and all the Provisions of the said Act of the last Session of Parliament shall be in force and be applicable in relation to the said further Loan of One million Pounds Sterling, and the Interest and Sinking Fund in respect of the same, and the Accounts thereof respectively, in the same Manner as if the War had not been brought to a Close at the Expiration of the Twelve Months before mentioned, and as if the Sums hereby authorized to be issued had been authorized to be issued under the said Act.

CAP. XL.

An Act to amend an Act of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Years of Her present Majesty relating to Industrial and Provident Societies.

[7th *July* 1856.]

'WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Years of Her Majesty, Chapter Twenty-five, intituled *An Act to amend the Industrial and Provident Societies Act*, 1852, Provision is made for the better Conduct of legal Proceedings in Matters concerning Societies constituted under the said Act: And whereas Doubts have arisen whether such Provisions apply to Societies so constituted after the passing of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth *Victoria*, Chapter Twenty-five, and it is expedient that such Doubts should be removed, and that the said Act should be otherwise explained:' 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: 17 & 18 Vict. c. 25.

I. The Act passed in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Years of Her Majesty, intituled *An Act to amend the Industrial and Provident Societies Act*, 1852, shall apply to all Societies which at the Time of the passing of this Act are or thereafter may be constituted under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, 1852. Recited Act to apply to all Societies constituted under the same.

II. The Time fixed by the Second Section of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth *Victoria*, Chapter Twenty-five, for the Appointment of Officers to sue and be sued by any such Society shall be extended, in the Case of any Societies so constituted at the passing of this Act for which such Officers are not then appointed, to One Calendar Month after the passing of this Act, and, in the Case of any Society to be constituted after the Act is passed, to One Calendar Month after the Date of Certificate of Registration of such Society. Time fixed by recited Act for Appointment of Officers to sue and be sued extended.

III. Any Appointment already made by the Trustees of any Society constituted after the passing of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth *Victoria*, Chapter Twenty-five, of any Member thereof as an Officer to sue and be sued, of which a Return has been made as is required by the said Act, shall be taken to have been duly made under the Second Section thereof. Certain Appointments made by Trustees confirmed.

IV. The Right of Removal given by the Second Section of the said Act shall apply to any such Officer appointed thereunder by the Trustees of any Society constituted under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, 1852, as fully as if he had been appointed by such Society. As to Power of removing Officers.

CAP. XLI.

An Act to make further Provision for the Establishment of Savings Banks for Seamen.

[7th *July* 1856.]

'WHEREAS by the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, certain Powers were given to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt for the Purpose of establishing Savings Banks for Seamen: And whereas it has since been found to be expedient that the immediate Management and Control of such Savings Banks should be placed in the Hands

'Hands of the Board of Trade:' 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:

Power to Board of Trade to establish Savings Banks for Seamen.

I. The Board of Trade may establish in *London* a Central Savings Bank for Seamen, together with Branch Savings Banks at such Ports and Places in the United Kingdom as they may think expedient, and they may receive at such Banks Deposits from or on account of Seamen, or the Wives, Widows, and Children of Seamen, so, however, that the aggregate Amount of Deposit standing at any One Time in the Name of any One Depositor shall not exceed Two hundred Pounds.

Power to constitute Shipping Offices Branch Savings Banks.

II. The Board of Trade may constitute any Shipping Office established under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, a Branch Savings Bank for the Purposes of this Act, and may require any Shipping Master belonging to such Office to act as Agent of the said Board in carrying this Act into effect, and his Duties as such Agent shall thereupon be deemed to be Part of his Duties within the Meaning of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854.

Commissioners for Reduction of National Debt to receive Deposits and pay Interest.

III. The Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt may from Time to Time, on the Request of the Board of Trade signified by Writing by One of the Secretaries or Assistant Secretaries of such Board, receive from Her Majesty's Paymaster General the Monies received by the said Board as Deposits in Savings Banks established under this Act; and may also from Time to Time, on the like Request signified in like Manner, repay to Her Majesty's Paymaster General to the Account of the said Board the Monies so received by them as aforesaid; and the said Commissioners shall invest all Monies so received by them as aforesaid in the same Manner in which Monies received from Trustees of Savings Banks are invested by them, and shall pay to Her Majesty's Paymaster General, to the Account of the Board of Trade, Interest upon the Monies so received by them as aforesaid so long as the same continue in their Hands, at the same Rate at which they pay Interest for the Time being upon the Monies received by them from the Trustees of Savings Banks.

