CHAPTER 56.

An Act to declare the Law relating to the Incorporation of Chartered Companies. [14th August 1884.]

WHEREAS by an Act of the first year of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter seventy-three, entitled "An Act for "better enabling Her Majesty to confer certain powers and im- "munities on trading and other companies," it was enacted that it should be lawful for Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, in any charter of incorporation to be thereafter granted to limit the duration thereof for any term or number of years, or for any other period whatsoever:

And whereas provision has in many charters of incorporation been made for the cessation of the privileges conferred by such charters after a limited time:

And whereas with a view of preventing the cessation of such privileges, supplemental charters and warrants and documents under the sign manual of Her Majesty have from time to time been granted, continuing for a further limited time the privileges granted by the said charters, or some of such privileges, and it is expedient to remove doubts with respect to such charters, warrants, and other documents:

Be it declared and 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:

Power of Her Majesty to renew terms of charters.

1. The enactment contained in the twenty-ninth section of the said Act of the first year of Her Majesty, chapter seventy-three, shall be construed as from the date thereof to have authorised and to authorise Her Majesty, by charter or by warrant or other writing under her sign-manual, from time to time, and whensoever to Her Majesty may have seemed or seem expedient, to extend or renew conditionally or unconditionally any term or number of years or other period for which any charter of incorporation granted by Her Majesty, or any privileges of such charter may for the time being be limited to endure.

CHAPTER 57.

An Act to extend certain Powers given by the Superannuation Act Amendment Act, 1873. [14th August 1884.]

22 Vict. c. 26.

WHEREAS by the Superannuation Act, 1859, it is enacted that for the purposes of that Act no person thereafter to be appointed shall be deemed to have served in the Permanent Civil Service of the State unless such person holds his appointment directly from the Crown, or has been admitted into the Civil Service with a certificate from the Civil Service Commissioners:

And whereas it appears that in several public departments of the State persons have been appointed since the passing of the said Act to established situations in the Civil Service not held directly from

the Crown, but that through inadvertence on the part of the heads of such departments, and without any default on the part of the persons so appointed, no steps were taken before their appointment to procure for them certificates from the Civil Service Commissioners:

And whereas with a view of relieving such persons from loss of the superannuation allowance or gratuities which they were led to expect when they entered the Civil Service, provision was made by the Superannuation Act Amendment Act, 1873, enabling the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, on applications by the heads of such departments, by order or warrant, to place such persons in the same position as regards their claim to a superannuation allowance or gratuity as they would have been in if they had been admitted into the Civil Service with a certificate from the Civil Service Commissioners: 36 & 37 Vict. c. 23.

And whereas a further provision to the like effect was made by the Superannuation (Post Office and War Office) Act, 1876, and the Superannuation Act, 1881: 39 & 40 Vict. c. 68. 44 & 45 Vict. c. 43.

And whereas the orders or warrants under the said Acts were required to be made before the terms therein mentioned which have now passed:

And whereas notwithstanding that most of the said persons have been relieved by orders or warrants made under the said Acts, some of them still remain for whom, owing to the failure of the heads of departments to make application within the time limited by the said Acts, or owing to other causes beyond their own control, relief has not been provided:

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:

1. This Act may be cited as the Superannuation Act, 1884. Short title.

2. (1.) The Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury may, if they think fit, at any time on application being made to them by the head of any public department of the State, declare by order or warrant that a person who has been appointed after the date of the Superannuation Act, 1859, and before the passing of this Act, to a situation in such department entitling persons appointed thereto with a certificate from the Civil Service Commissioners to superannuation allowance was appointed thereto without such a certificate through inadvertence on the part of the head of such department, and without any default on the part of the person so appointed, and every person with respect to whom such order or warrant is issued shall be in the same position as regards his claim to allowances under the Superannuation Act, 1859, as he would have been in if he had been appointed with a certificate from the Civil Service Commissioners. Power to Treasury to make order relieving person for want of certificate under 22 Vict. c. 26.

(2.) Every order or warrant made in pursuance of this Act shall be laid before Parliament in manner provided by the thirteenth section of the said Superannuation Act, 1859.

3. Where the regulations respecting an office which entitles or would, if he had continued to hold it, have entitled the holder to receive an allowance under the Superannuation Act, 1859, provide that a person appointed to such office must have held a professional Provision for addition of years to service in certain cases.

or other peculiar qualification for the number of years specified in the regulations, the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury may, if they think fit, in computing the amount of superannuation allowance to be granted under the Superannuation Act, 1859, to a person who holds or has at any time held such office, add the number of years so specified to the number of years that such person has actually served, provided that the minute adding that number of years shall be laid before Parliament.

CHAPTER 58.

An Act for amending the Prosecution of Offences Act, 1879. [14th August 1884.]

42 & 43 Vict. c. 22.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Prosecution of Offences Act, 1879 (in this Act referred to as 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 of Act.

1. This Act may be cited as the Prosecution of Offences Act, 1884, and this Act and the principal Act may be together cited as the Prosecution of Offences Acts, 1879 and 1884.

Solicitor of the Treasury to be Director of Public Prosecutions.

2. On and after the passing of this Act, all appointments made in pursuance of the principal Act are revoked, and the person for the time holding the office of Solicitor for the affairs of Her Majesty's Treasury shall be Director of Public Prosecutions, and perform the duties and have the powers of such Director.

39 & 40 Vict. c. 18.

Section three of the Treasury Solicitor Act, 1876, shall extend to authorise any assistant solicitor for the affairs of Her Majesty's Treasury to act on behalf of the said solicitor in his capacity of Director of Public Prosecutions.

Returns as to crimes by chief officer of police.

3. The chief officer of every police district in England shall, from time to time, give to the Director of Public Prosecutions information with respect to indictable offences alleged to have been committed within the district of such chief officer, and to the dealing with those offences, and the said information shall contain such particulars and be in such form as may be for the time being required by regulations under the principal Act.

Definitions of "police district" and "chief officer of police."

4. The expression "police district" means—

(1.) The city of London and the liberties thereof; and

(2.) The metropolitan police district; and

(3.) Any county or riding, parts, division, or liberty of a county or borough, town, or place maintaining a separate police force:

The expression "chief officer of police" means—

(1.) In the city of London the commissioner of police of the city; and

(2.) In the metropolitan police district the commissioner or any assistant commissioner of the police of the metropolis or any district superintendent of the metropolitan police force; and

(3.) Elsewhere the chief constable, or head constable, or other officer, by whatever name called, having the chief command of the police in a police district as defined by this Act.