

must be brought within two years after P. M.'s death, removal or resignation, or after the acceptance of new sureties. The P. M. G. prescribes the periods at which P. M.'s must account, and on failure may sue them. If they continue to neglect to render accounts for more than a month, they forfeit double the value of postages accrued at their office in any equal time. P. M.'s in cities must render accounts under oath of all their emoluments, as well from boxes leased and branch offices as from postages for drop and other letters and city delivery, and shall only retain their stated salary or allowance. P. M.'s whose salaries are not fixed by law may be paid by a per centage or salary, as P. M. G. may direct. Any contracts for mail service for over \$200 must be given after tenders have been invited by advertisement for six weeks; it shall be awarded to person making lowest tender and offering good security, unless the P. M. G. is of opinion it would not be for benefit of the public service when he reports on the same to the G. in C. He is not obliged to notice the tender of a person who has failed in a previous contract. If offers are all too high, the P. M. G. may re-advertise or offer reasonable sum to each of the tenderers, beginning with lowest, till it is accepted. Every tender must be accompanied with the offer of sureties. If, after the acceptance of his tender, any party shall fail to enter into the contract giving good security, the P. M. G. may contract with some other person charging the difference to the defaulter, and recovering it by action at law. P. M.'s may, by permission of the P. M. G., become contractors. Contracts for less than \$200 may be let as the P. M. G. sees fit. No contract shall be entered into with any person who has combined, or proposed to combine, with others to keep back tenders. Contracts with railway and steamboat companies may be made without advertising, but all such contracts for over \$1000 shall be submitted to the G. in C. Abstracts of tenders are to be recorded, and the originals preserved. No contract is to be for more than four years, but in special cases the P. M. G. may renew for the same term. He may make temporary contracts pending the advertising, &c., for the regular one. Railways are compelled to carry H. M.'s mail and persons officially travelling with it, upon terms to be settled by the G. in C. The P. M. G., with consent of the G. in C., may establish P. O. Savings Banks, in connection with a Savings Bank to be attached to department at Ottawa, and may authorize such P. M.'s as he shall think fit to receive deposits not less than \$1 in amount. For the regulations, see the article on the Post Office. P. M. G. may make regulations, with consent of the G. in C., in any matter not provided for by Act. Copies are to be laid before Parliament. Monthly returns are to be made to the Auditor and published in *Canada Gazette*. Whenever the cash balance is over \$500,000 it is to be reported to the M. F., who, with consent of the Treasury Board, shall invest the same in government securities, to be held thereafter in reserve by the R. G. Report of each financial year's transactions shall be made up after its completion, and submitted to Parliament at its next session. The R. G. is to credit P. O. Savings Bank account with accrued interest on invested surplus, and interest at 5 p. c. on invested balance, and debit it with expenses. Profit to form part of and loss made good from the C. R. F. A full report of the other transactions of the P. O. D. is to be made annually by the P. M. G. to the Governor, who shall submit it to Parliament. To make away with any Post letter is a felony punishable with 3 to 5 years' imprisonment, or if it contain money or valuable security 5 years to life; to steal anything valuable out of letter, or to steal a letter bag, or letter from bag or P. O., or officer or employee of P. O., or from mail, or to stop mail with intent to rob or search it, the latter penalty; unlawfully to open a bag or take a letter out, 5 years' imprisonment; to make away with a parcel, imprisonment for not less than 3 years. To be a receiver of anything so stolen or embezzled, not less than 5 years' imprisonment. Unlawfully issuing a money order, not less than 3 years. To forge, counterfeit or imitate stamp, to use one knowing it to be counterfeit, to engrave or print, or have plate or die in possession, or to forge frank, is felony, punishable by imprisonment for 5 years to life, and the laws relating to forgery shall apply. Forging any necessary documents relating to money orders or deposit in savings bank is punishable by imprisonment from 2 to 7 years. Stealing mail key or lock, or forging such key, imprisonment for not more than 7 years. Unlawfully to open a letter or letter bag which he has found or has received, after payment of postage, without right to do so, or to refuse to deliver it up to the right party, is a misdemeanor. To steal or wilfully destroy other mail matter, to enclose explosive substances in a letter or packet (unless punishable as crime of greater magnitude by other laws); to remove stamp or the mark thereon with fraudulent intent; to wilfully hinder progress of mail; to cut or otherwise damage letter bag; wilfully to contravene any legal regulations, if so declared by such regulations; and soliciting the commission of any acts punishable under the Act, are all misdemeanors punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, at the discretion of the court. To enclose letters, or writings to serve purpose of letter, in parcels or packets, or in a newspaper (except accounts or receipts of publishers, which go free) or to use again a stamp already used, is punishable by a fine of not less than \$10 nor more than \$40. A mail carrier being guilty of drunkenness while conveying mails; or neglecting his duty; a toll-keeper who refuses passage to the horse or carriage conveying the mail, and any ferryman wilfully delaying or detaining it, or refusing to convey the mail over his ferry, are likewise guilty of misdemeanor, and punishable with a like penalty. Accessories and abettors in every case are punishable as principals. To convert any P. O. money to his own use, by investing or loaning it, is an embezzlement on the part of any P. M. or other officer of the P. O. D., punishable as a felony by a fine equal to the amount so embezzled, and imprisonment for not less than 3 months or more than 7 years. All persons advising or participating to be punished in like manner. Neglect or refusal to pay over moneys due to the P. O. D. is *prima facie* evidence of such embezzlement. No other person but P. M.'s shall sell postage stamps without license from the P. M. G. under a penalty of \$40. Wilfully injuring or destroying pillar or street letter box, or other authorized receptacle, or to aid and abet, is a misdemeanor punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both. To place the words "Post Office" on a house or sign without authority is punishable by a fine of \$10. Officers are protected in prosecution of duty as customs officers under Customs Act.

BANKING.

Cap. 11.—"An Act respecting Banks."—Authorizes the opening of branches of existing banks in any part of the Dominion. Banks in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are to make the same half-yearly returns and pay same duty as those in Ontario and Quebec—1 p. c. on average circulation, less specie in vault. Banks may take and hold mortgages on personal as well as real property, as collateral security, and dispose of the same, and may purchase and hold lands mortgaged, and may acquire an absolute title therein. They may advance moneys on bills of lading, specifications of timber, and warehouse receipts, receiving the same as collateral security, and in case of non-payment of money advanced may sell goods or property mentioned therein and apply proceeds so far as necessary to such payment. But they shall not hold such goods, &c., in pledge for more than 6 months, nor dispose of them until 10 days' notice has been given to the owner. The lien thus created to rank prior to that of an unpaid vendor. Security may be similarly given by indorsing over cove-keeper's or wharfinger's receipt for timber. Timber is