CAP. XXXVI.

An Act to exempt from County, Borough, Parochial, and other local Rates, Land and Buildings occupied by Scientific or Literary Societies. [28th *July* 1843.]

'WHEREAS it is expedient that Societies established exclusively for Purposes of Science, Literature, or the Fine Arts should be exempt from the Charge of County, Borough, Parochial, and other local Rates in respect of Land and Buildings occupied by them for the Transaction of their Business, and for carrying into effect their Purposes;' 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, That from and after the First Day of *October* One thousand eight hundred and forty-three no Person or Persons shall be assessed or rated, or liable to be assessed or rated, or liable to pay, to any County, Borough, Parochial, or other local Rates or Cesses, in respect of any Land, Houses, or Buildings, or Parts of Houses or Buildings, belonging to any Society instituted for Purposes of Science, Literature, or the Fine Arts exclusively, either as Tenant or as Owner, and occupied by it for the Transaction of its Business, and for carrying into effect its Purposes, provided that such Society shall be supported wholly or in part by annual voluntary Contributions, and shall not, and by its Laws may not, make any Dividend, Gift, Division, or Bonus in Money unto or between any of its Members, and provided also that such Society shall obtain the Certificate of the Barrister at Law or Lord Advocate, as herein-after mentioned.

Scientific Societies exempted from Rates upon obtaining the Certificate herein-after mentioned.

II. Provided always, and be it enacted, That before any Society shall be entitled to the Benefit of this Act such Society shall cause Three Copies of all Laws, Rules, and Regulations for the Management thereof, signed by the President or other chief Officer and Three Members of the Council or Committee of Management, and countersigned by the Clerk or Secretary of such Society, to be submitted, in *England*, *Wales*, and *Berwick-upon-Tweed*, to the Barrister at Law for the Time being appointed to certify the Rules of Friendly Societies there, and in *Scotland* to the Lord Advocate, or any Depute appointed by him to certify the Rules of Friendly Societies there, and in *Ireland* to the Barrister for the Time being appointed to certify the Rules of Friendly Societies there, for the Purpose of ascertaining whether such Society is entitled to the Benefit of this Act; and such Barrister or Lord Advocate, as the Case may be, shall give a Certificate on each of the said Copies that the Society so applying is entitled to the Benefit of this Act, or shall state in Writing the Grounds on which such Certificate is withheld; and one of such Copies, when certified by such Barrister or Lord Advocate, shall be returned to the Society, another

Scientific Societies to cause Three Copies of their Rules of Management to be submitted to the Barrister or Person appointed to certify the Rules of Friendly Societies, who shall certify thereon if entitled.

One certified Copy to be

Copy shall be retained by such Barrister or Lord Advocate, and the other of such Copies shall be transmitted by such Barrister or Lord Advocate to the Clerk of the Peace for the Borough or County where the Land or Buildings of such Society in respect of which such Exemption is claimed shall be situated, and shall by him be laid before the Recorder or Justices for such Borough or County at the General Quarter Sessions, or Adjournment thereof, held next after the Time when such Copy shall have been so certified, and transmitted to him as aforesaid, and the Recorder or Justices then and there present are hereby authorized and required, without Motion, to allow and confirm the same; and such Copy shall be filed by such Clerk of the Peace with the Rolls of the Sessions of the Peace in his Custody, without Fee or Reward.

returned to the Society; one to be retained by the Barrister; and the other transmitted to the Clerk of the Peace for Confirmation at Sessions, and to be deposited.

III. And be it enacted, That if the Laws, Rules, and Regulations of any such Society shall be altered, so as to affect or relate to the Property or Constitution of such Society, such Alterations shall, within One Calendar Month after the same shall have been made, be submitted to such Barrister or Lord Advocate, and such Barrister or Lord Advocate shall certify as aforesaid; and such Rules, when so certified, shall be filed with the Clerk of the Peace as aforesaid; and in the meantime such Society shall be entitled to the Benefit of this Act, as if no such Alterations had been made: Provided always, that if the said Barrister or Lord Advocate shall refuse to certify, that then, subject to such Appeal as is herein-after provided, the said Society shall cease to be entitled to the Benefit of this Act from the Time when such Alterations shall come into operation.

Certain Alterations made in the Rules to be certified and deposited in like Manner.

In case of Refusal to certify.

IV. Provided always, and be it enacted, That the Fee payable to such Barrister or Lord Advocate for perusing the Laws, Rules, and Regulations of each Society, or the Alterations made therein, and giving such Certificate or Statement as aforesaid, shall not at any One Time exceed the Sum of One Guinea, which, together with the Expence of transmitting the Rules to and from the said Barrister or Lord Advocate, shall be defrayed by each Society respectively.

Fee to be paid to the Barrister or Lord Advocate.

V. Provided always, and be it enacted, That in case any such Barrister or Lord Advocate shall refuse to certify that any such Society is entitled to the Benefit of this Act, it shall then be lawful for any such Society to submit the Laws, Rules, and Regulations thereof to the Court of Quarter Sessions for the Borough or County where the Land or Buildings of the Society shall be situated, together with the Reasons so assigned by the said Barrister or Lord Advocate as aforesaid; and the Recorder or Justices at such Quarter Sessions shall and may, if he or they think fit, order the same Rules to be filed, notwithstanding such Refusal as aforesaid; and such filing shall have the same Effect as if the said Barrister or Lord Advocate had certified as aforesaid.

Provision in Cases where Certificate is refused.

VI. Provided also, and be it enacted, That any Person or Persons assessed to any Rate from which any Society shall be exempted by this Act may appeal from the Decision of the said Barrister

Appeal to Quarter Sessions.

Barrister or Lord Advocate in granting such Certificate as aforesaid to the said Court of Quarter Sessions, within Four Calendar Months next after the first Assessment of such Rate made after such Certificate shall have been filed as aforesaid, or within Four Calendar Months next after the first Assessment of such Rate made after such Exemption shall have been claimed by such Society, such Appellant first giving to the Clerk or Secretary of the Society in question, Twenty-one Days previously to the Sitting of the said Court, Notice in Writing of his Intention to bring such Appeal, together with a Statement in Writing of the Grounds thereof, and within Four Days after such Notice entering into a Recognizance before some Justice, with Two sufficient Sureties, to try such Appeal at and abide the Order of and pay such Costs as shall be awarded by the Recorder or Justices at such Quarter Sessions; and at such Quarter Sessions such Recorder or Justices shall, on its being proved that such Notice and Statement have been given as aforesaid, proceed to hear such Appeal, according to the Grounds set forth in such Statement, and not otherwise, and, if the Certificate of the said Barrister or Lord Advocate shall appear to him or them to have been granted contrary to the Provisions of this Act, shall and may annul the same, and shall and may, according to their Discretion, award such Costs to the Party appealing or appealed against as he or they shall think proper, and his or their Determination concerning the Premises shall be conclusive and binding on all Parties to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

CAP. XXXVII.

An Act to make better Provision for the Spiritual Care of populous Parishes. [28th *July* 1843.]

'WHEREAS it is expedient to make better Provision for the Spiritual Care of populous Parishes, and to render the Estates and Revenues vested in "The Ecclesiastical Commissioners for *England*," and the Funds at the Disposal of "The Governors of the Bounty of Queen *Anne* for the Augmentation of the Maintenance of the Poor Clergy," applicable immediately to such Purpose:' 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, That the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners for *England* may, upon the Conditions herein-after mentioned, forthwith borrow, and the said Governors of the Bounty of Queen *Anne*, together with the Most Reverend *William Howley* Lord Archbishop of *Canterbury*, may, upon the Security herein-after mentioned, forthwith lend and transfer to the said Commissioners the Capital Sum of Six hundred thousand Pounds Three Pounds *per Centum* Reduced Bank Annuities, Part of a certain

Queen Anne's Bounty Board may lend Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England a Sum of Stock.