpedient to keep open for any further period the account of the loss arising from the forged Certificate for an Exchequer Bill mentioned in the third part of the said Schedule:

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 as the Public Loans Remission Act, 1879.

Extinguishment of debts in Schedule.

2. The debts due in respect of the loans mentioned in the first and second parts of the Schedule to this Act, whether granted by the Exchequer Loan Commissioners or the Public Works Loan Commissioners, or by the Irish Exchequer Loan Commissioners or the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, and all arrears of interest thereon, shall, after the passing of this Act, be extinguished, and the amount of the debt so extinguished shall be considered as a free grant from Parliament.

The account of the forged Certificate for an Exchequer Bill mentioned in the third part of the Schedule to this Act shall be closed.

SCHEDULE.

Note.—In the following Schedule "general Acts" means the general Acts conferring powers on the Exchequer Loan Commissioners and Public Works Loan Commissioners.

PART ONE.

Loans by Exchequer Loan Commissioners or Public Works Loan Commissioners.

Objects of Advance. 1.	Acts under which Advance was made. 2.	Amount Advanced. 3.	Amount Repaid. 4.	Principal Outstanding. 5.	Account of Advance and Reason for Remission. 6.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
(1.) SALTASH Floating Bridge.	General Acts -	3,700 0 0	485 18 9	3,214 1 3	The sum was advanced in 1834 towards completing a bridge across the river Tamar. In the following year 185*l.* was repaid for principal. Afterwards the Commissioners took possession of the work, and sold it in 1839–40. The net proceeds of the sale amounted to 300*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* No interest has ever been paid.
(2.) TAY Ferries -	59 Geo. 3. c. cxiii. (Local). 3 Geo. 4. c. lvii. (Local). 4 Geo. 4. c. lxxxviii. 6 & 7 Vict. c. lxxxiv. (Local).	32,200 0 0	30,257 12 8	1,942 7 4	The sum of 25,000*l.* was advanced between 1823 and 1825. The Commissioners took possession in 1842. In 1843 they advanced an additional sum of 7,200*l.* In 1845 they transferred their mortgages to the Dundee Banking Company in consideration of a sum down. The result of this sale and of the receipts from tolls while the Commissioners were in possession was that the sum of 25,000*l.* was considered to be paid off with interest, and the sum of 7,200*l.* was reduced to 1,942*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* The Act 6 & 7 Vict. c. 84., regulating the property, expired in 1874.
(3.) NORWICH AND LOWESTOFT Navigation.	General Acts -	54,000 0 0	10,720 16 4	43,279 3 8	The loan was advanced in 1832-35 towards completing the sea entrance at Lowestoft, and towards connecting the Rivers Yare and Waveney. The Commissioners took possession of the undertaking, and, in 1842, sold it. They also sued the directors for misapplying the loan. The sums recovered and the net proceeds of the sale were the only sums ever repaid. No interest has ever been paid.
(4.) CHURCHES: (*a.*) *Leighton Buzzard.*	5 Geo. 4. c. 36.	2,000 0 0	200 0 0	1,800 0 0	The loan was advanced for the repair of the church in 1840 on security of the church rate. During the next two years the instalments of principal were repaid, together with interest. The rate was then resisted on the ground of an informality in the mortgage deed, and the Commissioners were advised that they could not enforce the mortgage.

Objects of Advance. 1.	Acts under which Advance was made. 2.	Amount Advanced. 3.	Amount Repaid. 4.	Principal Outstanding. 5.	Account of Advance and Reason for Remission. 6.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
(*b.*) *Minwere, Pembrokeshire.*	5 Geo. 4. c. 36. 7 Geo. 4. c. 30.	600 0 0	Nil.	600 0 0	The sum was advanced in 1843 towards building the church. The interest charged was five per cent., in consequence of the interest to be charged by the Commissioners having been raised from four to five per cent. by 7 Geo. 4. c. 30. s. 2, but in consequence of 5 Geo. 4. c. 36. not having been recited in the later Act raising the interest it was considered that the Commissioners had no power to charge more than four per cent. It appears to have been considered that this prevented the Commissioners from recovering the principal, and no principal or interest has ever been paid.
(*c.*) *Slebech, Pembrokeshire.*	5 Geo. 4. c. 36. 7 Geo. 4. c. 30.	1,250 0 0	187 10 0	1,062 10 0	The loan was advanced in 1839 towards rebuilding the church. The instalments of principal were repaid for three years, after which the same objection was taken as in the case of Minwere.
(*d.*) *Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire.*	5 Geo. 4. c. 36. 7 Geo. 4. c. 30.	400 0 0	151 3 11	248 16 1	The loan was advanced in 1831 in aid of the repairs of the church. The instalments of principal were repaid for 16 years, but in 1847 the same objection was taken as in the case of Minwere.
(*e.*) *Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire.*	5 Geo. 4. c. 36. 7 Geo. 4. c. 30.	300 0 0	30 0 0	270 0 0	The loan was advanced in 1843 for enlarging the church. A similar objection was taken to that in Minwere and only two instalments have been repaid.
(5.) STRANRAER Harbour, Wigtonshire.	General Acts -	2,0 00 0 0	950 0 0	1,050 0 0	The loan was advanced in 1817 towards the formation of a pier, and was secured on dues leviable under the authority of a royal charter of 1617 by the magistrates and council of the town. The instalments of principal were repaid for five years, after which the power of levying the dues was contested and decided in the sheriff court against the magistrates and council. The balance has remained outstanding ever since, and no interest has been paid upon it.
(6.) SOUTHEND Pier.	General Acts -	16,000 0 0	15,600 0 0	400 0 0	The loan was advanced between 1843–45 towards the construction of a pier at Southend. The Commissioners took possession of the pier and sold it in 1851, thereby recovering 14,000*l.* The balance had been privately guaranteed, and a sum of 1,600*l.* was accepted as a composition for the amount due from the sureties.
(7.) DEAL Fishery	General Acts -	1,500 0 0	836 18 6	663 1 6	The loan was advanced in 1818 to W. Pittock of Deal to assist him in catching and curing herrings. After repayment of some instalments he became bankrupt, and a portion only of the balance was recovered.
(8.) HECKBRIDGE AND WENTBRIDGE Railway.	General Acts -	7,600 0 0	2,908 10 7	4,691 9 5	The sum was advanced in 1827 for the construction of a railway which was intended to serve for the conveyance of a certain kind of freestone. The Commissioners took possession, and sold the rails, &c. The proceeds of the sale are the only amount recovered. No interest has ever been paid.

