may be in the Form prescribed by an Act passed in the Session of Parliament holden in the Eighth and Ninth Years of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act to simplify the Form and diminish the Expense of obtaining Infeftment in Heritable Property in* Scotland, and duly recorded, shall be to all Intents and Purposes good and valid Infeftment in favour of the Party so infeft. 8 & 9 Vict. c. 35.

IV. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the granting or expeding of Deeds affecting Heritable Subjects, or the Constitution, Transmission, or Extinction of Heritable Securities, in the Forms competent and in use at the passing of this Act. Existing Forms of Security still to be competent.

CAP. LXIII.

An Act to continue the Poor Law Commission for *Ireland*. [31st *July* 1854.]

'WHEREAS by the Act of the Eleventh Year of Her Majesty, Chapter Ninety, Provisions were made for the Constitution and Appointment of Commissioners for administering the Laws for the Relief of the Poor in *Ireland*, Secretaries, Inspectors, and other Officers: And whereas by an Act of the Fifteenth Year of Her Majesty, Chapter Sixty-eight, Provisions were made for the Appointment of Two Persons, who, together with the Commissioners appointed under the said first-recited Act, should be "The "Commissioners for administering the Laws for the Relief of the Poor in *Ireland*:" And whereas by an Act of the Sixteenth Year of Her Majesty, Chapter Thirty-seven, the Provisions of the said first-recited Act were continued until the Twenty-third Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and thenceforth to the End of the then next Session of Parliament: And whereas the above-mentioned Provisions of the said first-recited Act will expire at the End of the Session of Parliament held next after the Twenty-third Day of *July* in the present Year, and it is expedient that the Commission for administering the Laws for the Relief of the Poor in *Ireland*, as constituted under said first and second recited Acts, should be continued for a limited Time:' 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, That the Commissioners appointed by Her Majesty the Queen, or to be appointed by Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, under the Authority of the said recited Acts or either of them, together with every Person by the said Acts or either of them constituted by virtue of his Office, such Commissioner, and every Secretary, Inspector, and other Officer and Person appointed or to be appointed by the Commissioners, under the Provisions of the said first-recited Act now in force, shall, unless he shall previously resign or be removed, or otherwise cease to hold his Office, be empowered to hold his Office and exercise the Powers thereof under the said Acts or either of them until the Twenty-third Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, and thenceforth until the End of the then next Session of Parliament; and until the Expiration of the said Period it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, from Time to Time, at Pleasure, to remove the Commissioner or Commissioners for the Time being appointed by Her Majesty, or to be appointed by Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, under the said recited Acts or either of them, and upon every Vacancy in the Office of the Commissioner or Commissioners so appointed or to be appointed by Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, either by Removal, Death, Resignation, or otherwise, to appoint, as in the said recited Acts or either of them is described, some other fit Person to the said Office. 10 & 11 Vict. c. 90. 14 & 15 Vict. c. 68. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 37. Irish Poor Law Commission further continued.

CAP. LXIV.

An Act to amend an Act of the last Session for extending the Public Libraries Act, 1850, to *Ireland* and *Scotland*. [31st *July* 1854.]

'WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Act of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Years of Her present Majesty, Chapter One hundred and one, so far as the same relates to *Scotland*, and to give greater Facilities for the Establishment there of Public Libraries and Museums:'

'Museums:' 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:

Interpretation of Terms.

I. In the Construction of this Act the following Words and Expressions shall have the Meanings hereby assigned, if not inconsistent with the Context or Subject Matter; that is to say, the Expression "Parliamentary Burgh" shall mean a Burgh or Town to which Magistrates and Councils were provided by the Act of the Third and Fourth Years of King *William* the Fourth, Chapter Seventy-seven; the Expression "Occupier of Premises" shall mean a Male Occupier of a Dwelling House or other Heritable Subjects of the yearly Value of Ten Pounds or upwards, not being a Lodger or a Party in the Occupation as Tenant of a furnished House let for a less Period than One Year, but in such Case shall mean the Party by whom such House is so let.

So much of 16 & 17 Vict. c. 101. as relates to Scotland repealed.

II. So much of the said Act of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Years of Her present Majesty, Chapter One hundred and one, as relates to *Scotland*, is hereby repealed, but such Repeal shall not invalidate or affect anything already done in pursuance of such Act; and all Public Libraries and Museums established in *Scotland* under that Act shall be considered as having been established under this Act.

Short Title.

III. In citing this Act for any Purpose whatever, it shall be sufficient to use the Expression "The Public Libraries Act (*Scotland*), 1854."

Meeting to be called for considering the Adoption of this Act in any Burgh or Town or Part thereof.

