

LEGISLATION 1868-9.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

Legislature opened 20th January, and prorogued 5th April, 1869.

SUPPLY BILL.

Cap. 1—Appropriates \$2,418,822.88 out of the consolidated revenue. Payments to be made subject to adjustment with the Dominion and Ontario.

INDEMNITY OF MEMBERS.

Cap. 2—Revives and amends Act respecting indemnity of members and salary of Speaker. Members to receive \$6 per diem for 31 days. If session is longer, \$450 for session.

INDEPENDENCE OF LEGISLATURE.

Cap. 3—Provides that no person holding office, with annual salary, or emoluments in lieu of such salary from the Province, shall be appointed Leg. Councillor, or sit in Assembly, except Ministers; and no Leg. Councillor can sit in assembly. No person holding office with Dominion salary, except as Senators, President of Senate or Privy Councillors, shall be eligible to either House. Officers of Militia and Militiamen receiving pay as such, but not receiving permanent salary, on Staff, and Postmasters receiving no more than \$100, are also excepted; as are also, for life, all in the L. C. now holding such offices, and, until end of present Parliament, those, so holding, in the L. A. Contractors with Dominion or Provincial Government are disqualified. The election of any person thus disqualified is null, and if he sits or votes he forfeits \$1000 per diem. Becoming so disqualified after election his seat is vacated. Exchange of Ministerial offices within a month is permitted. Provision is made for resigning seat and filling vacancies similar to Dominion Act—(See *Year Book* for 1869.) The letters patent of a Leg. Councillor, disqualified as above, are to be cancelled, and another appointed in his stead.

PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS OF LEGISLATURE.

Cap. 4—Declares that the privileges, immunities, &c. of the members of the Leg. Council, shall be same as those of Senators of Canada, and those of the L. A. same as those of H. of C., and those to form part of public law, and be noticed by Courts without being pleaded. (Other provisions as in Canada Act 31 vic., c 23. See as above.)

TO CONTINUE LEGISLATURE ON DEMISE OF CROWN.

Cap. 5—Same as Canada Act 31 Vic., cap. 22. (See as above.)

OATHS TO WITNESSES BEFORE COMMITTEES.

Cap. 6—Authorizes the administration of oaths to witnesses before committees of either House.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN OF LEG. COUNCIL.

Cap. 7—Authorizes the L. G. in C. to appoint a temporary chairman to Leg. Council, whenever the speaker is unable, from sickness or other cause, to preside.

PUBLIC ENQUIRIES.

Cap. 8—Provides that L.G. in C. may appoint commissioners to enquire into public matters, with power to compel attendance of witnesses, and examine them under oaths. Such power is also conferred upon Prison Inspectors, Board of Public Instruction and Civil Service Board.

SECURITY FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS.

Cap. 9—Authorizes the L. G. in C. to determine what security shall be given by persons appointed to office. Such security may be hypothecary, by deposit of money, by transfer of stock, or by guarantee policy. The hypothecque is made a first charge, notwithstanding articles 2017 and 2044 of the Civil Code. It may be cancelled according to article 2151, by certificate of law officers of the crown, and this must be given within 6 months of death of officer, unless the Treasurer declares there has been want of security. Money deposited and stock transferred is exempted from seizure. Interest or profit to be paid over to surety. A surety may withdraw upon giving 3 months notice. Certificate of Treasurer is to be *prima facie* proof of breach of security, and he must report from time to time on the sufficiency of securities. Any person failing to put in security, when called upon, forfeits his office. Security shall enure preferentially to the benefit of the Treasurer for any loss to Province by breach—next to any individual who has suffered loss, who may, by leave of law officers, proceed in his own name and that of the Treasurer, for recovery of the amount. He must give security for costs. He may obtain a copy of security which shall be evidence. Treasurer is to lay before Legislature each session a list of all securities and changes under this Act. Securities already given remain valid till new are put in. Then they are discharged, except in so far as relates to previous transactions. Act to go into force when proclaimed.

AUTHENTICITY OF DOCUMENTS.

Cap. 10—Letters patent, commissions, proclamations, orders in council, and other instruments issued by the executive government; the records, registers, journals and public documents of the several departments of government and of the legislature, and official copies and extracts of and from such books, &c., certificates and all other writings included within the legal intendment of the Act, when properly executed and attested by the proper officer, make proof of their contents without evidence respecting signature or seal. The signature of the Deputy Clerk or First Clerk of office of the Executive Council, has the same effect as that of the Clerk.