

CHAPTER 36.

An Act to amend the Law with respect to the Use of Locomotives on Highways. [14th August 1896.]

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.—(1.) The enactments mentioned in the schedule to this Act, and any other enactment restricting the use of locomotives on highways and contained in any public general or local and personal Act in force at the passing of this Act, shall not apply to any vehicle propelled by mechanical power if it is under three tons in weight unladen, and is not used for the purpose of drawing more than one vehicle (such vehicle with its locomotive not to exceed in weight unladen four tons), and is so constructed that no smoke or visible vapour is emitted therefrom except from any temporary or accidental cause; and vehicles so exempted, whether locomotives or drawn by locomotives, are in this Act referred to as light locomotives.

Exemption of light locomotives from certain statutory provisions.

Provided that—

(a) the council of any county or county borough shall have power to make byelaws preventing or restricting the use of such locomotives upon any bridge within their area, where such council are satisfied that such use would be attended with damage to the bridge or danger to the public:

(b) a light locomotive shall be deemed to be a carriage within the meaning of any Act of Parliament, whether public general or local, and of any rule, regulation, or byelaw, made under any Act of Parliament, and, if used as a carriage of any particular class, shall be deemed to be a carriage of that class, and the law relating to carriages of that class shall apply accordingly.

(2.) In calculating for the purposes of this Act the weight of a vehicle unladen, the weight of any water, fuel, or accumulators, used for the purpose of propulsion, shall not be included.

2. During the period between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise, the person in charge of a light locomotive shall carry attached thereto a lamp so constructed and placed as to exhibit a light in accordance with the regulations to be made by the Local Government Board.

Regulations as to lights.

3. Every light locomotive shall carry a bell or other instrument capable of giving audible and sufficient warning of the approach or position of the carriage.

Locomotives to carry a bell.

Rate of speed.

4. No light locomotive shall travel along a public highway at a greater speed than fourteen miles an hour, or than any less speed that may be prescribed by regulations of the Local Government Board.

Use of
petroleum, &c.
34 & 35 Vict.
c. 105.
42 & 43 Vict.
c. 47.
44 & 45 Vict.
c. 67.

5. The keeping and use of petroleum or of any other inflammable liquid or fuel for the purpose of light locomotives shall be subject to regulations made by a Secretary of State, and regulations so made shall have effect notwithstanding anything in the Petroleum Acts, 1871 to 1881.

Local
Government
Board regu-
lations.

6.—(1.) The Local Government Board may make regulations with respect to the use of light locomotives on highways, and their construction, and the conditions under which they may be used.

(2.) Regulations under this section may, if the Local Government Board deem it necessary, be of a local nature and limited in their application to a particular area, and may, on the application of any local authority, prohibit or restrict the use of locomotives for purposes of traction in crowded streets, or in other places where such use may be attended with danger to the public.

All regulations under this section shall have full effect notwithstanding anything in any other Act, whether general or local, or any byelaws or regulations made thereunder.

Every regulation purporting to be made in pursuance of this section shall be forthwith laid before both Houses of Parliament.

Penalties.

7. A breach of any byelaw or regulation made under this Act, or of any provision of this Act, may, on summary conviction, be punished by a fine not exceeding ten pounds.

Excise duty
on certain
locomotives.

8.—(1.) On and after the first day of January next after the passing of this Act there shall be granted, charged, and paid in Great Britain for every light locomotive, which is liable to duty either as a carriage or as a hackney carriage under section four of the Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1888, an additional duty of excise at the following rate; namely,—

£ s. d.

If the weight of the locomotive exceeds one
ton unladen, but does not exceed two tons
unladen - - - - - 2 2 0

If the weight of the locomotive exceeds two
tons unladen - - - - - 3 3 0

(2.) Every such duty shall be paid together with the duty on the licence for the locomotive as a carriage or a hackney carriage, and shall in England be dealt with in manner directed with respect to duties on local taxation licences within the meaning of the Local Government Act, 1888; and in Scotland be paid into the Local Taxation (Scotland) Account, and be dealt with as part of the residue within the meaning of section two, sub-section (3), of the Local Taxation (Customs and Excise) Act, 1890.

51 & 52 Vict.
c. 41.

53 & 54 Vict.
c. 60.

Construction
of wheels of
locomotives
on roads.

9. The requirements of sub-section (4) of section twenty-eight of the Highways and Locomotives Amendment Act, 1878, may be from time to time varied by order of the Local Government Board.

10. In the application of this Act to Scotland a reference to the Secretary for Scotland shall be substituted for a reference to the Local Government Board, a reference to the road authority of any county or burgh for a reference to the council of a county or county borough, and a reference to sub-section (4) of section three of the Locomotives Amendment (Scotland) Act, 1878, for a reference to sub-section (4) of section twenty-eight of the Highways and Locomotives Amendment Act, 1878.

Application
to Scotland.

41 & 42 Vict.
c. 58.

11. In the application of this Act to Ireland a reference to the Local Government Board for Ireland shall be substituted for a reference to the Local Government Board, and a reference to the council of a county shall be construed in an urban sanitary district under the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, as a reference to the urban sanitary authority, and elsewhere as a reference to the grand jury.

Application
to Ireland.

41 & 42 Vict.
c. 52.

12. This Act may be cited as the Locomotives on Highways Act, 1896, and shall come into operation on the expiration of three months from the passing thereof.

Short title
and commence-
ment.

SCHEDULE.

ENACTMENTS WHICH ARE NOT TO APPLY TO LIGHT LOCOMOTIVES.

The Locomotives Act, 1861 (24 & 25 Vict. c. 70.) except so much of section one as relates to tolls on locomotives, and sections seven and thirteen. Section forty-one of the Thames Embankment Act, 1862 (25 & 26 Vict. c. 93.)

The Locomotives Act, 1865 (28 & 29 Vict. c. 83.)

The Locomotives Amendment (Scotland) Act, 1878 (41 & 42 Vict. c. 58.)

Part II. of the Highways and Locomotives (Amendment) Act, 1878 (41 & 42 Vict. c. 77.)

Section six of the Public Health (Ireland) Amendment Act, 1879 (42 & 43 Vict. c. 57.)