IV. Upon the Requisition in Writing of the Magistrates and Council of any Royal Burgh, Parliamentary Burgh, Burgh of Regality, or Burgh of Barony in *Scotland*, whose Population according to the then last Census shall exceed Ten thousand Persons, the Chief or Senior Magistrate of such Burgh, or, in the Case of a Burgh not being a Royal or Parliamentary Burgh, the Sheriff of the County in which such Burgh is situated, shall, within Ten Days after the Receipt of such Requisition, convene a Meeting of the Occupiers of Premises in such Burgh, or in such Part thereof within which it may in such Requisition be proposed to adopt this Act, for the Purpose of considering whether this Act shall be adopted for such Burgh or such Part thereof, such Meeting to be held in the Town Hall or other convenient Place on a Day not less than Twenty-one Days or more than Thirty Days after the Receipt of such Requisition, and Notice of the Time and Place of such Meeting to be given by affixing the same upon the Doors of the several Parish Churches within such Burgh Fourteen Days preceding the Day of Meeting.

Qualification of Voters.

V. For the Purpose of deciding as to the Adoption of this Act, all Occupiers of Premises in such Burgh or in such Part thereof as aforesaid, as the Case may be, shall be entitled to vote, and Companies or Copartnerships occupying Houses or other Heritable Subjects above the yearly Value of Ten Pounds, so as to afford more than One Qualification of Ten Pounds, may grant Authority in Writing to any One of the Partners of such Company or Copartnership to vote, but such Company or Copartnership shall not so authorize or have Right to vote by more than One Partner in respect of each Qualification of Ten Pounds afforded by such Premises; and any Dispute as to the Qualification or Identity of any Occupier of Premises shall be decided by such Senior Magistrate or Sheriff, as the Case may be, whose Decision shall be final.

Act may be adopted at the Meeting, unless Poll demanded.

VI. If at such Meeting it shall be determined by a Majority of Two Thirds of the Votes of the Occupiers of Premises present that the Provisions of this Act shall be adopted in such Burgh or in such Part thereof respectively, then the same shall from thenceforth come into operation therein, unless a Poll shall be demanded in Writing at such Meeting by any Five Persons present and qualified to vote, and in that Case the Meeting shall be adjourned to a future Day for the Purpose of declaring the Result of the Poll.

Poll to be open for One Day, and State of Poll to be ascertained and declared.

VII. When such Poll shall be demanded, such Magistrate or Sheriff as aforesaid shall appoint the necessary Number of Clerks, and cause proper Poll Books to be prepared, and such Poll shall be proceeded in within such Period as he shall determine, not exceeding Two Days from the Day of the holding of such Meeting; and the Poll shall be kept open for One Day at the Places fixed by him, commencing at Nine of the Clock in the Forenoon and ending

ending at Four of the Clock in the Afternoon; and as soon after the Close of the Poll as may be the Poll Clerks shall transmit to such Magistrate or Sheriff the State of the respective Polls, who shall sum up the same, and openly declare the Result of the total Poll at the adjourned Meeting.

Majority of Two Thirds necessary for Adoption of Act.

VIII. If it shall appear by the Result of such Poll that Two Thirds of the Votes given have been given in favour of the Adoption of this Act, then the same shall from thenceforth come into operation in such Burgh or such Part thereof as aforesaid; and in all Cases of the Adoption of this Act the same shall be put into execution by the Magistrates and Council of the Burgh.

Assessments may be levied to the Extent of One Penny in the Pound for defraying Expenses.

IX. For defraying the Expenses incurred in calling the Meeting and in taking such Poll whether this Act shall be adopted or not, and the Expenses of carrying this Act into execution, the Magistrates and Council of such Burgh shall yearly assess all Occupiers of Premises within the Burgh, or within such Part thereof where it may have been decided to adopt this Act, in the Sums necessary for defraying such Expenses, but in no Case to an Amount exceeding One Penny in the Pound of the yearly Rent of such Premises; and such Assessments shall be made, levied, and recovered by the Magistrates and Councils of such Burgh or Town in such and the like Manner, from the same Descriptions of Persons and Property, and with and under the like Powers, Provisions, and Exceptions, as the general Assessments leviable under the Act of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Years of Her present Majesty, Chapter Thirty-three, for Police and other Purposes, are authorized to be made, levied, and recovered, and as if such Magistrates and Council were Commissioners elected under that Act, and the said Assessments were Part of the general Assessments authorized to be thereby made.

Accounts of the Magistrates and Council in relation to this Act to be open to Inspection.

X. The Magistrates and Council shall provide and keep Books in which shall be entered true and regular Accounts of their Receipts, Payments, and Liabilities with reference to the Execution of this Act, to be called "The Public Libraries Account," and such Books shall at all reasonable Times be open to the Inspection of every Person liable to be assessed by virtue of this Act, without Fee or Reward, who respectively may take Copies of or make Extracts from such Books without paying for the same; and in case such Magistrates and Council, or any of them respectively, or any of their respective Officers or Servants having the Custody of such Books, shall not permit the same Accounts to be inspected, or Copies of or Extracts from the same to be made or taken, every Person so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds.

