CHAPTER cxxxi.

An Act to vary and amend the Provisions of the South Staffordshire Mines Drainage Acts 1873 and 1878. A.D. 1882.

[12th July 1882.]

WHEREAS the South Staffordshire Mines Drainage Act 1873 (in this Act referred to as "the principal Act") was passed for the purpose of facilitating the drainage of mines in parts of South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire: 36 & 37 Vict. c. cl.

And whereas the South Staffordshire Mines Drainage Act 1878 (in this Act referred to as "the Act of 1878") was passed for the purpose of varying and amending the provisions of the principal Act; 41 & 42 Vict. c. lxxxi.

And whereas it is expedient that the provisions of the principal Act and the Act of 1878 in respect to the levying of rates for the drainage of mines should be varied and amended;

And whereas the object aforesaid cannot be attained without the authority of Parliament;

May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted and 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 (that is to say):

Title of Acts.

1. This Act may be cited as the South Staffordshire Mines Drainage Act 1882 and the principal Act and the Act of 1878 and this Act may be cited together as the South Staffordshire mines Drainage Acts 1873 to 1882.

Acts to be read together.

2. This Act and the principal Act and the Act of 1878 shall be construed together as one Act but this Act shall supersede the principal Act and the Act of 1878 in all cases where the provisions of the principal Act and of this Act conflict or where the provisions and powers of the principal Act or the Act of 1878 are amended or varied by this Act.

Interpretation.

3. In this Act the several words and expressions to which meanings are assigned by the principal Act or the Act of 1878 shall

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have the same respective meanings unless there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction.

Repealing part of Schedule II. of the principal Act.

4. The second part of Schedule II. to the principal Act is hereby repealed but every mines drainage rate made before the passing of this Act in accordance with the said second part of the said schedule shall be valid for the period for which such rate has been made.

Altering limit of mines drainage rate.

5. The provisions contained in the 43rd section of the principal Act and the 24th section of the Act of 1878 providing that the mines drainage rate shall not exceed in respect of each class of minerals mentioned in Schedule II. to the principal Act the amount specified in the second part of such schedule are hereby repealed but otherwise the provisions of the same sections respectively shall remain in full force and effect.

New schedule.

6. Every mines drainage rate which shall be assessed and levied by the Commissioners after the passing of this Act may in respect of each class of mineral mentioned in the schedule to this Act be of the amount specified in the same schedule but shall not exceed that amount.

Saving section 33 of Act of 1878.

7. Nothing in this Act shall be construed as repealing section 33 of the Act of 1878.

For the protection of the Claycroft Colliery.

8. Notwithstanding anything in this Act contained no higher rates than such as could have been levied under the principal Act and the Act of 1878 shall be levied on any coal or slack raised from any portion of the colliery known as the Claycroft Colliery situate in the parish of Sedgley.

Costs of Act.

9. The costs charges and expenses preliminary to and of and incidental to the preparing applying for obtaining and passing of this Act shall be paid by the Commissioners out of money borrowed by them or received by them from the rates authorised by the principal Act or this Act.

SCHEDULE.

Class 1.—For every ton of fire-clay raised threepence.

Class 2.—For every ton of limestone raised threepence.

Class 3.—For every ton of ironstone raised ninepence.

Class 4.—For every ton of coal slack or other mineral raised not being fire-clay or limestone nine pence.

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