



### CHAPTER clvi.

An Act to enable His Majesty's Postmaster-General to acquire lands in London and Bristol for the public service and for other purposes. [11th August 1903.] A.D. 1903.

**W**HEREAS further accommodation for the purposes of the public service is required by the Postmaster-General in the county of London and the city of Bristol and it is expedient that he be empowered to acquire certain lands and buildings in that county and city respectively for the purposes aforesaid and to erect buildings on any lands so acquired and on certain lands recently acquired by him in the parish of Christchurch in the metropolitan borough of Southwark in the county of London and in the town and urban district of Buxton in the county of Derby :

And whereas the objects aforesaid cannot be effected without the authority of Parliament :

And whereas plans showing the respective lands to be acquired by the Postmaster-General for the purposes of the public service under the authority of this Act with books of reference containing the names of the owners or reputed owners lessees or reputed lessees and of the occupiers of the lands which may be taken compulsorily under this Act have been deposited with the clerks of the peace for the county of London and the city and county of Bristol respectively which plans and books of reference are in this Act respectively referred to as "the deposited plans" and "the deposited books of reference" :

Be it therefore enacted by the King'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 :—

A.D. 1903.

Incorporation of  
8 & 9 Vict.  
c. 18  
23 & 24 Vict.  
c. 106 and  
32 & 33 Vict.  
c. 18 &c.

**1.** The Lands Clauses Acts are subject to the provisions of this Act incorporated with this Act with the following exceptions and modifications viz. :—

- (a) The provisions relating to the sale of superfluous land and access to the special Act and section one hundred and thirty-three of the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 (relating to land tax and poor rate) shall not be incorporated with this Act :
- (b) In the construction of this Act and the Lands Clauses Acts this Act shall be deemed to be the special Act and the Postmaster-General shall be deemed to be the promoter of the undertaking :
- (c) The bond required by section eighty-five of the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 shall be under the corporate seal of the Postmaster-General and shall be sufficient without the addition of the sureties in the said sections mentioned :
- (d) All claims for compensation made upon the Postmaster-General under this Act or any Act incorporated herewith shall if the person claiming has no greater interest in the land in respect of which compensation is claimed than as tenant from year to year or as a leaseholder for any term of which not more than eighteen months remain unexpired at the time at which the claim is made be determined in manner provided by section one hundred and twenty-one of the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act 1845.

Power to  
acquire  
lands.

**2.** Subject to the provisions of this Act it shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General to purchase and acquire for the purposes of this Act all or any of the lands shown on the deposited plans and described in the deposited books of reference.

Any lands acquired by the Postmaster-General for the purposes of the public service under the authority of this Act shall be vested in and be held by him in his corporate capacity on behalf of His Majesty His heirs and successors for the service of the Post Office.

Correction of  
errors &c.  
in deposited  
plans and  
books of  
reference.

**3.** If any omission mis-statement or erroneous description is found to have been made of any lands or of any owners lessees or occupiers of any lands shown or intended to be shown on the deposited plans or described in the deposited books of reference the Postmaster-General may apply to two justices for the correction thereof after giving ten days notice to the owners lessees or occupiers of the lands affected by the proposed correction and if it appears to the justices that such omission mis-statement or

erroneous description arose from mistake they shall so certify stating the particulars thereof and their certificate shall be deposited as if the same had originally formed part of the deposited plans or deposited books of reference (as the case may be) and shall be kept therewith and shall be deemed to be part thereof and thereupon the deposited plans or deposited books of reference (as the case requires) shall be deemed to be corrected according to the certificate and the Postmaster-General may enter on purchase take hold and use the lands to which the certificate relates accordingly.

A.D. 1903.

4. It shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General and for his surveyors officers and workmen at all reasonable times in the daytime to enter into and upon any of the lands shown on the deposited plans and described in the deposited books of reference for the purpose of surveying or valuing such lands on giving for the first time twenty-four hours and afterwards from time to time twelve hours previous notice in writing to the owners or occupiers thereof.

Power to  
Postmaster-  
General to  
enter lands  
for the pur-  
pose of  
surveying.

5.—(1) It shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General to pull down and remove all or any buildings erected on any lands which are shown on the deposited plans and which are purchased by him and on the lands so purchased and on certain lands hereinafter described which have been recently acquired by him in the parish of Christchurch in the metropolitan borough of Southwark and on certain lands which have been recently acquired by him for the erection of a new Post Office in the town and urban district of Buxton in the county of Derby (being the houses and premises known as Nos. 9 and 10 The Quadrant Buxton and the garden ground or vacant land lying on the west and north sides of and adjacent to such houses and premises) to construct buildings and works for the service of the Post Office and to make such approaches and widening and alterations of thoroughfares and do all such other things as in his opinion are necessary or expedient for the execution of any of the purposes of this Act.

