

Cap. 13—Corrects some verbal errors in the Interpretation Act, so as to make section 10 of the Civil Code apply to all Acts of the legislature; and in first section of 31 Vic. cap. 20, substituting Civil Code for "Code of Civil Procedure," and 23 Vic. cap. 20 for "cap. 22 Con. Stat. Can."

COLONIZATION SOCIETIES.

Cap. 14—Provides for the formation of one or more Colonization Societies in each electoral division, for the purpose of aiding immigration, the opening of roads and settlement of new lands. Thirty persons for any electoral division or county, not necessarily resident therein, may form such a Society, which is to be organized by signing a declaration, framing and signing a constitution and by laws, and electing a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Board of not less than 5, including these officers. They then report to the C. of A., on whose recommendation the L. G. in C. approves of the organization, and the Commissioner issues a certificate which is valid as a charter. Subject to like approval the constitution may be amended at a general meeting and the by-laws by the Board. Societies may hold lands not exceeding in annual value \$1000. A second and third Society may be formed in the same division or county if difference of race or religion render it expedient,—subject to approval however as above. Each Society is designated as number 1, 2 or 3, as formed. Several Societies may co-operate, their business being carried on by delegates from all the boards. Within 3 months after official advertisement of the formation members must raise at least \$100, and transmit a certificate, under oath, to the C. of A., who will pay the Society an equal amount up to \$300; after that only half the amount: the total to the 1, 2 or 3 Societies in a division never to exceed \$600. Societies not formed within the first nine months of a year, cannot participate in that year's grant. The Societies must report their proceedings annually to government. They must conform to their own constitution and by-laws and the instructions of the C. of A. Failing in this the subsidy may be withdrawn, and the Society, after three months notice, dissolved. The property and effects of such Society then vest in the Commissioner, who may appoint a Trustee to wind up its affairs. On a petition of two-thirds of the Board, approved by two-thirds of the members a Society may be dissolved. General Colonization Societies may be formed irrespective of *territo* limits, or instructions of the C. of A., but receive no subsidy from government, and are only to be dissolved at their own request. The C. C. L. may, at the request of a Society, set apart a township or part of township in which its settlers shall have preference, provided they are sent in within the period prescribed by the O. in C. No such reservation is to be extended beyond three years. He may also make a free grant of 1 in 10 of such lots. Any municipality or corporation may subscribe to the funds of such Society, and any Agricultural Society to the extent of one-third of its grant; and the chief officer of any such body may be an *ex officio* member of the Board. By O. in C. a Society may be declared to be interested in any colonization road, and may thereafter expend its moneys on it. No Society or any member shall make any profit out of the operations of the Society, or receive emolument, except the Secretary Treasurer and one agent to each. But a member may become a *bona fide* settler on such lands, or receive a free grant.

AGRICULTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS.

Cap. 15—Constitutes a department with the above title, having charge also of immigration, emigration and colonization, with a Commissioner as chief officer. Among other duties he is to institute inquiries and collect useful facts and statistics relating to the agricultural, mechanical and manufacturing interests of the Province, and circulate and publish them. Agricultural Societies, Schools and Colleges, the Board of Arts, Mechanics' Institutes, &c., are bound to report and furnish information, under penalty of \$20, on any officer refusing. Agricultural and Colonization Societies must submit books, &c. to any one authorized by him. The L. G. is authorized to appoint an Assistant Commissioner, and all other necessary officers to carry on the work of the department, the former with usual powers. All deeds, to be valid, must be signed by the Comr. or A. Comr., and countersigned by the Secretary of the Department. The Provincial Board of Agriculture, and Agricultural Association, are abolished, and a Council of Agriculture substituted, to consist of 23 members—21 to be appointed by the L. G. in C. from farmers and agriculturists of note, and the Comr. and M. P. L., being, *ex officio*, members. The Council is subject to orders and instructions of the L. G. It constitutes a corporation, and may hold real estate worth \$40 000, besides that which it directly uses. Funds in hands of the Board and Association are to be transferred to the Treasurer of the Province, for the Council. Any person refusing to make such transfer incurs a penalty of \$500. Their debts and property also pass to the Council. The C. of A. is to summon the first meeting of Council, and preside until a Chairman is elected. Quorum is 7. Services of members are gratuitous, but actual expenses are paid. A President and Vice-President are elected, but the Secretary is appointed by the L. G., and is a Departmental officer. The Council is to hold triennial, or more frequent Provincial Exhibitions, respecting which it has the powers of the old Board and Association; to co-operate with the Federal authorities in Foreign or Dominion Exhibitions; to revise and approve by-laws of local Societies; to prescribe to such Societies how they shall spend, at least, one-third of their grant; to provide for Provincial, District or County Ploughing Matches, and Crop and Farm competitions, on alternate years with the ordinary County exhibitions; to procure and place in operation one or more model farms; to encourage, by special prizes, the growing of certain crops; to promote the introduction of superior breeds of animals, improved implements, &c.; to apportion agricultural grants to Societies, Colleges, &c., and promote agricultural instruction, and to found bursaries and semi-bursaries for students in such institutions; to publish useful agricultural information. It may publish one official journal, or, on terms to be approved by the L. G. in C., adopt any journal now published as such. All Societies must advertise their exhibitions in it. All by-laws of the Council are subject to the approval of the L. G. in C. All administrative powers respecting control of Societies and Schools, &c., are confided to the Comr., who may suspend grants, with approval of the L. G. in C.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

40 persons may form a Society in any County, or in Sherbrooke, by signing a declaration.