Interpretation of terms.

5. In this Act the term "sheriff" includes sheriff substitute, and any person appointed by a sheriff to take evidence on commission according to the present law and practice.

Short title.

6. This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The Evidence Further Amendment (Scotland) Act, 1874."

CHAPTER 65.

An Act to enable Her Majesty to provide for the Support and Maintenance of His Royal Highness Prince Leopold George Duncan Albert on his coming of age. [7th August 1874.]

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled, having taken into consideration Your Majesty's most gracious message, that Your Majesty is desirous of making competent provision for the honourable support and maintenance of Your Majesty's fourth son, His Royal Highness Prince Leopold George Duncan Albert, on his coming of age, do most humbly beseech Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and 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 Her Majesty to grant an annuity of 15,000*l.* to Prince Leopold George Duncan Albert for life.

1. It shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by letters patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to grant unto His said Royal Highness, or to such persons as Her Majesty may think fit to name in the said letters patent, on trust for His said Royal Highness, and subject to such conditions as Her Majesty may direct, an annuity of fifteen thousand pounds for his life, such annuity to commence from the seventh day of April one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, the day on which His said Royal Highness came of age, to be free from all taxes, assessments, and charges, and to be paid quarterly on the fifth day of January, the fifth day of April, the fifth day of July, and the tenth day of October.

Payment of proportionate part of annuity.

2. The first payment of the said annuity shall include such portion thereof as may have accrued between the said date of His said Royal Highness coming of age and the first of the said quarterly days which happens after the passing of this Act, and shall be made on such last-mentioned day, and a proportionate part shall be payable between the last quarterly day of payment and the day of the determination thereof: Provided that in the event of His said Royal Highness succeeding to any sovereignty or principality abroad it shall be lawful for Her Majesty or her successors, with the consent of Parliament, to revoke or reduce the said annuity by warrant under the Sign Manual.

Annuity granted by this Act to be charged on the Consolidated Fund.

3. The annuity granted in pursuance of this Act shall, if Her Majesty think fit so to direct, be a personal and inalienable provision, and the same shall be charged on and payable out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or the growing produce thereof, after paying or reserving sufficient to pay such sums as may have been directed to be paid out of the said fund by former Acts of Parliament, but with preference to all other payments which may hereafter be charged on the said fund.