sentation had been issued before the passing hereof is less than twenty-five, it shall not be lawful to take any proceedings for the appointment, admission, and settlement of a minister until after the said first day of July one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five; the jus devolutum in the case of any such vacancy shall not come into operation until after the first day of September one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, although more than six months may have elapsed from the occurrence of such vacancy.

Repeal of inconsistent statutes.

8. All laws, statutes, and usages inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed; but nothing in this Act contained shall affect or interfere with the appointment of the minister first appointed as the minister of any new parish quoad sacra, or the right to teind now possessed by or competent to any patron or titular, or the right of ann, or the laws now in force in regard to the disposal of vacant stipends; nor shall anything contained in this Act, except the provisions of the second sub-section of section seven, affect or interfere with any proceedings following upon or arising out of a presentation issued before the commencement of this Act.

Interpretation clause.

9. The word "minister" shall include assistant and successor; the word "guardian" shall include tutors and curators of pupils or minors or of persons labouring under incapacity or disability, and factors loco tutoris and factors loco absentis; the word "sheriff" shall include steward, sheriff substitute, and steward substitute; the words "one year's stipend" shall be construed to mean the sum which, on an average of the three preceding years, the minister has received in name of stipend out of the teinds of the parish; the words "private patron" shall mean and include all patrons of churches and parishes, whether single or joint, other than Her Majesty and her royal successors, and burgh corporations, universities, or trustees constituted commissioners, officers, or persons acting in a public capacity; the word "parish" shall include united parishes, and also parishes quoad sacra as well as parishes quoad omnia, and where in any church and parish there is more than one benefice, each benefice shall be dealt with and regarded as if it were a separate parish; the words "vacancy" and "vacant" shall include and refer to the occasion of the appointment of an assistant and successor, as well as the occasion of an ordinary vacancy; the word "congregation" shall mean and include communicants and such other adherents of the church as the kirk session under regulations to be framed by the General Assembly or commission thereof, as provided in the third section hereof, may determine to be members of the congregation for the purposes of this Act; "heritors" shall mean heritors liable in payment of stipend.

CHAPTER 83.

An Act for delaying the coming into operation of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, 1873. [7th August 1874.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to extend the time appointed for the commencement of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, 1873:

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:

Repeal of 36 & 37 Vict. c. 66. s. 2.

1. The second section of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, 1873, is hereby repealed.

Commencement of Supreme Court of Judicature Act, 1873.

2. The Supreme Court of Judicature Act, 1873, except any provisions thereof directed to take effect on the passing of the said Act, shall commence and come into operation on the first day of November one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, and the said first

day of November one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five shall be taken to be the time appointed for the commencement of the said Act.

3. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the Supreme Court of Judicature (Commencement) Act, 1874. Short title of Act.

CHAPTER 84.

An Act to regulate the Incorporation of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings, and for other purposes relating thereto.

[7th August 1874.]

WHEREAS there are divers Corporations created by the various Acts of Parliament mentioned in the first schedule to this Act, and now subsisting under the same name of "The Commissioners of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings," and the Commissioners for the time being of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings are also incorporated under the name of the Battersea Park Commissioners, by the Act mentioned in the second schedule to this Act, and it is expedient that all such Corporations should be amalgamated:

And whereas it is also expedient that certain royal properties now under the management of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues should be placed under the management of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings:

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:

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The Works and Public Buildings Act, 1874." Short title.

2. The Commissioners for the time being of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings as incorporated by and for the purposes of the Act of the fourteenth and fifteenth years of Her Majesty, chapter forty-two, are hereby declared to be, and shall be a Corporation to all intents and purposes, and as such shall have and hold, and may exercise not only all the estates, property, interests, privileges, and powers now vested in or enjoyed by them under that Act, but also all estates, property, interests, privileges, and powers now vested in or held or enjoyed by the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings as a Corporation under the Act of the fifteenth and sixteenth years of Her Majesty, chapter twenty-eight, or any subsequent Act, and in or by the Battersea Park Commissioners. Commissioners incorporated by 14 & 15 Vict. c. 42. to have the powers conferred on subsequent Commissioners.

3. The Corporation of the Battersea Park Commissioners, and all Corporations existing under the name of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings, except the Corporation hereby confirmed, are hereby dissolved, but not so as to affect prejudicially any existing rights or pending proceedings; and the continuing Corporation shall perform all the duties, and be subject to and bear and discharge all the existing liabilities of all the dissolved Corporations out of the funds applicable to the same respectively, and shall have the benefit of all covenants and agreements entered into with any of the dissolved Corporations. Dissolution of Corporation created subsequent to 14 & 15 Vict.

4. The first Commissioner and the other Commissioners for the time being of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings, and all officers of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings, shall retain and have for the purposes of this Act in relation to the Corporation hereby confirmed all the powers and authorities given to or enjoyed by them in relation to any of the Corporations hereby dissolved, and also all the powers and authority given to or enjoyed by them by or under the said Acts of the fourteenth and fifteenth years and the fifteenth and sixteenth years of Her Majesty. Powers of Commissioners.