CAP. CXLVII.

An Act to amend the Seventh and Eighth *Victoria*, Chapter Seventy.

[28th *August* 1860.]

FOR removing Doubts which have arisen upon the Act of the Seventh and Eighth Years of Her Majesty, Chapter Seventy, be it declared and 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:

Provisions of 7 & 8 Vict. c. 70. to extend to Debtors in Custody.

I. Any Debtor actually in Custody may petition, and his Petition shall be proceeded in, according to the Provisions of the said Act, and all those Provisions touching the Consent of Creditors, the Meetings of Creditors, and the Authority of the Commissioners, shall be applied to the Case of such Debtor Petitioner which have heretofore been applied to the Petitions of Debtors not in actual Custody.

Construction of Terms in this and recited Acts.

II. This Act and the said Act shall be construed together as One Act, and in Section Six of the said Act, after the Words "shall endorse on such Certificate his Protection "of such petitioning Debtor from Arrest," the Words "or his Discharge from "Custody" shall be added; and in Section Seven, after the Words "a temporary and "limited Protection from Arrest," the Words "or Discharge from Custody" shall be added, so that in every Case of a Petition by a Debtor in Custody by virtue of this Act, the Commissioner may be empowered to discharge the Petitioner from Custody wherever such Petitioner, if not in Custody, would have been entitled by virtue of the said Act to obtain Protection from Arrest.

CAP. CXLVIII.

An Act to continue the Powers of the Poor Law Commissioners in *Ireland*.

[28th *August* 1860.]

10 & 11 Vict. c. 90.

'WHEREAS the Provisions of an Act of the Tenth and Eleventh Years of Her Majesty, Chapter Ninety, relating to the Constitution and Appointment of Commissioners for administering the Laws for the Relief of the Poor in *Ireland*, Secretaries, Inspectors, and other Officers were continued from Time to Time, and by an Act passed in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Years of Her Majesty, Chapter Sixty-three, such Provisions were further continued until the Twenty-third Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, and thenceforth until the End of the present Session of Parliament, and it is expedient that the Commission for administering the Laws for the Relief of the Poor

14 & 15 Vict. c. 68.

in *Ireland*, as constituted under the said Act and an Act of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Years of the Reign of Her Majesty, Chapter Sixty-eight, should be further 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, as follows:

Irish Poor Law Commission further continued.

I. The Commissioners appointed by Her Majesty, or to be appointed by Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, under the Authority of the said last-mentioned 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 Inspector and other Officer and Person appointed or to be appointed by the Commissioners, under the Provisions of the said recited Act of the Tenth and Eleventh Years of the Reign of Her Majesty, Chapter Ninety, 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 last-mentioned

mentioned Acts or either of them, until the Twenty-third Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, 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 Acts or either of them, and upon every Vacancy in the Office of the Commissioner or Commissioners so appointed or to be appointed, either by Removal, Death, Resignation, or otherwise, to appoint, as in the said Acts or either of them is described, some other fit Person to the said Office.

CAP. CXLIX.

An Act to make better Provision for the Relief of Prisoners in Contempt of the High Court of Chancery, and Pauper Defendants; and for the more efficient Despatch of Business in the said Court. [28th *August* 1860.]

'WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of Parliament holden in the Eleventh Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Fourth and the First Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *William* the Fourth, Chapter Thirty-six, intituled *An Act for altering and amending the Law regarding Commitments by Courts of Equity for Contempt and taking Bills* pro confesso, it was enacted, amongst other things, that the Rules and Regulations therein-after provided and contained should be adopted by the High Court of Chancery, and should from thenceforth become Orders and Rules of the said Court of Chancery, and be observed and enforced in and by the said Court; and it was by the Sixth of such Rules directed that if a Defendant, upon being brought before the Court upon an Habeas corpus, should make Oath (which should be administered to him by the Registrar, and he should be examined in open Court,) that he was unable, by reason of Poverty, to employ a Solicitor to put in his Answer, the Court should thereupon refer it to a Master in Rotation to inquire into the Truth of that Allegation, and to report thereon to the Court forthwith, and thereupon the Court might make such Order as upon other Reports of the like Nature under the Provisions therein-after contained; and by the Seventh of such Rules it was directed that on the Thirtieth Day of *January*, the Thirtieth Day of *April*, the Thirtieth Day of *July*, and the Thirtieth Day of *October* in every Year, or if any of those Days should happen on a *Sunday* then on the following Day, One of the Masters of the Court of Chancery, to be named by the Court, should visit the Fleet Prison and examine the Prisoners confined there for Contempt, and should report his Opinion on their respective Cases to the Court, and thereupon it should be lawful for the Court to make such Order as therein mentioned: And whereas by an Act passed in the Session of Parliament holden in the Fifth and Sixth Years of the Reign of Her Majesty, Chapter Twenty-two, intituled *An Act for consolidating the Queen's Bench, Fleet, and Marshalsea Prisons, and for regulating the Queen's Prison*, it was enacted, amongst other things, that the Prison to be called the Queen's Prison, should be the only Prison for all Persons who before the passing of that Act might lawfully have been imprisoned in the Fleet Prison and other Prisons therein named: And whereas by an Act passed in the Session of Parliament holden in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Years of the Reign of Her Majesty, Chapter Eighty, intituled *An Act to abolish the Office of Master in Ordinary of the High Court of Chancery, and to make Provision for the more speedy and efficient Despatch of Business in the said Court*, the Office of Master in Ordinary of the High Court of Chancery was abolished, but reserving and subject to the Execution by the then Masters in Ordinary of the said Court of the Duties therein-after provided for, and until they were released under the same Act they were for the Performance of such Duties to continue to have all the Powers conferred upon them by any Act of Parliament or otherwise vested in them; and it was enacted that on the First Day of *Michaelmas* Term One

11 G. 4. & 1 W. 4. c. 36.

5 & 6 Vict. c. 22.

15 & 16 Vict. c. 80.