CHAP. 17.

An Act for making further provision relating to the Management of certain Departments of the War Office. [20th June 1870.]

WHEREAS previously to the date of the Act next herein-after mentioned divers duties relating to the administration of ordnance, munitions of war, and military stores, were performed by certain officers, styled the principal officers of Ordnance:

And whereas by the Act of the session of the eighteenth and nineteenth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter one hundred and seventeen, intituled "An Act for "transferring to one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State the powers and "estates vested in the principal officers of the Ordnance," all the duties hitherto performed by the said principal officers were vested in one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State; 18 & 19 Vict. c. 117.

And whereas by the Act of the session of the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter twelve, intituled "An Act to abolish the "office of Secretary at War, and to transfer the duties of that office to one of Her Majesty's "Principal Secretaries of State," the office of Secretary at War was abolished, and the various duties, powers, and authorities of the Secretary at War were vested in one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State: 26 & 27 Vict. c. 12.

And whereas it is expedient to make further provision for the performance of the increased duties that have so devolved on the said Secretary of State, and that the officers to be appointed under this Act to discharge such duties should, as the principal officers of Ordnance and Secretary at War formerly were, be eligible to sit in Parliament:

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:

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The War Office Act, 1870." Short title.

2. From and after the passing of this Act one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State may from time to time appoint and at his pleasure remove an officer to be styled the Surveyor General of the Ordnance, and such officer shall not by virtue of such appointment, if sitting in the Commons House of Parliament, vacate his seat, or, whether sitting in such House or not, be disqualified from being elected to or sitting or voting in the said House of Parliament. Appointment of Surveyor General of Ordnance.

3. From and after the passing of this Act one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State may from time to time appoint and at his pleasure remove an officer to be styled the Financial Secretary of the War Office, and such officer shall not by virtue of such appointment, if sitting in the Commons House of Parliament, vacate his seat, or, whether sitting in such House or not, be disqualified from being elected to or sitting or voting in the said House of Parliament. Appointment of Financial Secretary of War Office.

4. There shall be performed by the officers appointed under this Act such duties in relation to the War Office of Her Majesty's Government as Her Majesty may, by Order in Council, from time to time assign to them, and such Order in Council shall, if Parliament be sitting at the time of the making thereof, be laid before Parliament within fourteen days after the date thereof, and if Parliament be not then sitting, within fourteen days after the next meeting thereof. Duties of officers appointed under Act.

5. There shall be paid to the officers appointed under this Act, out of moneys to be provided by Parliament, such salaries as shall be from time to time regulated by the Lord High Treasurer or the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury. Salaries of officers.