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.