Definition of word "disputes."

2. The word "disputes" in the Building Societies Acts, or in the rules of any society thereunder, shall be deemed to refer only to disputes between the society and a member, or any representative of a member in his capacity of a member of the society, unless by the rules for the time being it shall be otherwise expressly provided; and, in the absence of such express provision, shall not apply to any dispute between any such society and any member thereof, or other person whatever, as to the construction or effect of any mortgage deed, or any contract contained in any document, other than the rules of the society, and shall not prevent any society, or any member thereof, or any person claiming through or under him, from obtaining in the ordinary course of law any remedy in respect of any such mortgage or other contract to which he or the society would otherwise be by law entitled: Provided always, that nothing in this Act shall apply to any dispute pending at any time before the passing of this Act between any such society and any member thereof, or other person, which before the passing of this Act shall have been actually referred, or agreed to be referred, to arbitration, or as to which the jurisdiction of any court of law shall have been adjudged to be excluded by a decision of any court of competent jurisdiction in an action or suit between the society and any member thereof or other person.

CHAPTER 42.

An Act to amend the Sheriff Court Houses Act, 1860.

[7th August 1884.]

23 & 24 Vict. c. 79.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Sheriff Court Houses Act, 1860, herein-after called the principal Act:

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 Sheriff Court Houses (Scotland) Amendment Act, 1884.

Construction and short title.

2. The principal Act, and an Act passed in the twenty-ninth and thirtieth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An "Act to amend certain provisions of the Sheriff Court Houses (Scot-"land) Act, 1860," and this Act, shall be read and construed together, and may be cited as the Sheriff Court Houses (Scotland) Acts, 1860 to 1884.

Acts may be applied more than once to the same court house or county.

3. Where a representation is made to the Secretary of State under section three of the principal Act, it shall not be any objection to such representation that a previous representation with respect to the same court house or with respect to the court house accommodation in the same county has been made and proceeded with.

Representation to be communicated to Chief Commissioner of Works and Treasury.

4. Before the Secretary of State intimates his opinion to the Commissioners of Supply on any representation made to him under the principal Act in terms of section four of the said Act, he shall transmit such representation to the First Commissioner of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings for his report thereon, and

on receiving such report shall transmit it to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury for their observations.

Liability of Treasury not to exceed half of estimated cost of construction.

5. Whereas it is provided by section fifteen of the principal Act that it shall be lawful for the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to pay one half of the total expense of the erection or improvement of any court house under the provisions of the said Act; it is hereby declared that such payment shall be limited to one half of the estimated expense according to the estimate approved of by the said Commissioners in terms of section eleven of the said Act, and any excess over such estimate shall be defrayed out of the court house assessments, unless such excess has been expressly sanctioned by the said Commissioners, in which case one half thereof shall be paid by them: Provided that in case of any court house regulated by a special Act or Acts, such excess may be defrayed in the manner provided in such Act or Acts for defraying the expense of such court house.

Repeal of 23 & 24 Vict. c. 79. s. 16. Treasury to pay a fixed annual sum for maintenance.

6. Section sixteen of the principal Act, providing that the expenses of managing and keeping in repair the court houses erected or improved under the provisions of the said Act shall be paid by the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, shall be repealed, and from and after the passing of this Act it shall be lawful for the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to contribute towards the expense of maintaining, managing, and keeping in repair, and of cleaning, lighting, and warming any court house within the meaning of the principal Act, whether erected prior or subsequently to the date of the said Act, including the salaries or wages of porters, hall-keepers, and other incidental annual disbursements, out of moneys to be provided by Parliament, such fixed annual sum as may from time to time appear to them to be sufficient for that purpose, having regard to the average of the amounts actually disbursed under the said several heads during the past three years if the court has been opened so long for the despatch of business, and to the average expenditure in other court houses of similar extent, and to the age and existing state of repair of the buildings.

If there is any excess of expenditure under the said several heads over such fixed annual sum, such excess, unless specially sanctioned by the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, shall be defrayed by the county (or, in the case of the county of Lanark, by the district of the county, as the same is divided by the principal Act) and the burgh or burghs situated therein, in the proportion of their respective valuations for the time being according to the valuation roll, and, in the case of the county or district, the same shall be paid out of the county general assessment levied therein, and, in the case of the burgh or burghs, out of any police assessment levied therein: Provided that in the case of any court house regulated by a special Act or Acts, such excess shall be defrayed in the manner provided in such Act or Acts for defraying the expense of such court house.

Government inspector.

7. It shall be lawful for the First Commissioner of Works to depute an officer from time to time to inspect any court house towards the cost or maintenance of which a contribution is made from public funds, in order to see that the money is properly expended and the buildings are kept in proper repair; and if it

shall appear to him that any repairs require to be executed, the Secretary of State shall have power, on receiving his report to that effect, to call upon the Commissioners of Supply or the persons in whom such court house is vested under any special Act or Acts to execute the same.

Liability in case of destruction by fire.

8. If any court house erected or improved under the Sheriff Court Houses Acts is destroyed or injured by fire after its completion, the Commissioners of Supply, or the persons in whom such court house is vested under any special Act or Acts, shall be bound to re-erect and restore the same, if required to do so by the Secretary of State, and the provisions of the Sheriff Court Houses (Scotland) Acts, 1860 to 1884, and any special Act or Acts relating to the court house so destroyed or injured, shall extend and apply to its re-erection or restoration in the same manner as if it were a court house to be erected or improved under the provisions of the said Acts.

Court house assessments under Local Acts may be levied with the county general assessment.

9. The Commissioners of Supply of any county authorised by any Local or Private Act of Parliament to impose any assessment for the purposes of or with reference to any court house or buildings for the accommodation of the sheriffs and justices of the peace, and for meetings of the Commissioners of Supply, may, notwithstanding anything in such Local or Private Act, impose, levy, and collect such assessment at the same time, and in the same manner, as the county general assessment.

CHAPTER 43.

An Act to repeal divers Enactments rendered unnecessary by the Summary Jurisdiction Acts and other Acts relating to Proceedings before Courts of Summary Jurisdiction, and to make further provision for the uniformity of Proceedings before those Courts. [7th August 1884.]

11 & 12 Vict. c. 43. 12 & 13 Vict. c. 45. 42 & 43 Vict. c. 49.

WHEREAS the Summary Jurisdiction Acts regulate the procedure before courts of summary jurisdiction and on appeals from those courts to courts of quarter sessions, and it is expedient to provide for uniformity of procedure in all such cases:

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 Summary Jurisdiction Act, 1884.

Commencement of Act.

2. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of December one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four.

Repeal of obsolete punishments for nonpayment of fines and other sums of money.

3. Whereas the Summary Jurisdiction Acts provide for the imprisonment of a person for the nonpayment in certain cases of a sum of money adjudged to be paid by the conviction or order of a court of summary jurisdiction, and it is expedient to repeal so much of any enactment as provides the punishment of whipping or any punishment other than imprisonment, with or without hard labour, provided for such nonpayment: Be it therefore enacted that—

So much of any Act as enacts that a person on nonpayment of a sum of money adjudged to be paid by the conviction or order of a