

of the Co. attached. Employees forfeit \$50 for breach of by-laws, and summary methods may be used to prevent their infraction. None are in force till approved by the G. in C. Notice of them is given to employees by the delivery of copies to other Cos. using the line by painting or posting printed copies on a board at the stations. A warrant of possession of lands, &c., shall not be granted upon affidavits of the immediate need of possession (under 31 V. c. 66, s. 3, sub. 25 (until 10 days' notice of application has been given to the owner or party having power to convey them, or who would suffer damage, nor till after security is given for more (in the judge's opinion) than the value, costs to go against the Co., unless they tender more than is awarded.

RAILWAY RETURNS.

Chap. 25.—Railway Cos. must furnish annual returns of their capital, traffic and working expenditure, in the form supplied by the Act, as well as the details furnished to shareholders, to the M. P. W. within 3 mos. of the end of their financial year. This to be signed by the Chief Officer in Canada and the person responsible for the correctness of returns. If the Co's accounts are made up half yearly the return must be so made. A Co. in default is liable to a fine of \$10 per day. Traffic returns are to be made weekly and sent in within 7 days and posted for 7 days in the most public room of the Co's head office, under a like penalty. Making false returns is a misdemeanor punishable by fine and imprisonment—the former not to exceed \$250. The returns are to be laid before Parliament, but are privileged communications which may not be used in any court.

MARINE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPHS.

Chap. 26.—The right of any parties to or over the places within the Dominion where such telegraphs may be laid are saved. The Cos. must obtain their consent except as provided. Plans of works are to be deposited with the M. of M. and F., and not proceeded with until approved, except in cases of emergency. If constructed without such approval the Dept. may state or remove them. The Cos. may issue lights and signals to be approved by the Department. Any work, buoy, or sea mark abandoned by the Co. or allowed to decay, may be removed by the Dept. The Co. must pay for any work done by the Dept., the amt. being recoverable like any penalty. With consent of the G. in C. the Co. may appropriate for telegraph use only, any land covered by water belonging to the Dominion, and may acquire lands from any Province; also from corporations or individuals, and when these and the Co. cannot agree the latter can take an area of not more than five acres under the Railway Act. The plan and survey must be approved by the G. in C. The usual provisions are made with respect to priority of messages. No company not incorporated under this Act or previous or future Acts of Canada or existing Acts of Provinces, may lay a cable connecting two Provinces or extending beyond the Dominion; but the business of existing lines may be carried on till a Co. within the provisions of the Act is incorporated, and in the opinion of the G. in C., able to offer reasonable facilities for the transmission of marine telegraphic messages; and the G. in C. de-

claring this has been published for 3 mos. in the *Canada Gazette*. Cos. incorporated in Britain may receive a Canadian Charter by Letters Patent, on petition therefor, subject to this Act, the Letters and O. in C. being published in the *Canada Gazette*. But no privilege of landing or using a cable on the shores of the Dominion shall be granted to a Co. having exclusive rights to land or use such cables elsewhere—unless reciprocal right in such territory, or on such shores be granted to Canadian Cos. Nor can Cos. incorporated in Canada enter into agreements of amalgamation, consolidation of stock or interchange or transmission of messages with any persons holding such exclusive rights. Charters may be forfeited for 3 yrs. non-user, or for acquiring any such exclusive rights. The rights acquired in Prince Edward Island up to 1st July, 1873, (under any act previously passed) by the New York, New Foundland and London Telegraph Co., or any other are saved. And the right of the Anglo-American Co. to recover damages from Canada for loss sustained by the operation of this Act is also reserved—the proceedings to be by petition of right.

COASTING TRADE.

Chap. 27.—Subjects the owner of any foreign vessel engaged in towing other vessels from port to port in Canada to a fine of \$400, and the vessels to detention by the Collector of Customs till the fine is paid. But G. in C. may exempt vessels of countries who have opened their coasting trade, and of those to which Her Majesty had conceded coasting rights by treaty before the passing of the Imp. Act 32 V., c. 11.

PILOTAGE.

Chap. 28.—Amends the Pilotage Act, 1873. Except as regards the St. Lawrence, ships of 250 tons are only to be exempted upon leave of the pilotage authority, approved by the G. in C.; and the exemption of steam vessels is extended to those in the trade between ports in Que., N. B., N. S., and P. E. I., or those to New York or ports north of that. A pilot endangering a ship, or life or limb of any one on board, by neglect or misfeasance, may be suspended or dismissed by the pilotage authority, whether convicted before a Court or no. But in the pilotage district of Quebec an appeal is given to the Superior Court, in accordance with 12 V., c. 114. Except in that district, the pilotage authority may appoint its own secretary and treasurer, and pay him such salary as it sees fit, subject to the approval of the G. in C. The pilotage business heretofore done in that district by the Trinity House is to be done by the Harbour Comrs.

SEAMEN'S AGREEMENTS.

Chap. 29.—Extends the principal provisions of the Seamen's Act, 1873 (see *Year Book for 1873*, p. 163), to seamen on board vessels navigating the inland waters of Canada. It is applied to all vessels of more than 20 tons propelled by steam, and more than 50 if not employed in navigation above Quebec. Agreements may be made for two or more voyages not exceeding eight months in all. Imprisonment for desertion 4 to 12 weeks. Other penalties as in previous Act. The Act comes into force 1st January, 1876.