Power to  
erect build-  
ings and  
form roads.

(2) The Postmaster-General (with the consent of the Treasury) may enter into contracts and agreements with any local authority within the boroughs and places to which this Act refers and with the Great Western Railway Company with reference to the formation diversion or alteration of streets and highways and with reference to a sale lease or exchange of land for the purposes aforesaid and may make money payments in respect thereof.

6. The Postmaster-General may use the lands or any part thereof situate in the parish of Christchurch in the metropolitan borough of Southwark in the county of London shown on the

Lands for  
generating  
station.

A.D. 1903.

deposited plans and described in the book of reference thereto and the other lands already acquired by him in the said parish and borough and adjoining such last-mentioned lands (all which lands are described in the schedule hereto) for the erection establishment and maintenance of a station or stations for generating electrical energy and may thereon provide and work such engines dynamos and other electrical plant and apparatus as may be necessary for the purpose of the public service.

Extinction  
of rights of  
laying pipes  
and other  
casements.

7.—(1) The Postmaster-General may divert alter and stop up any street roadway or passage within the limits of any of the lands shown on the deposited plans so soon as such lands are acquired by him and in particular as soon as the Postmaster-General has purchased or acquired the lands situate in the metropolitan borough of Paddington and numbered respectively 1 2 3 4 5 6 and 7 on the plans relating to such lands and in the book of reference thereto he may stop up and close or divert and alter such portion of Stanley Street as is shown on such plans as intended to be stopped up and so soon as the said portion of the said street is so stopped up the Postmaster-General may appropriate and use the site thereof.

(2) All rights of way rights of laying down or continuing pipes sewers or drains on through over or under any of the lands shown on the deposited plans or on through over or under the lands already acquired by the Postmaster-General in the parish of Christchurch in the metropolitan borough of Southwark and in the town and urban district of Buxton as in this Act mentioned and all other public or private rights or casements in over or relating to such lands or any part thereof shall as from the date of the acquisition by the Postmaster-General of such lands respectively be extinguished and all the soil of those ways and the property in such pipes sewers or drains shall be vested in the Postmaster-General in such capacity and for such purpose as aforesaid.

(3) Any person may recover from the Postmaster-General such compensation (if any) as he may be entitled to under the provisions of the Lands Clauses Acts for any private rights or private property of which he may be deprived in pursuance of this section the amount of such compensation to be determined in manner provided by the Lands Clauses Acts or the Postmaster-General may at his discretion grant rights and casements in lieu of any rights or casements extinguished under this Act and in substitution for money payments or other considerations and if any person is dissatisfied with the exercise of such power he may proceed in the manner prescribed by the Lands Clauses Acts in relation to the injurious affecting of lands.

8 & 9 Vict.  
c. 18.  
23 & 24 Vict.  
c. 106 and  
32 & 33 Vict.  
c. 18.

8. Nothing in this Act shall affect any rights or jurisdiction of the London County Council or the council of any metropolitan borough or any urban district in relation to any sewers drains or watercourses. A.D. 1903.  
Saving for local authorities.

9. If in the removal and pulling down of any buildings or in raising or lowering the ground of any street or way under the powers of this Act it shall be necessary to raise sink or otherwise alter the position relatively to the surface of the ground of any main or service pipe or other apparatus laid down or used by the Gas Light and Coke Company or connected with any house or building for the supply of gas by that Company one month's notice shall be given to the said Company previously to the commencement of any such work which shall be executed to the reasonable satisfaction of the engineer of the said Company or in case of difference of an engineer to be selected by the Board of Trade and every such work shall be so executed as to cause as little inconvenience as circumstances will admit to the said Company and the Postmaster-General shall make compensation to the said Company for any loss or damage if any which may be occasioned by the execution of the works by this Act authorised or any or either of them. For protection of Gas Light and Coke Company.

10. The following provisions shall have effect with reference to the widening of Upper Ground Street in the parish of Christchurch in the metropolitan borough of Southwark :— Widening of Upper Ground Street Blackfriars.

- (1) The Postmaster-General shall give up for the purpose of widening the said street and hand over to the council of the metropolitan borough of Southwark (herein-after called "the council") for such purpose so much of the lands in the said parish shown on the deposited plans and of the lands already acquired by the Postmaster-General and adjoining such first-mentioned lands as lies on the southern side of a line marked "Suggested building line" and as is shown in brown colour on the plan signed in duplicate by Mr. Austen Chamberlain the Chairman of the Select Committee of the House of Commons to which the Bill for this Act was referred and the Postmaster-General shall be at liberty to erect buildings and works on any part of the land which lies on the northern side of the said line marked "Suggested building line" and which is shown in pink colour on the said plan :
- (2) The council shall make up and pave at their own expense the land so given up to them as aforesaid and shall for ever after maintain the same as part of the said street :

A.D. 1903.

