

V.



R.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.

17° & 18° VICTORIÆ, CAP. 80.

CHANGE OF SYSTEM.

FROM and after the 1st of *JANUARY* 1855, all Registration in existing Registers of Births, Deaths, and Marriages becomes Illegal (except in the case of Births, Deaths, and Marriages occurring prior to 31st December 1854, which may be Recorded in the existing Registers until the 31st December 1855), and Public attention is earnestly called to the following Instructions relative to the Law as it will then be in force:—

BIRTHS.

SECTION XXVII.—On occasion of the Birth of any Child, the Parents or Parent (or the Mother, in the case of an *Illegitimate Child*) must within *Twenty-one Days* thereafter, and under a PENALTY OF TWENTY SHILLINGS, in case of failure, attend Personally, and give information to the Registrar of the Parish or District within which the Birth occurred.

In case of the Death or inability of the Parents, the Person in charge of any Child born, the Occupier of the House or Tenement in which the Birth has taken place, and the Nurse present at the Birth, must attend and give information to the Registrar.

In the event of a failure to give the Notice above specified, the Parents, or other Persons above specified, and also any others having knowledge of the

Particulars, shall, upon being required, Personally or in Writing, to do so, *within three Months* from the date of the Birth, attend and give Information to the Registrar, under a PENALTY OF FORTY SHILLINGS.

SECTION XXIX.—Any Person who shall find Exposed any New Born Child, or the Dead Body of any New Born Child, shall *forthwith* give notice of the fact to the Registrar of the Parish or District, or to the Inspector of the Poor, or to the District Constable, under a PENALTY OF FORTY SHILLINGS.

SECTION XXXI.—In all cases where *Three Months* shall have expired after the Birth of a Child, it is not lawful to Register such Births, except under the provisions of the 31st Section. The nature of these may be learned on application to the Registrar of the Parish or District.

DEATHS.

SECTION XXXVIII.—The nearest Relatives present at the Death of any Person, and the Occupier of the House or Tenement in which the Death took place, must personally give notice of the Death to the Registrar of the Parish or District, *within Eight Days* thereafter, under a PENALTY OF TWENTY SHILLINGS.

Should the Parties above specified fail to give notice, such Persons, or any other having knowledge of the particulars, are bound, *within Fourteen Days*, from the date of the Death, upon being required to do so, Personally or in Writing, to attend and give the necessary information to the Registrar, under a PENALTY OF FORTY SHILLINGS.

SECTION XXXIX.—In the event of any Person Dying *not* in a House or Tenement, the Occupier of the House or Tenement in which he was at the time lodging or residing, shall, upon receiving information of such Death, give,

or cause to be given, notice to the Registrar of the Parish or District within which the deceased lodged or resided, under a PENALTY OF FORTY SHILLINGS, in case of failure.

Where the Person deceased was himself the Occupier, then the Inmates of such House or Tenement shall give the notice.

In cases where the residence or lodging of the Deceased is not known, then any Person present at the Death, or at the finding of the Body, and any Parish or Public Officer, or any Party to whom the Body shall be brought, must in like manner, and under the LIKE PENALTY, give the required notice.

SECTION XLII.—The Undertaker or other Person having charge of the Interment of any Person, shall, *within Three Days* after such Interment, and under a PENALTY OF FORTY SHILLINGS, transmit a Certificate of such Interment to the Registrar of the Parish within which the Death took place.

MARRIAGES.

SECTION XLVI.—In all cases of Regular Marriage, when the Certificates of the Proclamation of Banns are given out, Parties will receive along with them a certain Form to be filled up in the manner prescribed by the Act, which Form must be produced to the Minister solemnizing the Marriage, and Signed in his presence by the Contracting Parties, by Witnesses, Male or Female, present thereat, not being less than Two in number, and by the Minister officiating. These Forms, so authenticated, must be delivered to the Parties contracting the Marriage, who shall, *within Three Days* thereafter, either deliver or send them by Post to the Registrar of the Parish within which the

Marriage was solemnized. In the event of a Failure so to deliver or send these Forms, the Husband, and failing the Husband the Wife, is liable to a PENALTY OF TEN POUNDS.

SECTION XLVII.—The Registrar of a Parish or District is bound, on receiving *Forty-eight Hours' notice*, in Writing, to attend Parties at the Solemnization of a Marriage with his Register-Book, and to make the proper Entry therein.

SECTIONS XLVIII and XLIX, contain provisions relative to Marriages Irregularly Contracted, the nature of which may be learned on application to the Registrar of the Parish or District.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.

SECTION XLV.—Where Parties fail to attend and give any notice required by the Act, after receiving Two Intimations to that effect from the Registrar, the Sheriff is directed, upon receiving Evidence of such Failure, to issue his Warrant for Compelling Attendance.—THE EXPENSE OF WHICH WILL FALL UPON THE PARTY IN DEFAULT.

SECTION LII.—Printed Forms, setting forth the various particulars of the Information required to be given under the Statute, will be issued to the different

Registrars by the Registrar-General, and will be furnished *Gratis* to all Persons entitled to receive them; and the Registrars will also afford every necessary Instruction as to the proper mode of filling up the Forms prescribed by the Act.

SECTIONS LXX. and LXXI.—Where several Parties are required by the Act to give any notice, it will be sufficient, to prevent liability for Penalties, if One of them shall give the notice required, and such notice may competently be sent by Post, if within the time prescribed by the Act.

Registrars and Police Constables are desired to prevent this Notice from being Effaced or otherwise Destroyed.

MURRAY AND GIBB, PRINTERS, EDINBURGH.

W. P. DUNDAS,
Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages.