

magistrate. A J. P. or peace officer may search such person and take away and detain arms. A J. P. may grant a warrant to search for and seize arms suspected to be kept for the purpose of being illegally carried. And a constable may force an entrance during the day to search for and seize them. If the owner of arms so seized do not, within four days, prove that they were kept for a lawful purpose they are forfeited to the use of H. M. Persons are to be appointed by the G. in C. to license those desirous of carrying or keeping arms, who may also revoke such licenses, notifying the parties. Proceedings may be had before three J.P. or a magistrate having power to do acts requiring two or more J.P. These proceedings do not interfere with those under other acts. Copies of all proclamations and lists of names of persons authorized to issue licenses, those licensed thereunder and licenses revoked are to be laid before the two Houses of Parliament. The Act is in force till the end of next session.

WITNESSES IN ASSAULT CASES.

Chap. 18.—In a summary trial for common assault the defendant or the husband or wife of defendant is a competent witness. If upon a trial for a higher offence without a jury, the Court is of opinion that the case is really only one of common assault, the defendant or wife or husband may be called as a witness.

PERSONS IMPRISONED FOR LACK OF SURETIES TO KEEP THE PEACE.

Chap. 19.—When a person has been imprisoned because he cannot procure sureties that he will keep the peace, during two weeks, notice is to be given by the keeper of the gaol to the judge who presides at Quarter Sessions, in Ontario and Quebec, to a judge of the Supreme Court or County Court in the other Provinces except Manitoba—there to a judge of the Q. B. and to a Stipendiary Magistrate in the Territories, who may, in his discretion, release him or make other order in his case after notice to the complainant.

PENITENTIARIES, N. S. AND N. B.

Chap. 20.—The G. in C. may limit the number of prisoners to be received in the Penitentiaries in N. B. and N. S., who are sentenced for less than one year.

INSOLVENT INSURANCE CO'S.

Chap. 21.—Provides for the winding up of Insolvent Insurance Co's. applying the Insolvent Act of 1875 to insolvent Fire & Marine Insurance Cos. The judge or prothonotary of a Superior or County Court, is judge having primary jurisdiction. Proceedings cannot be had till after an undisputed claim or a final judgment on a disputed claim has remained unpaid for 60 days. And notice must be served on the M. of F. under 88 V., c. 20, s. 18. The judge may adjourn proceedings for six mos., and no assignment can meantime be made without his consent. He may order a preliminary enquiry under the 147th section of the Insolvent Act, by a person other than an Official Assignee, to be named on

application of the parties. And he may extend the time of inquiry to 30 days. The Co. can issue no policy after issue of writ, or assignment. Another Ins. Co. may be named as receiver or creditor's assignee, and act through an officer approved by the judge. Notice after first call of creditors' meeting need only be given in the *Canada Gazette* and two papers at place of head office. Appeals under s. 128 may be had from all orders, judgments and decisions. Assignees are to have powers of receivers under s. 147, and may be given any others which judge may legally grant. Holders of policies may claim for all losses accrued within six mos. after assignment or writ, if they do not meantime re-insure without leave of the Co. In case they do or no loss accrue in the six mos., they are only entitled to claim a return of the proportion of the premium for the unexpired period. If either party cancel the contract in accordance with its terms the claim is on the same basis as if insolvency had not supervened. The moneys deposited with the R. G. are to be applied in satisfaction of claims,—the assignee, court and judge having the powers for that purpose conferred by the Insurance Act, the claims being limited as above. Claims accrued in the six mos. rank on the deposits with judgments obtained and claims previously accrued. Assignees under this Act supersede those appointed after 5th April last under Insurance Act. The Assignee is further to make up a list of claims from the books of the Co. and collect them for dividends,—the collection, however, being open to disputes; and further claims may be filed. The Assignee may, pursuant to a resolution of creditors, re-insure the unaccrued claims with another co. certified in good standing by the Superintendent, using the assets of the Co. for the purpose. The remaining assets may be retained as security for claims accruing till the court orders their delivery to the Co. The Assignee, if the co. be licensed, reports each six mos. or oftener, if required, to the Superintendent.

BUILDING SOCIETIES, ONTARIO.

Chap. 22.—The members of any Permanent Building Society in Ontario may, by a two-third vote, determine that all shares thereafter subscribed for shall be fixed and permanent capital, which may not be withdrawn. They may fix the proportion (not less than 20 p.c.) of amount of each share to be payable on subscription, and when the premium (if any is exacted) shall be payable. The society may declare and pay dividends periodically on the amounts paid up on such shares.

LOCAL AND PRIVATE ACTS.

Chap. 23.—Provides for the reduction of the capital stock of the MERCHANTS' BANK OF CANADA, by diminishing the number of subscribed shares. For every three shares held by a shareholder on 1st May, 1878, two new shares of \$100 each shall be given him. Nothing in Act is to affect present liability of holders of unpaid shares. After 1st May, votes by shareholders and all transfers to be on basis of the new stock. Provides for conversion of shares not evenly divisible. For shares remaining unconverted on 1st August,