

Crown Office, April 17, 1882.

MEMBER returned to serve in the present
PARLIAMENT.

County of Meath.

Edward Sheil, Esq., in the place of Michael Davitt, who having been adjudged guilty of felony, and sentenced to penal servitude for fifteen years, and being now imprisoned under such sentence, is incapable of being elected a Member of the House of Commons.

(H. 3225).

*Board of Trade (Harbour Department),
Whitehall Gardens, April 15, 1882.*

THE Board of Trade have received through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs a copy of a Law recently promulgated in France for the protection of buoys, beacons, &c., at sea, of which the following is a translation, viz. :—

LAW TO PROTECT BUOYS AND BEACONS AT SEA.
The French Senate and Chamber of Deputies having adopted,

The President of the Republic promulgates the Law, of which the following clauses give the tenour :—

ART. 1. It is forbidden to every captain, commander, or master of a vessel to moor to a floating light, beacon, or any buoy not destined for that purpose.

It is equally forbidden to cast anchor within the range of the cable of a floating light or of a buoy.

The only exception to this rule is when the ship, vessel, or boat is in danger of being lost.

ART. 2. Any infringement of the provisions of the Article given above is punished with a fine of from 10 francs to 15 francs inclusive. The offender can, moreover, be condemned to imprisonment for not more than five days.

ART. 3. The captain or master of any ship, boat, or vessel which, by anchoring or mooring, or any other accidental cause, has displaced, upset, or injured a floating light, a buoy, or a beacon is bound to declare it within twenty-four hours of his arrival at the first French port he comes to to the officer in charge or harbour-master, or, if they are absent, to the syndic of mariners. In a foreign country this declaration should be made to the French consular agent nearest to the point of arrival.

If he omits to declare, he may be punished by imprisonment of from ten days to three months, and by a fine of from 25 to 100 francs.

If the declaration is made under the conditions stated above, he is excused from repairing the damage he has caused.

ART. 4. The declaration required by the preceding Article is obligatory, under the same penalties, on the captain or master of a ship, vessel, or boat which, when in danger of being lost, has anchored to a floating light, to a beacon, or to a buoy not intended for such uses.

ART. 5. Whoever intentionally destroys, tampers with, or injures a floating light, a buoy, or a beacon is punished by imprisonment from six months to three years, and by a fine of from 100 francs to 500 francs, without including the reparation of the damage caused.

ART. 6. The penalty of imprisonment, as laid down in Articles 2, 3, 4, and 5, can be doubled in cases of repetition.

It is considered as repetition when the delinquent has been condemned within the preceding twelve months for infringement of the present law.

ART. 7. The regulations of Article 463 of the Penal Code are applicable in all cases where the judicial tribunals, or the police merely, apply the preceding regulations.

ART. 8. Infringements and offences are verified by the officers commanding state vessels, port officers, and harbour-masters, conductors and other agents in the service of roads and bridges, the officers of marine in command of vessels for the protection of fisheries, the syndics of sailors, the marine gendarmes, men in charge of semaphores, and pilots, who ought to be specially sworn to this effect, as well as by the agents and representatives of the customs.

ART. 9. The procès-verbaux drawn up in virtue of the preceding Article hold good until the contrary is proved.

They should, under pain of nullity, be confirmed within three days of the closure of the said procès-verbaux, or when the agent who has proved the offence returns to shore, either before the juge de paix of the canton, or before the mayor of the commune, where the agent who has drawn up the procès-verbal resides.

But procès-verbaux drawn up by officers commanding state vessels, harbour-masters, marine officers in command of vessels for the protection of fisheries, officers of gendarmerie, and custom-house officers in no case require to be confirmed in this manner.

ART. 10. The procès-verbaux are remitted or sent, either directly or through the officer or harbour-master of the nearest port, to the engineer of roads and bridges in charge of the marine service.

Prosecutions are undertaken either by the Government or by the engineer of the marine service, who has the right in this latter case of stating the matter before the tribunal and of being heard in support of his assertions.

The case is carried, according to the nature of the offence proceeded against, either before the police court or the penal court of the harbour nearest to the spot where the offence was committed, or before the court of the French port in which the vessel may have been found, or else of the port to which the French vessel belongs.

The present law having been discussed and adopted by the Senate and by the Chamber of Deputies, will be carried out as a State Law.

Done at Paris, March 27, 1882.

By the President of the Republic,
JULES GRÉVY.

The Minister of Public Works,
H. VARROY.

(C. 1206.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall Gardens,
April 17, 1882.*

THE Board of Trade have received from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs copies of two Decrees of the Roumanian Government, prohibiting the importation into the Dobroudja of tobacco, cigars, and snuff coming from abroad, and applying to that district the law of the Tobacco Monopoly now in force in Roumania. The introduction of the monopoly dates from the 1st-13th instant.

Admiralty, 14th April, 1882.

Assistant-Paymaster Edgar de Hahn Whiddon has been promoted to the rank of Paymaster in Her Majesty's Fleet, with seniority of the 13th instant.