

**PUBLIC ACTS OF PARLIAMENT PASSED IN 1880,
IN THE 43RD AND 44TH YEARS OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN.**

* * * *The figure before each Act denotes the chapter.*

1. An Act to appoint Public Works Loan Commissioners to grant money for the purpose of Loans by the Public Loan Commissioners and the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, &c. June 14.
 2. An Act to amend the Glebe Loan Acts Ireland. June 29.
 3. An Act to apply the sum of £4,925,325 out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending March 31, 1881. June 29.
 4. An Act to provide for the appointment of Judicial Factors in Sheriff Courts of Scotland. July 9.
 5. An Act to make provision for borrowing in respect of certain County Bridges. July 19.
 6. An Act to amend the Representation of the People of Scotland. July 19.
 7. An Act to extend the Union Assessment Committee Acts to single parishes under separate Boards of Guardians. July 19.
 8. An Act to provide for the raising of Loans on behalf of the Isle of Man. July 19.
 9. An Act to remove doubts as to the meaning of Expressions relative to Time occurring in Acts of Parliament, Deeds, and other legal instruments. Aug. 2.
 10. An Act to amend the Law respecting the manner of passing grants under the Great Seal and respecting offices connected therewith. Aug. 2.
 11. An Act to authorise the extension and further Limitation of the Tenures of certain University and College Emoluments, limited, or to be limited, by orders of the Oxford and Cambridge Commissioners. Aug. 2.
 12. An Act to continue certain Turnpike Acts, and to repeal certain other Turnpike Acts, and for other purposes connected therewith. Aug. 2.
 13. An Act to amend the Law in Ireland relating to the Registration of Births and Deaths. Aug. 2.
 14. An Act to amend the Relief of Districts (Ireland) Act, 1880, and for other purposes relating thereto. Aug. 2.
 15. An Act to further amend the Industrial Schools Act, 1866, and the Industrial Schools Act, Ireland, 1868. Aug. 2.
 16. An Act to amend the Law relating to the payment of wages and rating of Merchant Seamen. Aug. 2.
 17. An Act to make provision for Holidays in the Customs and Inland Revenue Office, Scotland. Aug. 2.
 18. An Act to amend the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854. Aug. 2.
 19. An Act to consolidate Enactments relating to certain Taxes and Duties under the management of the Board of Inland Revenue. Aug. 2.
 20. An Act to repeal the duties on Malt, to grant and alter certain duties of Inland Revenue, and to amend the Laws in relation to certain other duties.
 21. An Act to raise the sum of £1,500,000 by Exchequer Bonds, Exchequer Bills, or Treasury Bills, for the service of the year ending March 31, 1880. Aug. 12.
 22. An Act to amend the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, so far as regards certain fees and expenses and sums receivable and payable by the Board of Trade. Aug. 12.
 23. An Act to make further provision as to by-laws respecting the attendance of children at school under the Elementary Education Act. Aug. 26.
 24. An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Manufacture and Sale of Spirits. Aug. 26.
 25. An Act for the further amending the Acts relating to the raising of Money by the Metropolitan Board of Works and for other purposes relating thereto. Aug. 26.
 26. An Act to extend to Scotland the facilities for effecting policies of Assurance for the benefit of married women and children now in force in England and Wales. Aug. 26.
 27. An Act to amend the Law relating to the powers of Drainage Boards in Ireland to construct works outside the limits of their districts. Aug. 26.
 28. An Act for taking the Census in Ireland.
 29. An Act to amend the Courts of Justice Building Act. Aug. 26.
 30. An Act to apply the sum of £10,818,274 out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending March 31, 1881.
 31. An Act to amend the Railways Construction Facilities Act, 1864.
 32. An Act to render valid certain Orders in Bastardy. Aug. 26.
 33. An Act relating to Post Office money-orders.
 34. An Act to abolish Imprisonment for Debt and to provide for the better Punishment of Fraudulent Debtors in Scotland, and other purposes.
 35. An Act to amend the Laws relating to the Protection of Wild Birds.
 36. An Act to amend the Savings Bank Acts.
 37. An Act for taking the Census of England.
 38. An Act for taking the Census of Scotland.
 39. An Act to confer jurisdiction in Lunacy upon the County Court in Ireland in certain cases.
 40. An Act to apply a sum out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending March 31, 1881, and appropriate the supplies granted in this Session of Parliament.
 41. An Act to amend the Burial Laws.
 42. An Act to extend and regulate the Liability of Employers to make compensation for personal injuries suffered by workmen in their service.
 43. An Act to provide for the safe carriage of Grain Cargoes by Merchant Shipping.
 44. An Act to explain and amend Sections 7, 13, and 14, of Districts (Ireland) Amendment Act, 1880.
 45. An Act to amend the Criminal Law as to indecent assaults on young persons.
 46. An Act to amend the Universities and College Estates Act, 1858.
 47. An Act for the better protection of occupiers of land against injury to their crops from Ground Game.
 48. An Act to continue various Expiring Laws.
- During the Session there were passed 48 Public Acts and 203 Local and 9 Private Acts, of which four were ordered not to be printed.

THE GROUND GAME ACT.—The last important Act but one which received the Royal Assent on Sept. 7, 1880, was that bearing the above title. In a short preamble it is recited that, in the interests of good husbandry, and for the better security for capital and labour invested in the occupiers of land, it is necessary that further provision should be made to enable occupiers to protect their crops from injury and loss by ground game—the ground game being hares and rabbits. The Act contains only some seven or eight clauses, and enacts that an occupier shall have the right to kill

hares and rabbits concurrently with any other person (meaning thereby landholders) entitled to kill the same on lands in his occupation. The right to kill, however, is limited to the farmer himself and one other person, who must be specially authorised in writing. "No person shall be authorised by the occupier to kill or take ground game, except members of his household resident on the land in his occupation, persons in his ordinary service on such land, and any one other person bona fide employed by him for reward in the taking and destruction of ground game. Every person so authorised by the occupier, on demand by any person having a concurrent right to take and kill the ground game on the land, or any person authorised by him in writing to make such demand, shall produce to the person so demanding the document by which he is authorised, and in default he shall not be deemed to be an authorised person." Then follow certain instructions with regard to hired grazing or pasture land; and in the case of moorlands and uninclosed lands the rights conferred by the Act extend only from Dec. 11 in one year until March 31 in the following year. Then the occupier is not permitted to enter into an agreement with the landlord which shall contract himself out of the rights conferred by the Act. Neither is he to resort to spring traps or poison, or use firearms after sunset or before sunrise. The Act concludes with a saving clause with regard to existing prohibitions.

THE CITY PAROCHIAL CHARITIES.

A report of considerable interest has been presented to Parliament by a Commission appointed to inquire into the condition and administration of the parochial charities of the City of London. It appears that the area of the City proper comprises 109 parishes to the space of one square mile, not quite 700 acres. The report gives in a tabular form:—

1. The area of each parish, according to the Census Returns, 1861.
2. The number of inhabited houses (in 1851, 1861, and 1871, taken from the Census Returns of these years.
3. The population
4. The gross income of the charities in 1865, 1870, 1876, taken from the Parliamentary returns.
5. The number of outdoor paupers in March, 1879, from a return furnished by the clerk of the City Union.
6. The rateable value.

The population within that square mile was, according to the Census of 1861, 112,063; in 1871 it had fallen to 74,897, showing a decrease in that decade of 37,166 souls.

The list of the ecclesiastical parishes within the City of London shows how the civil parishes have been united for ecclesiastical purposes, and give in a tabular form for each civil and ecclesiastical parish the area, the population in 1871, the gross income of the charities, ecclesiastical and secular.

The income of the charities amounted at the time of the last return to Parliament, in 1876, to	£	s.	d.
If from this amount be deducted that of the charities administered under schemes approved by the Court of Chancery or the Charity Commissioners...	104,904	13	4
And that of charities for which schemes have been submitted but not approved as yet ...	17,718	9	4
	6,171	5	9
	23,897	15	1

The remainder will be the amount still under the uncontrolled administration of the local authorities—viz. ... 81,014 18 3

Contemporaneously with these changes an immense increase in the value of property has taken place, including that from which the funds of the several charities are derived, the receipts from many of the estates having within the last few years doubled, or even trebled in amount. Thus the parish of All Hallows, Lombard-street, which has no poor, is possessed of several houses in Gracechurch-street. In 1854 these produced a rental of £482 a year. The present rental is upwards of £1200 a year. The rental of the parish estates of St. Mary's Abchurch was in 1860 £600, and has now increased to £1125 a year. In St. Peter's-le-Poer an estate which in 1873 produced only £60 a year now brings in no less a sum than £1450. With regard to the administration of the several funds, this is designated as mischievous, and that the recipients are pauperised, and that the money is often thrown away.

In many cases the objects specified by the trusts have ceased to exist, or their origin has been lost, and is, therefore, applied to purposes outside of charity, and even when the charities are being administered under the direction of the Court of Chancery the result is not always satisfactory.

In some cases the scheme has entirely ceased to be applicable to the existing circumstances. As an instance, certain charitable funds have been accumulated for the purpose of purchasing a piece of land to be used as a cemetery, for the inhabitants of St. Michael, Crooked-lane, only. The accumulations now amount to £1344, and are still going on. If ever the cemetery is purchased, however, it will remain almost unoccupied, for there are hardly any residents in the parish of St. Michael, and there certainly is no need of a cemetery for them. Again, in the case of Long's Charity, belonging to the parish of St. Edmund, though the scheme is comparatively recent, the income dealt with by it amounted to £1102. The present income is £4300. It is true the scheme directs that in case the funds should be augmented the payments for the several objects provided for should be increased accordingly; but it by no means follows that a more proper and advantageous use of the charitable funds might not be made when the increase is so enormous as in the present case.

After the Fire of London certain parishes whose churches had been burnt, and subsequently by separate Acts of Parliament other parishes, were united for ecclesiastical purposes, but all these still remain distinct for civil purposes, and retain their full separate, and too often useless, parochial machinery of vestry clerks, churchwardens, overseers, and other parish officers.

THE PRESENT INCOME TAX originated 5th and 6th Victoria, cap. 35, June 22, 1842; but it was first imposed Jan. 4, 1799, by 39th Geo. III., cap. 12, during the war with France. This, however, was repealed on May 4, 1802, by 42nd Geo. III., cap. 42.