

Smith was named Executive Officer, with authority to "discharge all such administrative functions as may not be specially assigned to any other person;" salary £100.

In the first session of the Provincial Legislature above referred to, the following Acts were passed:

Cap. 1—An Act respecting the STATUTES, an INTERPRETATION ACT, similar to that passed by Parliament, and the Legislatures of Ontario and Quebec.

Cap. 2—Establishes a SUPREME COURT, having jurisdiction in all important matters, and 5 Courts of Petty Sessions, having 3 to 5 Justices each, with jurisdiction up to \$25—cases of over \$10 being appealable to the Supreme Court. The Province is divided into 4 counties judicially, as well as for Parliamentary purposes. A Sheriff is appointed for the Province, and a Deputy for each County. The G. G. is to appoint a Chief Justice, and one or more other Judges of the Supreme Court, and until that is done, the General Court retains its jurisdiction. A Prothonotary is to be appointed by the L. G. The jury lists are to be made up by the Sheriff, with the assistance of 4 J. P's., one from each county; 24 grand and 48 petty to be drawn,—an equal number from each county—for each court. Qualification for the former, property worth \$400; for the latter, \$100. Juries half English and half French are provided for in cases where the parties speak different languages. In civil cases 9 jurors may render a verdict. In cases on a contract for less than \$100, the judge may try the case without a jury. There are to be no further pleadings after the Defendant's plea is put in, without consent of the Judge

Cap. 3—Introduces the STATUTE OF FRAUDS, requiring proof, in writing, respecting transfers &c. of land.

Cap. 4—Makes provision for the execution, &c., of WILLS.

Cap. 5—Provides for the issue of EXECUTION AGAINST LANDS upon a judgment registered for 1 year (60 days notice being given of sale) and proceedings thereupon.

Cap. 6—Regulates "the Administration of Intestate Estates," and succession of heirs. When an intestate leaves a widow, she takes one third of his estate, and the children two thirds in equal parts; if no children are living but grand children, &c., they take the two thirds. If both, the grandchildren divide the portion of their parent among them. If there be no widow, but children, they take all. If a widow, but no children, she takes all. Portions or provision made for a child during intestate's lifetime, to be deducted from its share. In default of lineal descendants the estate goes to (1) the father; and failing him (2) to the mother, brothers and sisters equally; and failing brothers and sisters (3) to the mother; and failing the mother (4) to the brothers and sisters; failing them (5) to their children; and failing them to the (6) next of kin. A posthumous child, not mentioned in a parent's will, takes its legal share spite of the will. The right of tenant by the courtesy or tenant in dower, are not affected by the Act. All estate not devised by will is divided as if the party died intestate.

Cap. 7—Provides for the REGISTRATION OF

DEEDS, a registry office being provided, and Registrar to be appointed for each county. Registry to be made upon oath of grantor, or subscribing witness to deed.

Cap. 8—Makes provision for the acknowledgment by a married woman that she has executed a deed of her free will before a J. P.

Cap. 9—Provides for the appointment by the L. G. in C., of a POLICE MAGISTRATE and J. P. for the Provinces and Coroners and J. P. for each county.

Cap. 10—Provides that BARRISTERS OR ATTORNEYS of any other Province, or of Great Britain or Ireland, may be admitted, upon proof thereof, and of service as an articulated clerk for 5 years, to practice in Manitoba. No others are to be admitted without 5 years service, and passing an examination before the Chief Justice, Atty. Genl., and another barrister. Ten practitioners may form a Bar Society, which may thereafter regulate the studies and admission of students,—their regulations being subject to approval of L. G. in C.

Cap. 11—Provides for a PROVINCIAL POLICE FORCE, to consist of a chief, sub-chief, 2 sergeants, 2 corporals and 20 constables. Organization similar to that of Quebec. See *Year Book of 1871, p 85.*

Cap. 12—Provides for the appointment of a BOARD OF EDUCATION, to consist of 10 to 14 members, half Catholics and half Protestants. They may form themselves into separate sections, each to have its Superintendent of schools, who will also be Secretary of his section. Each of the 24 Electoral Divisions is to form a school district, half having a Protestant and half a Catholic majority. In each one school is to be formed and supported by fees of scholars, assessments or otherwise as the inhabitants decide in annual meeting, when 3 trustees for each district are to be elected to manage the school. Each district must raise one third as much as the grant received, unless recognized as a poor district. Superintendents are to receive \$100 salary each. The two sections of the board prescribe the books, &c., and distribute the moneys according to work done.

Cap. 13—Makes provision for the HIGHWAYS. The road on the west side of the Red River from Lake Winnipeg to Pembina, that on the north side of the Assiniboine from Ft. Garry to the Province line, and that from Ft. Garry to the Lake of the Woods via Pte. du Chêne (and crossing the German Creek bridge at St. Boniface) are declared great highways to be maintained by the Province. Other public highways are to be laid out by commissioners appointed by the Court of Sessions of each County, on application of the parties interested. The expenses are to be borne by the County rates. Roads to be 66 ft. wide.

Cap. 14—Makes provision similar to that in the old Provinces for the relations of MASTERS AND SERVANTS, extending it to contracts of hiring made in other places for service in the Province.

Cap. 15—Provides against labour on Sunday especially against loading or driving loaded