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:

So much of 10 & 11 Vict. c. 90. as to Appointment of Secretary to Poor Law Commissioners repealed, and Office abolished.

I. From and after the passing of this Act so much of an Act passed in the Tenth and Eleventh Years of the Reign of Her present Majesty, Chapter Ninety, as provides that the Commissioners for administering the Laws for the Relief of the Poor in *Ireland* shall from Time to Time, subject to the Approval of the Lord Lieutenant, appoint a Secretary, shall be repealed; and the said Office of Secretary shall be abolished; and all Acts of the said Commissioners or of any of them which shall be done in exercise of the Powers and Authorities given to them or any of them by the said recited Act, or by an Act passed in the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Years of the Reign of Her present Majesty, Chapter Sixty-eight, or by any other Act or Acts, and in reference to which the Counter-signature of the said Secretary was required before the passing of this Act, shall be valid and of full Force and Effect without such Counter-signature.

Acts done by Commissioners where Counter-signature of Secretary was heretofore necessary, valid.

CAP. XV.

An Act for further regulating the Payment of the Out-Pensioners of *Greenwich* and *Chelsea* Hospitals. [11th *April* 1856.]

'WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act for regulating the Payment of the Out-Pensioners of* Greenwich *and* Chelsea *Hospitals:* And whereas it is expedient to make further Regulations in respect of such Payment:' 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,— 9 Vict. c. 10.

Recited Act repealed, except, &c.

I. That the said recited Act shall be and the same is hereby repealed, except so far as the same repeals any other Acts or Parts of Acts.

Secretary-at-War to regulate Payment of Out-Pensioners.

II. From and after the passing of this Act it shall be lawful for the Secretary-at-War for the Time being to make such Rules and Regulations for the Management and Payment of the *Chelsea* and *Greenwich* Out-Pensioners, whether residing in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, as shall appear to him best calculated for their and the Public Advantage, and upon the Production of such Proof of Title to Pension as he may consider necessary.

Accounts to be audited as Army Effective Services.

III. From and after the passing of this Act all Payments made by the said Secretary-at-War to or on account of the Pensioners aforesaid, and the Expenses of every Description connected with their Management and Payment, shall be audited and passed in the same Manner as the Accounts of the Army Effective Services are now audited and passed.

Nothing to interfere with Powers of the Admiralty and Chelsea Hospital as to granting, &c. of Pensions, &c.

IV. Nothing in this Act contained shall be held to interfere with the Powers of the Lord High Admiral or the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty and the Commissioners of *Chelsea Hospital* respectively, in regard to granting, increasing, reducing, suspending, taking away, or restoring of Pension, or to abridge, take away, or interfere with any Power, Authority, or Duty of the said Lord High Admiral or Commissioners respectively, other than by this Act is expressly provided.

Penalty for Frauds respecting Pensions.

V. Any Person guilty of fraudulently receiving or endeavouring to receive Pension Money, or Money in the Nature of Pension, from the Secretary-at-War, or from any Officer or Person employed or authorized to pay Pensions, shall upon Conviction be subjected to the same Pains and Penalties as are prescribed by Law in the Cases of Frauds committed or attempted to be committed upon the Commissioners of *Chelsea Hospital*, the Lord High Admiral or the Commissioners of the Admiralty, the Treasurer of the Navy, and the Paymaster General.

Power to restore Pensions to

VI. It shall be lawful for the Secretary-at-War, with the Concurrence of the Lord High Admiral or the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to restore any *Greenwich* Pensioner who

Pensioners convicted of Felony.

who shall have been convicted of Felony, and thereby shall have forfeited his Pension, either to his original Pension or to any less Rate of Pension.

Pensions may be paid to the Wives and Children of Pensioners out of the United Kingdom.

VII. It shall be lawful for the Secretary-at-War, with the Consent of any *Greenwich* or *Chelsea* Pensioner residing temporarily out of the United Kingdom, to pay to or for the Benefit of his Wife, or, if he have no Wife, to or for the Benefit of his Child or Children, such Portion of his Pension as may be agreed upon; and the Receipt or Acknowledgment of the Person or Persons to whom the same shall be paid shall be a full and sufficient Discharge to the said Secretary-at-War for the Amount so issued by him.

Repayment to Parishes of Relief given to Out-Pensioners.

VIII. If any *Chelsea* or *Greenwich* Pensioner shall be relieved, or become chargeable in *Great Britain* or *Ireland* in respect of Relief afforded to himself, or to any Person whom he is liable to maintain, or if in any Case the Secretary-at-War for the Time being and the Guardians of the Poor of any Union or Parish, or the Overseers of any Parish or Township not under a Board of Guardians, or the Heritors and Kirk Session of any Parish in *Scotland*, think it desirable that the whole or any Part of the Pension of such Pensioner should be advanced out of the Poor's Rate or Funds applicable to the Relief of the Poor, it shall be lawful for the Secretary-at-War, by any Writing under his Hand or under the Hand of any Officer or Person employed by him, to agree with such Guardians or Overseers, or Heritors and Kirk Session, for the Repayment to them out of the Pension of any such Pensioner of the Amount of Relief so advanced to or expended on his Account, not exceeding in any Case where Relief has been administered to his Wife or One Child only whom he is bound to maintain the Amount of One Half, or where such Relief has been administered to Two or more such Children, or to his Wife and One or more such Child or Children, the Amount of Two Thirds, of his Pension so advanced.

As to Care of Lunatic Pensioners.

IX. In case any *Chelsea* or *Greenwich* Pensioner shall be or become insane, it shall be lawful for the Secretary-at-War for the Time being, upon being satisfied of such Insanity, to order that the Pension of such Insane Pensioner, or so much thereof as shall appear to the said Secretary-at-War to be necessary for his Care and Maintenance, shall be paid to such Guardians of the Poor or Overseers, or Heritors and Kirk Session, or to the Wife, Child, or any other Person to whom the Care of such Insane Pensioner may be intrusted, or who may be chargeable for or liable to the Expense of his Care and Maintenance; and the Receipt of the Person or Persons to whom the same shall be so paid shall be a sufficient Voucher and Discharge for so much Money as shall appear to have been paid thereon: Provided always, that where no Claim or Demand shall be made for the Support of any such Insane Pensioner, or where the Charge for his Care and Maintenance does not amount to the full Rate of his Pension, then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for the Secretary-at-War, at his Discretion, to order his Pension, or so much thereof as may not be necessary for his Care and Maintenance as aforesaid, to be paid to his Wife or Child or Children, if he have any.

Arrears of Pensions under 50*l.* may be paid to Personal Representatives without Probate or Letters of Administration.

X. It shall be lawful for the Secretary-at-War for the Time being to pay or to authorize the proper Officer to pay to any Person or Persons who shall prove him, her, or themselves, to the Satisfaction of such Secretary-at-War or of the said proper Officer, to be the next of Kin or legal Representative of or otherwise legally entitled to any Pension Money due to any deceased Pensioner, the Amount of such Pension Money, not exceeding Fifty Pounds, although such Person or Persons shall not have taken out Letters of Administration or have procured Probate of any Will of such deceased Pensioner.

As to Bills of Exchange drawn by Consuls, &c. on account of Pensions.

XI. All Bills of Exchange drawn or to be drawn by *British* Ministers, Consuls, and others abroad, on account of Payments made by them to Out-Pensioners of *Chelsea* or *Greenwich* Hospital, shall be presented for Acceptance at the Office of the Paymaster General, and all Letters of Advice, Receipts, and Vouchers having relation to such Bills of Exchange shall be transmitted to the Office of the Secretary-at-War.