(3) The arrangement embodied in the foregoing sub-clauses shall be carried out from time to time as the Postmaster-General pulls down and removes any part of the buildings fronting to Upper Ground Street aforesaid and the council shall from time to time make up and pave any land given up to them as aforesaid forthwith upon the transfer thereof to them.

Widening of  
Small Street  
Bristol.

**11.** For the purpose of widening Small Street in the parish and city and county of Bristol the Postmaster-General shall within six months after he has acquired the land in the said parish and city shown on the deposited plans and described in the deposited book of reference and has obtained vacant possession thereof sell and convey to the lord mayor aldermen and burgesses of the city of Bristol (in this section called "the corporation") and the corporation shall purchase and take at the price of three thousand and three hundred pounds the fee simple in possession of so much of the said land as is delineated and coloured pink on the plan signed in duplicate by Mr. Austen Chamberlain the Chairman of the Committee of the House of Commons to which the Bill for this Act was referred and the corporation shall use the said land for the purpose of widening Small Street in the said city and county. On such sale and conveyance the corporation shall not require the Postmaster-General to furnish any further or other evidence of title to the said land than that obtained by him on the conveyance of the land to him by the previous owners thereof.

Time for  
compulsory  
purchase.

**12.** The limit of time for the compulsory purchase of lands under this Act shall be three years.

Land tax.

**13.—(1)** Any land tax assessed on the first day of January one thousand nine hundred and three on any part of any of the lands shown on the deposited plans and described in the deposited books of reference or on any part of any of the lands already acquired by the Postmaster-General in the parish of Christchurch in the metropolitan borough of Southwark and in the town and urban district of Buxton as in this Act mentioned shall as from the date of the purchase or acquisition by the Postmaster-General of the lands on which it is assessed be deemed to have been redeemed at the price and in accordance with the conditions provided by the Finance Act 1896 and the Land Tax Acts therein defined and from and after such date no sum shall be assessed or charged in respect of land tax on any part of such lands.

59 & 60 Viet.  
c. 28.

(2) The Commissioners of Inland Revenue shall grant a certificate of exoneration from assessment to land tax of any

lands purchased or acquired by the Postmaster-General under this Act or already acquired by him in the parish of Christchurch in the metropolitan borough of Southwark and in the town and urban district of Buxton as in this Act mentioned and that certificate shall be registered by the officer appointed for the registry of contracts for the redemption of land tax.

A.D. 1903.

**14.**—(1) No purchase shall be made by the Postmaster-General under the authority of this Act without the sanction of the Treasury.

Sanction of Treasury required to purchase under this Act.

(2) Any such sanction may be given either generally or in respect of any particular purchase contract or agreement and a vendor to or purchaser from or person contracting with the Postmaster-General shall not be bound or entitled to inquire whether such sanction has been given.

**15.** All moneys payable by the Postmaster-General with respect to the purchase and acquisition of lands under this Act and all costs charges and expenses incurred by the Postmaster-General in or connected with the carrying into effect of the provisions of this Act shall be paid out of moneys provided by Parliament.

Act to be carried out by means of moneys provided by Parliament.

**16.** This Act may be cited as the Post Office (Sites) Act 1903.

Short title.

A.D. 1903.

**SCHEDULE.****LANDS INTENDED TO BE USED FOR GENERATING OR POWER STATIONS.**

Certain land wharves and premises with the houses and buildings erected thereon recently acquired by the Postmaster-General and situate in the parish of Christchurch in the metropolitan borough of Southwark in the county of London on the southern bank of the River Thames the eastern side of Old Barge House Alley and the northern side of Upper Ground Street Blackfriars and known as the Old Barge House Wharf and the land wharves and premises situate in the same parish and borough intended to be purchased under the authority of this Act with the houses and buildings erected thereon and comprising premises adjoining the first-mentioned land on the eastern side thereof and known as the Old Barge House Cement Wharf recently in the occupation of Messrs. Broad and Company Limited the Old Barge House Corn Wharf now or recently in the occupation of Wm. and Alfred Aste and the Old Barge House Iron Wharf now or recently in the occupation of the Thames Bank Iron Company and the licensed house and premises adjoining the first-mentioned land at the south-western corner thereof and known as the "Admiral Vernon" public-house situate on the northern side of Upper Ground Street aforesaid and the eastern side of Old Barge House Alley.

---

Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,  
FOR

T. DIGBY PIGOTT, Esq., C.B., the King's Printer of Acts of Parliament.

---

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from  
EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.; or  
OLIVER AND BOYD, EDINBURGH; or  
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.