in order to give a Right to Abatement of Income Tax.

Seventh and Eighth Years of Her Majesty (Chapter One hundred and ten), "for the Regis- "tration, Incorporation, and Regulation of Joint Stock Companies," shall be entitled to all the Benefits and Advantages which by the said Provision are expressed to be given in respect of the like Insurance or Contract in or with any Insurance Company which shall become registered under any Act to be passed in the present Session of Parliament for that Purpose.

Continuance of Act.

II. This Act shall continue in force until the Fifth Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

CAP. XCII.

An Act to diminish the Number of Sheriffs in *Scotland*, and to unite certain Counties in *Scotland* in so far as regards the Jurisdiction of the Sheriff.

[20th *August* 1853.]

'WHEREAS it is expedient that the Number of Sheriffs in *Scotland* should be diminished, 'and that Provision should be made for uniting certain Counties in so far as regards 'the Jurisdiction of the Sheriff:' 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:

Counties specified in Schedule to be united, and Provision for Discharge of the Functions of Sheriff of the united Counties.

I. Whenever a Vacancy shall occur in the Office of Sheriff of any Counties or County specified in the Schedule hereunto annexed, such Counties or County and the other Counties or County named and included therewith in the said Schedule shall be united into One Sheriffdom, under the Title specified in the said Schedule, and the Functions of the Sheriff of the Counties or County in which the Vacancy shall occur shall thereupon devolve on and be discharged by the Sheriff of such other Counties or County so included therewith; and such Sheriff shall thereafter be and be denominated the Sheriff of the said united Counties and Sheriffdom, without the Necessity of any new Commission being issued in his Favour, and shall have and exercise all the Jurisdiction, Powers, Privileges, and Authority competent to the Sheriffs of the said Counties respectively.

County of Peebles to be united with County of Mid-Lothian.

II. Whenever a Vacancy shall occur in the Office of Sheriff of the County of *Peebles* the said County shall be united with the County of *Mid-Lothian* into One Sheriffdom, to be called the Sheriffdom of *Mid-Lothian* and *Peebles*, and the Functions of the Sheriff of the said County of *Peebles* shall thereupon devolve on and be discharged by the Sheriff of *Mid-Lothian*, who shall be and shall be denominated the Sheriff of *Mid-Lothian* and *Peebles*, without the Necessity of any new Commission being issued in his Favour, in like Manner and to the like Effect as is herein-before provided.

No separate Appointments to be made to the Office of Sheriff of Counties to be united.

III. No separate Appointment shall hereafter be made to the Office of Sheriff of the said County of *Peebles*, or of any of the Counties specified in the said Schedule, but Appointment shall only be made to the Office of Sheriff of such united Counties or Sheriffdoms as Vacancies shall occur after such Union as aforesaid.

Saving Rights, Privileges, and Liabilities of Counties.

IV. Provided always, That, excepting as regards the Person by whom the Office of Sheriff shall be held and discharged, nothing herein contained shall affect or alter in any way the Rights, Privileges, or Liabilities of the said Counties respectively.

Sheriffs of united Counties not to be entitled to additional Salary.

V. Provided also, That nothing herein contained shall give any Right to the Sheriff of any such united Counties to any additional Salary beyond that enjoyed by him as Sheriff of any Counties or County prior to any Vacancy occurring as aforesaid.

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SCHEDULE referred to in the foregoing Act.

Counties to be united.	Title of Sheriffdom.	Title of Sheriff.
1. The County of Sutherland and the County of Caithness.	Sutherland and Caithness -	The Sheriff of Sutherland and Caithness.
2. The County of Banff and the Counties of Elgin and Nairn.	Banff, Elgin, and Nairn -	The Sheriff of Banff, Elgin, and Nairn.
3. The County of Linlithgow and the Counties of Clackmannan and Kinross.	Linlithgow, Clackmannan, and Kinross.	The Sheriff of Linlithgow, Clackmannan, and Kinross.
4. The County of Dumbarton and the County of Bute.	Dumbarton and Bute - -	The Sheriff of Dumbarton and Bute.
5. The County of Haddington and the County of Berwick.	Haddington and Berwick -	The Sheriff of Haddington and Berwick.
6. The County of Roxburgh and the County of Selkirk.	Roxburgh and Selkirk -	The Sheriff of Roxburgh and Selkirk.
7. The County of Wigton and the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright.	Wigton and Kirkcudbright	The Sheriff of Wigton and Kirkcudbright.

CAP. XCIII.

An Act to enable Burghs in *Scotland* to maintain and improve their Harbours. [20th *August* 1853.]

'WHEREAS the Harbour and other Dues leviable at the Harbours belonging to many of the Royal Burghs in *Scotland* have, by reason of the Change in the Value of Money and other Causes, become inadequate for the Maintenance of such Harbours, and it is expedient that further Provision should be made for the Extension, Improvement, and Regulation of such Harbours, and for the Increase of the Rates and Duties leviable thereat:' 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:

Act may be adopted in Burghs having Harbours not under Local Acts.

I. This Act may be adopted and applied in manner herein-after provided in any Royal Burgh in *Scotland* possessing a Harbour which at the Time of passing this Act is not under the Regulation of any Local Act of Parliament.

Interpretation of Terms.

II. The following Words and Expressions in this Act shall have the several Meanings hereby assigned to them, unless there be something in the Subject or Context repugnant to such Construction; that is to say:

The Word "Burgh" shall mean any Royal Burgh in *Scotland* possessing a Harbour which is not under the Regulations of any Local Act of Parliament:

The Word "Harbour" shall mean the Harbour of any such Burgh, and shall extend to and include the whole Limits assigned to such Harbour by the Charter of such Burgh, or by any Law, Statute, or Usage, and all Docks, Piers, Quays, Yards, Works, Buildings, Creeks, and Anchorages within such Limits:

The Expression "Town Council" shall mean the Provost, Magistrates, and Councillors, or the Magistrates and Councillors, as the Case may be, of any such Burgh for the Time being: