



CHAPTER 53.

An Act to provide for the Punishment of Offences in Libraries. A.D. 1898.
[12th August 1898.]

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. This Act may be cited as the Libraries Offences Act, 1898. Short title.

2. Any person who, in any library or reading-room to which this Act applies, to the annoyance or disturbance of any person using the same,— Penalty for offences.

- (1) behaves in a disorderly manner ;
- (2) uses violent, abusive, or obscene language ;
- (3) bets or gambles ;
- (4) or who, after proper warning, persists in remaining therein beyond the hours fixed for the closing of such library or reading-room,

shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding forty shillings.

3. This Act shall apply—

- (a) to any library under the Public Libraries Act, 1892 ; and
- (b) to any library or reading-room maintained by a Society registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, 1893, or under the Friendly Societies Act, 1896, or by any registered Trade Union.

Application
of Act.

56 & 57 Vict.
c. 39.
59 & 60 Vict.
c. 25.

4. This Act shall not apply to Scotland or Ireland.

Extent of
Act.

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T. DIGBY FROST, Esq., C.B., the Queen's Printer of Acts of Parliament.