

## FORTIFICATIONS.

*Cap. 40*—Makes provision for works of fortification and defence. Power is taken to raise £1,000,000 stg. for such works under the guarantee of the Imperial Treasury, to rank next after the Intercolonial Railway Loan, and to be expended on works of defence at St. John, N. B., Montreal, and places west of Montreal.

## SECRETARY OF STATE OF CANADA.

*Cap. 42*—Provides for the establishment of a department of "the Secretary of State of Canada," who shall also be Registrar General, and Superintendent of Indian Affairs. It provides that all Indian moneys in all the Provinces are to be paid to the R. G., &c. That no transfer of Indian lands shall be valid without the consent of the council of the tribe, given in presence of the Secretary or some one deputed by him or the G. in C. to attend. No intoxicating liquors may be introduced or used at such meeting. The penalty for selling or giving intoxicating liquors at any time to an Indian, except in case of illness, and then by order of a physician or clergyman, is \$20 for each offence. Things pawned for liquor by an Indian may not be kept. Presents from Government are not liable to seizure for debt. To be within the Act and hold property with a tribe, a person must be of Indian blood, reputed to belong to the tribe, or must reside among them, having some Indian blood, or must be a woman lawfully married to a person of one of the above classes, or be the offspring issue of such marriage, or descendants of such offspring. None but such persons may settle on Indian lands, and unauthorized persons may be removed by warrant from the Secretary or his agent, and may be arrested and imprisoned if they return. The road work on such lands is to be performed under the orders of the Secretary. Persons cutting timber or removing stone from Indian lands, without license from the Secretary or his agent, incur a penalty of \$4 if the thing removed be under the value of \$1; if over, \$20. The Secretary is to act for Indians in obtaining compensation for land taken or damage done by a railway or public work. The G. in C. may authorize surveys, and may make regulations about the protection and management of Indian lands and the timber on them, imposing fines for breach of them. The Secretary also has the management of the Ordnance lands and of any other Crown lands belonging to the Dominion and not under the control of the Public Works. The Governor may appoint agents to carry out the Act. The G. in C. may assign any part of these duties of the Secretary to any other member of the Privy Council.

## CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.

*Cap. 43*—Creates a Department of Customs, with a Minister, and a Commissioner as his Deputy, and Asst. Commissioner. It authorizes a board of examiners and special examinations for those to be employed in the department. Among other duties the officers of Customs are to collect canal tolls.

*Cap. 44*—Imposes duties of Customs. See Tariff, elsewhere.

## THE CURRENCY AND DOMINION NOTES.

*Cap. 45*—Is "An Act respecting the Currency." If the Congress of the United States adopt the basis of the International Monetary Conference making the American half eagle equal to the French 25 franc piece, then by proclamation of the G. in C. the same currency will be adopted here. The £1 stg. is to be worth \$5.04½ in our currency, and our currency, to be in pounds, shillings and pence, or dollars, cents and mills, shall be proportionate thereto. The pound currency to be 89.601 grains of pure gold, or 97.747 grains according to the established fineness of British coins. The British silver crown to pass for \$1.25, the florin for 50 cts., the shilling 25 cts., and others in same proportion, and be a legal tender up to \$10. The U. S. half eagle and French 25 francs to be legal tender for \$5 each. The Governor may also make American silver coins a tender for \$10. Sums due under old contracts to be paid by equivalents in new currency. The currency for the whole Dominion, for all public purposes, until such change takes place, shall be that of the late Provinces of Canada and New Brunswick, but not to be put in force respecting duties and penalties under the Inland Revenue Act in Nova Scotia till 1st July, 1868. The Governor may, by proclamation, make silver coins of the United States or of foreign countries legal tender in Quebec, Ontario, and New Brunswick.

*Cap. 46*—Enables banks to use Dominion Notes instead of issuing notes of their own. On the surrender of their right to issue, they are to receive from the Government 5 p. c. per annum upon their outstanding circulation on the 30th April, 1866, for banks then incorporated in Quebec and Ontario, and such sum as the Government may arrange for banks in the other Provinces or since incorporated, and half the cost of their unissued notes. The surrender may be immediate or gradual. Debentures or other Government securities now held by such banks to be received in exchange for Dominion Notes. After such arrangement is completed, banks are no longer bound to hold Government securities. Weekly returns are to be made of the old notes withdrawn from circulation, and compensation to be made half yearly on the basis of such returns. Banks may resume the issue of their own notes on giving three months' notice. Authority is given to use Provincial (Canada) Notes as Dominion Notes under this Act, and re-issue them or cause new Dominion Notes to be prepared. They are to be redeemable in specie at Montreal, Toronto, Halifax, and St. John. Those made payable at Halifax to represent Nova Scotia currency. They are a legal tender, except at the offices where they are redeemable. Branches of the R. G.'s office may be opened in each of those cities, or arrangement made with banks at ½ p. c. per quarter on average amount in circulation. Up to \$5,000,000 20 p. c. specie is to be held; for any excess, 25 p. c. Three commissioners are to be appointed for Ontario, three for Quebec, and two for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, to examine and report monthly how many notes are out from each office and how much is held in specie and securities against them.

*Cap. 47*—Makes it illegal for any one to import or manufacture any copper coin, except that of the United Kingdom or such as is already authorized by law, in any of the Provinces, under a penalty of \$20 for every lb. Troy, and forfeiture. Proceedings may be taken before two J. P., or customs officers may seize the coin. The penalty for uttering or tendering such coin is forfeiture of double the amount, and may be recovered before one J. P.

*Cap. 48*—Is the Act respecting Insurance Companies, which see under the head "Insurance."

## INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

*Cap. 49*—Establishes a Department of Inland Revenue, in form like the others, having jurisdiction over excise, stamps (except postage), internal taxes, weights and measures, measuring and culling timber, collection of bridge and ferry tolls and rents. A special board of examiners and special examinations for officers of this department is provided for. The deputy head is styled "Commissioner."

*Caps. 50 and 51*.—See heading "Excise."