Board of Trade to make Regulations for Conduct of Savings Banks.

IV. The Board of Trade may make and from Time to Time alter such Regulations as they may think fit with respect to the Persons entitled to become Depositors, to the making and Withdrawal of Deposits, the Amount of Deposits, the Rate and Payment of Interest, the Rights, Claims, and Obligations of Depositors, and with respect to all other Matters incidental to carrying this Act into execution; and all Regulations so made shall be binding on the Parties interested in the Subject Matter thereof to the same Extent as if such Regulations formed Part of this Act; and no legal Proceedings shall be instituted against the Board of Trade, or against any Shipping Master or other Public Officer employed on or about such Savings Banks, on account of any such Regulations, or on account of any Act done or left undone in pursuance thereof, or on account of any Refusal, Neglect, or Omission to pay any Deposit or Interest thereon, unless such Refusal, Neglect, or Omission arise from Fraud or wilful Misbehaviour on the Part of the Person against whom Proceedings are instituted.

Application of Deposits of deceased Depositor.

V. All Sums of Money due from the Board of Trade to the Estate of any deceased Person entitled to any Deposit in any Savings Bank established under this Act shall be paid and applied by such Board to the same Persons to whom and in the same Manner and subject to the same Conditions on and subject to which the Money and Effects of a deceased Seaman are payable and applicable under the Provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854.

Punishment for Forgery or for making false Representations in order to obtain Deposits or Interest.

VI. Every Person who, for the Purpose of obtaining, either for himself or for another, any Money deposited in any Savings Bank established under this Act, or any Interest thereon, forges, assists in forging, or procures to be forged, or fraudulently alters, assists in fraudulently altering, or procures to be fraudulently altered, any Document purporting to show or assist in showing a Right to any such Money or Interest, and every Person who for the Purpose aforesaid makes use of any such forged or altered Document as aforesaid, or who for the Purpose aforesaid gives or makes, or procures to be given or made, or assists in giving or making or procuring to be given or made, any false Evidence or Representation, knowing the same to be false, shall on Conviction be punishable with Penal Servitude for a Term not exceeding Four Years, or with Imprisonment, with or without Hard Labour, for any

any Period not exceeding Two Years, or, if summarily prosecuted and convicted, by Imprisonment, with or without Hard Labour, for any Period not exceeding Six Months.

VII. The Board of Trade may, out of the Interest paid by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt on the Monies paid to them under this Act, pay any Expenses incurred in carrying this Act into effect. Expenses of Act how to be defrayed.

VIII. An annual Account of all Deposits received and repaid by the Board of Trade under the Authority of this Act, and of the Interest thereon, shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament; and a Copy of all Regulations made by this Board under the Authority of this Act shall likewise be laid before both Houses of Parliament. Accounts and Copy of Regulations to be laid before Parliament.

IX. All Criminal Proceedings under this Act shall be carried on in the same Manner as similar Proceedings under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, and all Rules of Law, Practice, and Evidence which are applicable to such last-mentioned Proceedings shall be applicable to Criminal Proceedings under this Act. Mode of Criminal Proceeding.

CAP. XLII.

An Act to continue the Act for the Exemption of Stock in Trade from Rating.

[7th *July* 1856.]

'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-six; 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 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 Act shall continue in force until the First Day of *October* in the Year One thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, and to the End of the then next Session of Parliament. 3 & 4 Vict. c. 89. Recited Act further continued.

CAP. XLIII.

An Act to authorize Issues out of the Consolidated Fund for the Redemption of certain Annuities charged on Branches of the gross Revenue.

[7th *July* 1856.]

'WHEREAS the Annuities or Parts of Annuities mentioned in the Schedule to this 'Act are now charged on Branches of the gross Revenue mentioned in such Schedule, 'and it is expedient to authorize such Issues for the Redemption thereof as herein-after 'mentioned:' 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:

I. In case the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall agree with the Persons or Person entitled thereto for the absolute Purchase of the said Annuities or Parts of Annuities or any of them, or any Part thereof respectively, for such Sum or respective Sums as may appear to the said Commissioners to be a just Equivalent for the same, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, upon the Execution in each Case of such a Release of the Annuity or Part of Annuity so purchased as the said Commissioners shall approve, to cause the Purchase Money for the same to be paid, as such Commissioners shall direct, out of the growing Produce of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*: Power to Treasury to redeem out of the Consolidated Fund the Annuities in the Schedule.