Objects of Advance. 1.	Acts under which Advance was made. 2.	Amount Advanced. 3.	Amount Repaid. 4.	Principal Outstanding. 5.	Account of Advance and Reason for Remission. 6.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
(9.) ROADS: (*a.*) *Acle and Yarmouth.*	11 Geo. 4. c. 39.	2,000 0 0	1,298 13 6	701 6 6	The loan was advanced in 1833 for making a turnpike road from Great Yarmouth to Acle on security of the tolls. During the first two or three years a sum of 300*l.* was repaid for principal, besides 287*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* for interest. In 1842 the Commissioners took possession, and collected the tolls, and ultimately sold them for 1,000*l.*, the net proceeds amounting to 998*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*
(*b.*) *Shiel and Loch Moidart.*	General Acts -	200 0 0	125 0 0	75 0 0	The loan was advanced in 1847 to Mr. Coll McDonald for completing a road from the bridge of Shiel to the sea in Loch Moidart. No principal or interest has been received since 1852. Mr. McDonald's estate was sold, and all trace of him lost.
(*c.*) *Gatton and Povey Cross.*	56 Geo. 3. c. 30.	5,500 0 0	Nil.	5,500 0 0	The loan was advanced in 1817–18 for making a new road between Gatton Lodge and Povey Cross in Surrey, so as to shorten the route between London and the sea coast, and was lent on the security of the tolls. In 1821 the Commissioners took possession, and applied the net balance of the tolls in part payment of the interest. In 1850 the Act was specially excepted from the Turnpikes Act Continuance Act, so that the tolls, the security for the loan, ceased.
(*d.*) *Eccleshill and Bradford.*	6 Geo. 4. c. 42.	3,000 0 0	Nil.	3,000 0 0	The loan was advanced in 1826 for making a turnpike road from Bradford to the neighbouring hamlet of Eccleshill, on security of the tolls. The road was expected to open out communication with some stone quarries, and to be a remunerative means of finding employment for the poor, who were in great distress owing to the state of the woollen trade. The tolls were insufficient to cover the current expenses, and in 1852 the Act authorising them was excepted from the Turnpikes Act Continuance Act, and consequently the tolls ceased. No interest has ever been paid.
(*e.*) *Doncaster and Selby.*	1 & 2 Will. 4. c. 86.	14,000 0 0	8,972 5 0	5,027 15 0	The loan was advanced in 1832 for making a turnpike road between Doncaster and Selby, on the security of the tolls. The Commissioners took possession in 1841, and in 1852, with the permission of the Treasury, gave up charging interest, and the net receipts were applied in gradually liquidating the principal. In 1877, notwithstanding the objections of the Commissioners, the Act authorising the tolls was included, in the Schedule to 40 & 41 Vict. c. 64., among the Acts to expire on the following 1st of November. Consequently the tolls, the security for the loan, ceased. At that time 5,392*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* remained unpaid, which has been reduced by the net proceeds of the sale of the toll-houses, viz., 364*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*
(10.) COURTOWN Harbour.	General Acts	17,000 0 0	11,000 0 0	6,000 0 0	Three loans were made between 1828 and 1838 for the improvement of the harbour. The second and third were secured collaterally by bonds of the principal landowners, and were repaid, with interest, by the sureties. The first loan of 6,000*l.* was secured solely on the tolls and dues, and is still outstanding. No interest has ever been paid upon it, and the average expenditure of the harbour exceeds the receipts.

