# CHAPTER 31.

An Act to grant Money for the purpose of Loans by the Public Works Loan Commissioners, and to amend the Public Works Loans Act, 1875.

[24th July 1876.]

WHEREAS by the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, the Public Works Loan Commissioners are authorised to make loans for the purposes therein mentioned, and it is expedient to grant the money herein-after mentioned for the purposes of such loans:

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:

*Preliminary.*

**1.** This Act may be cited as the Public Works Loans (Money) Act, 1876. Short title.

**2.** This Act shall come into operation on the first day of July one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six. Commencement of Act.

*Issue of Money for Loans.*

**3.** For the purpose of loans by the Public Works Loan Commissioners any sum or sums not exceeding in the whole four million pounds may be issued out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, or the growing produce thereof, in manner provided by the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, during the period ending on the thirtieth day of June one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven, or on any earlier day at which a further Act authorises the issue. Grant of 4,000,000*l.* for loans during the period ending the 30th of June 1877.

The Treasury may, in the manner and subject to the limitations provided by the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, borrow the said sum or any part thereof.

*Amendment to Public Works Loans Act, 1875.*

**4.** Whereas by section fifty-six of the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, it was provided that that Act should apply only to loans granted after the commencement thereof, and that the Loan Commissioners should have the same power of making further advances on any mortgage made before the commencement of that Act, and otherwise as therein mentioned, as they would have had under the Acts repealed by that Act if they had not been repealed, but such advances were to be made out of moneys issued under that Act: Application of section fifty-six of 38 & 39 Vict. c. 89. to loan, Portpatrick, and Belfast and County Down Railways, under 31 & 32 Vict. c. 81.

And whereas by a special Act, namely, the Act of the session of the thirty-first and thirty-second years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter eighty-one, intituled "An "Act to authorise Loans of Public Money to the Portpatrick and the Belfast and County "Down Railway Companies, and a Payment to the Portpatrick Company in consequence "of the abandonment of the communication between Donaghadee and Portpatrick," after reciting that the Portpatrick Railway Company and the Belfast and County Down Railway Company had, under the circumstances therein mentioned, just and fair claims to the consideration of Parliament, and for the adjustment thereof it had been agreed that such claims should be settled and arranged as therein-after provided, it was enacted that the said railway companies might borrow on mortgage, and the Public Works Loan Commissioners might advance, the sums therein mentioned, on the security and at the rate and for the period therein mentioned:

And whereas the larger portion of the said sums have been advanced to the said companies in pursuance of the said special Act, but doubts have arisen whether the residue of the said sums can be advanced by the Commissioners as further advances under section fifty-six of the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, and it is expedient, with a view to the complete execution of the settlement effected by the said special Act, to authorise such advances: Be it therefore enacted as follows:

The Public Works Loan Commissioners shall have the same power of making further advances to the said Railway Companies in pursuance of the said special Act as they would have had under that Act if the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, had not been passed, but such advances shall be made out of money issued under the Public Works Loans Act, 1875.

Removal of doubt as to power to advance money for Colombo Harbour under 37 & 38 Vict. c. 24.

**5.** Whereas by the Harbour of Colombo Act, 1874, the Public Works Loan Commissioners are empowered to advance to the government of the colony of Ceylon, in manner therein mentioned, loans for improving the harbour of Colombo in that colony.

And whereas by the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, the Public Works Loan Commissioners have power to make loans for the purpose of the works mentioned in the first schedule to that Act (among which works harbours are included), and not for other purposes, but doubts have arisen whether they have power to make further advances for improving the harbour of Colombo in pursuance of the Harbour of Colombo Loan Act, 1874, and it is expedient to remove such doubts: Be it therefore enacted as follows:

The Public Works Loan Commissioners shall have the same power of making advances to the government of the colony of Ceylon in pursuance of the Harbour of Colombo Loan Act, 1874, as they would have had if the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, had not been passed, and such advances shall be made out of moneys issued under the Public Works Loans Act, 1875.

Explanation of 38 & 39 Vict. c. 89. s. 33. as to reduction of interest on loans to sanitary authorities.