Boundaries of Burghs, &c.

XI. The Boundaries of Parliamentary Burghs, Royal Burghs, Burghs of Regality and of Barony, shall for the Purposes of this Act be the same as the Boundaries declared for such Burghs by and for the Purposes of the said Act of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Years of Her present Majesty, Chapter Thirty-three.

Lands, &c. may be appropriated, purchased, or rented for the Purposes of this Act.

XII. The Magistrates and Council of any Burgh may from Time to Time appropriate for the Purposes of this Act any Land or Buildings vested in them, and also purchase, feu, or rent any Land, and may, upon any Land so appropriated, rented, feued, or purchased respectively, erect any Buildings suitable for Public Libraries or Museums, or both, and may alter and extend any Buildings for such Purposes, and repair and improve the same respectively, and fit up, furnish, and supply the same respectively with all requisite Furniture, Fittings, and Conveniences.

Certain Clauses of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 19. incorporated with this Act.

XIII. All the Clauses and Provisions of the "Lands Clauses Consolidation Act (*Scotland*), 1845," with respect to the Purchase of Lands by Agreement, and with respect to the Purchase Money or Compensation coming to Parties having limited Interests, or prevented from treating, or not making a Title, and also with respect to Conveyances of Lands, so far as the same Clauses and Provisions respectively are applicable to the Cases contemplated by the last Section, shall be incorporated in this Act; and the Expression "the Special Act," used in the said Clauses and Provisions, shall be construed to mean this Act; and the Expression "the Promoters of the Undertaking," used in the same Clauses and Provisions, shall be construed to mean the Magistrates and Council of the Burgh in question.

Lands, &c. may be sold or exchanged.

XIV. The Magistrates and Council of any Burgh may sell any Lands vested in them for the Purposes of this Act, or exchange the same for any Lands better adapted for the Purposes; and the Monies to arise from such Sale, or to be received for Equality of Exchange, or a sufficient Part thereof, shall be applied in or towards the Purchase of other Lands better adapted for such Purposes.

General Management to be vested in Magistrates and Councils.

XV. The general Management, Regulation, and Control of such Libraries and Museums shall be vested in and exercised by the Magistrates and Council of the Burgh, or such Committee as they respectively may from Time to Time appoint (the Members whereof need not be Magistrates or Councillors), who may from Time to Time purchase and provide the necessary Fuel, Lighting, and other similar Matters, Books, Maps, and Specimens of Art and Science, for the Use of the Library or Museum, and cause the same to be bound or repaired when necessary, and appoint salaried Officers and Servants, and dismiss the same, and make Rules and Regulations for the Safety and Use of the Libraries and Museums, and for the Admission of Visitors; and the Lands so to be appropriated, purchased, or rented as aforesaid, and all other Real and Personal Property whatever presented to or purchased for any Library or Museum established under this Act, shall be vested in such Magistrates and Councils.

Property of Library, &c. to be vested in them.

Admissions to Museum to be free.

XVI. The Admission to all Libraries and Museums established under this Act shall be open to the Public free of all Charge.

CAP. LXV.

An Act for further continuing certain temporary Provisions concerning Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction in *England*. [31st *July* 1854.]

10 & 11 Vict. c. 98.

'WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Session holden in the Tenth and Eleventh Years of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act to amend the Law as to Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction in* England, by which it was enacted, that certain of the Provisions therein contained should continue until the First Day of *August* One thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, and, if Parliament were then sitting, until the End of the then Session of Parliament; and such Provisions have been continued by sundry Acts until the First Day of *August* One thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and to the End of the then next Session of Parliament: And whereas it is expedient that the said Provisions should be further continued:' 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, That the said Provisions of the said Act shall continue until the First Day of *August* One thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, and to the End of the then next Session of Parliament.

Certain Provisions of recited Act further continued.

CAP. LXVI.

An Act to continue the Exemption of Inhabitants from Liability to be rated as such in respect of Stock in Trade or other Property to the Relief of the Poor. [31st *July* 1854.]

3 & 4 Vict. c. 89.

'WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Fourth Year of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act to exempt until the Thirty-first Day of* December *One thousand eight hundred and forty-one Inhabitants of Parishes, Townships and Villages from Liability to be rated as such in respect of Stock in Trade or other Property to the Relief of the Poor:* And whereas the said Act has been since continued by sundry Acts until the First Day of *October* in the Year One thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and to the End of the then next Session of Parliament; and it is expedient that the said Act should be further continued:' Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the