Objects of Advance. 1.	Acts under which Advance was made. 2.	Amount Advanced. 3.	Amount Repaid. 4.	Principal Outstanding. 5.	Account of Advance and Reason for Remission. 6.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
(11.) WATERFORD, NEW ROSS, AND WEXFORD Railway.	General Acts -	60,000 0 0	35,328 13 3	24,671 6 9	50,000*l.* was advanced in 1868–9 to the company in aid of the construction of a line from Bagenalstown Station on the Great Southern and Western Railway to Machmine on the Dublin, Wicklow, and Wexford Railway, so as to effect a junction between the two southern railway systems, and a further sum of 10,000*l.* was advanced in 1870 to extend the undertaking. In 1875, 702*l.* having been paid in respect of principal and a very inadequate sum by way of interest, the Commissioners took possession, and put up the undertaking to auction. There were no bidders, and they held the railway for a year, when it was sold for 40,000*l.*, pursuant to the Act 39 & 40 Vict. c. xcviii. (Local), the net sum received being 34,626*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*
(12.) CORK AND BALLYHOOLY Road.	6 Geo. 4. c. xcvi. (Local.)	12,000 0 0	600 0 0	11,400 0 0	The loan was advanced in 1827 (on security of the tolls) for making a road from Cork to Ballyhooly, whence it was to be continued towards Dublin. One instalment of principal was repaid, and a sum of 480*l.* for interest. No other sum has been received. The road is now maintained by the county, and no tolls are levied. The loan was collaterally secured by personal bonds from different landowners, but in 1842 the Government acquiesced in the Loan Commissioners not attempting to enforce those bonds, and lapse of time would appear to make it impossible now to do so.
Total -	- - -	235,250 0 0	119,653 2 6	115,596 17 6	

PART TWO.

Loans by Irish Exchequer Loan Commissioners or Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland.

(1.) YOUGHAL Bridge.	9 Geo. 4. c. 53.	10,000 0 0	222 2 3	9,777 17 9	The loan was advanced in 1830 for building a bridge across the river Blackwater near Youghal. In 1867 the Act 30 & 31 Vict. c. 57. was passed, authorising the grand juries of the counties of Cork and Waterford to take over the bridge, and providing for the composition of the debt for a sum of 2,500*l.* The grand juries refused to take over the bridge, and by 36 & 37 Vict. cc. 46 & 47, the grand juries were authorised to take over the bridge on payment only of the value of the materials and works of the bridge. They have agreed to do so, and the value has been assessed at 222*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*
(2.) SHANNON Navigation.	5 & 6 Will. 4. c. 67. 2 & 3 Vict. c. 61.	294,090 0 0	281,453 7 2	662 1 8 153 7 1 11,821 4 1	The loan was advanced for improving the navigation of the river Shannon, in addition to a grant of 290,717*l.* The loan was to be repaid by the counties interested through grand jury presentments, and by certain proprietors or districts interested in Piers on the Lower Shannon.

Objects of Advance. 1.	Acts under which Advance was made. 2.	Amount Advanced. 3.	Amount Repaid. 4.	Principal Outstanding. 5.	Account of Advance and Reason for Remission. 6.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	The sum of 662*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* was allocated to Mr. Scott for Cahercon. His estate was sold, but the charge of the loan on his estate was informal, and the sum became therefore irrecoverable. Lord Monteagle promised to contribute to Foynes Harbour a sum of 4,250*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, for which he transferred 4,500*l.* consols to the Commissioners. These consols were sold when the market was low, and consequently the amount realised by the sale was insufficient to pay the whole of the sum, and Lord Monteagle declined to pay the deficiency (153*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*) on the ground that the consols were sold without his concurrence. The sum of 11,821*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* was allocated for works on the Lower Shannon, which were not executed in consequence of the failure of localities and individuals to guarantee this portion of the cost, and the sum was appropriated, by permission of the Treasury, towards urgent works on the Upper Shannon, but could not be recovered from the counties in consequence of there being no power to increase the assessment upon the counties.
(3.) CLONAKILTY Drainage, Slob Lands.	5 & 6 Vict. c. 89. 9 & 10 Vict. c. 4.	11,734 5 10	2,217 6 1	9,516 19 9	The larger part of the loan was advanced for reclaiming the slob lands (an area of about 300 acres), a work undertaken during the Irish famine. Difficulties arose in disposing of the land reclaimed, and in 1866 the Commissioners spent 660*l.* in fencing and improving the sluices. The property has been offered for sale to the adjacent proprietors and to the neighbouring tenantry, but no offer was obtained. The property has now been sold for 2,000*l.* There is no security for the rest of the loan.
Total	- - -	315,824 5 10	283,892 15 6	31,931 10 4	
PART THREE.					
Forged Certificate for an Exchequer Bill.	—	—	—	14,000 0 0	The sum was lost through the Assistant Secretary of the Commissioners in 1842 altering a certificate for an Exchequer Bill from 400*l.* to 14,400*l.*, and absconding with the 14,000*l.* The sum has been retained among outstanding balances, although it was not a loan and was never recoverable.