**6.** Whereas by section thirty-three of the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, it is enacted that every sum payable in respect of a loan by the Loan Commissioners shall be compounded for and released only under the authority of Parliament in each case, and doubts have arisen whether the said enactment prevents the reduction of interest in accordance with section two hundred and forty-three of the Public Health Act, 1875, and section three of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1867, Amendment Act, 1875, on loans to a local authority in pursuance of the Sanitary Acts, and it is expedient to remove such doubts, and to authorise the Loan Commissioners to reduce the interest on loans made before the commencement of the Public Works Loans Act, 1875: Be it therefore enacted as follows:

The Public Works Loan Commissioners may, on or before the 31st July 1876, if they think it expedient, with the consent of the Treasury, reduce the interest payable on any loan made before the commencement of the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, to any rate not less than four per centum per annum: Provided always, that nothing in the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, shall be deemed to take away or abridge the power of the Loan Commissioners under section two hundred and forty-three of the Public Health Act, 1875, and section three of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1867, Amendment Act, 1875, to reduce, if they think fit, any interest payable on any such loan to a local authority as is in those sections mentioned.

38 & 39 Vict. c. 55.
38 & 39 Vict. c. 74.

Explanation of ss. 18, 50, of 38 & 39 Vict. c. 89.

**7.** Whereas by sections eighteen and fifty of the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, provisions are made for the application of that Act notwithstanding any special Act or any rule of law or custom, and doubts have arisen whether such provisions extend to any Act relating to a person having power to borrow money from the Public Works Loan Commissioners, and it is expedient to remove such doubts: Be it therefore enacted as follows:

Sections eighteen and fifty of the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, shall be construed as if "special Act" in those sections included any Act relating to any person having power to borrow money from the Public Works Loan Commissioners.

Issue of 17,551*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.* for the purpose of adjustment of accounts prior to the 1st day of April 1876.

**8.** Whereas on the first day of April one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six (on which day the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, came into operation) divers Acts relating to the Public Works Loan Commissioners ceased to be in force, and large sums previously issuable in pursuance of the said Acts, for the purpose of loans by the Public Works Loan Commissioners ceased to be issuable, and for the purpose of the adjustment of the accounts of the moneys issued and loans advanced in pursuance of the said Acts,

it is expedient to authorise the issue of the sum herein-after mentioned: Be it therefore enacted as follows:

With a view to the adjustment of accounts of money issued for loans by the Public Works Loan Commissioners prior to the first day of April one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, the Treasury may, out of the moneys authorised by this Act to be issued for the purpose of loans by the Public Works Loan Commissioners, issue the sum of seventeen thousand five hundred and fifty-one pounds nine shillings and one penny, to make good money applied prior to the first day of April one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, for the purpose of loans by the Public Works Loan Commissioners.

## CHAPTER 32.

An Act to amend the Friendly Societies Act, 1875. [24th July 1876.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend on some points the Friendly Societies Act, 1875:

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:

Construction of Act. Short title.

**1.** This Act shall be construed as one with the Friendly Societies Act, 1875, (herein termed "the principal Act,") and may be cited as "The Friendly Societies Amendment Act, 1876," or together with the principal Act as "The Friendly Societies Acts."

Meaning of "Treasury regulations."

**2.** In this Act the term "Treasury regulations" means any regulations made and approved by the Treasury and for the time being in force under and by virtue of the principal Act.

Conversion of registered societies into branches.

**3.** With respect to the conversion of registered societies into branches the following provisions shall have effect:

(1.) A society registered before the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six may, by a resolution passed by three fourths of the members or delegates present and entitled to vote at any general meeting, of which notice specifying the intention to propose such resolution has been duly given according to the rules, determine to become a branch under the Friendly Societies Acts of any other registered society, and also, if thought fit, of any registered branch thereof; and if the rules of such society do not comply with all the provisions of the principal Act and of the Treasury regulations in respect of the registry of branches, the meeting at which such resolution is passed may amend such rules so as to bring the same in compliance with the principal Act and with the Treasury regulations.

(2.) A copy of the rules of such first-mentioned society marked to show the amendments, if any, made at such meeting, and two copies of such resolution as aforesaid, and of such amendment of rules, if any, each signed by the chairman of the meeting and by the secretary of the society so determining to become a branch of any other society, and countersigned by the secretary of such other society, shall be sent to the registrar, and if the registrar finds that such rules, with or without such amendment as aforesaid, comply with the provisions of the Act and of the Treasury regulations, he shall cancel the registry of such first-mentioned society and register the same as a branch of such other society, and also, if so specified in the resolution before mentioned, of any branch of such other society, without further request or notice, and shall register such amendment of rules without further application or evidence, and until such registry such resolution as aforesaid shall not take effect.

(3.) No advertisement of any cancelling of registry under this section shall be requisite.

(4.) The rules of a society which becomes a branch under this section shall, so far as the same are not contrary to any express provision of the principal Act or of the Treasury regulations, and subject to any amendment thereof as hereinbefore provided, continue in force as the rules of such branch until amended.