

## PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

(Legislature opened 3rd January, and prorogued 2nd March, 1877.)

## SUPPLIES.

*Chap. 1*—Is the supply bill and grants \$2,005,378.51 for services of the year 1877, and \$19,223.87 for 1875.

## RAILWAY AND INSURANCE ACTS.

*Chap. 2*—Parts of 39 V., c. 77, relating to the London, Huron and Bruce Railway Co.; of 39 V., c. 79, relating to the Niagara Falls and Lake Erie Railway Co.; and 39 V., c. 92, incorporating the Home Fire Insurance Co.; and c. 93 to incorporate the Union Fire Ins. Co., are repealed.

## ESCHEATS AND FORFEITURES.

*Chap. 2*—Property escheated to the Crown because the last owner died intestate and without heirs, or forfeited for any cause, may be taken possession of by the Crown, or a person appointed in its behalf, without previous inquisition; and the L. G. in C. may convey it or any part of it to any person having either a legal or moral claim, or to fulfil a contemplated disposition of deceased, or to reward the person making the escheat known, before possession is obtained, and in face of a dispute as to the title of deceased—leaving the person to whom it is conveyed to make good his claim thus derived through the Crown.

## ESTATES OF INTESTATES.

*Chap. 4*—When a person dies intestate, without heirs in the Province or where they may be conveniently communicated with, the L. G. may direct the A. G. to apply for letters of administration which an competent Court may grant. If deemed advisable, the L. G. in C. may direct the sale of the estate by auction or otherwise, and the A. G. may grant valid title. If an heir or will be found, the A. G. still acts until the other parties receive authorization from the Courts and his letters are revoked, and he may complete sales and conveyances begun. Pending his administration he may cause an inquiry in chancery into the rights of the Crown in such estate. A separate account is to be kept of moneys realized from such estate. At the end of 10 yrs. they are to be paid into the C. R. F. if meantime unclaimed. When any person proves his right to them they are to be paid over with interest realized as settled from time to time by the L. G. in C. Claimants must take their recourse in chancery giving security for costs if the A. G. demands it. The A. G. deducts all disbursements made for inquiries or in administering the estate.

## REFERENCES TO SUPREME AND EXCHEQUER COURTS.

*Chap. 5*—Gives jurisdiction in cases of dispute between the Dominion and the

Province, and between Ontario and any other Province which passes a similar Act, to the above Courts; and in cases in which the validity of any Act of the Parliament of Canada, or of the Legislature of Ontario is raised and is held by the presiding judge to be material, he may, even if not moved thereto by either party, refer the question to the Supreme Court.

## REVISED STATUTES.

*Chap. 6* Enacts and provides for putting in force of the Revised Statutes of Ontario, providing also for the incorporation therein of Acts of the present Session. The L. G. in C. puts them in force by proclamation.

*Chap. 7*—Provides for the amendment of divers Acts incorporated in the Roll of the Revised Statutes, and the incorporation therewith of such amendments.

## AMENDING ACT.

*Chap. 8*—Amends divers Acts of Ontario.

Judges of the Exchequer Court have the same right to use Court Houses, &c., as have Judges at *Nisi Prius*.

After the next vacancy in the Chief Justiceship of the Q. B., the Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals is to be styled Chief Justice of Ontario.

The Practice Court under Con. Stat. U. C. c. 10, s. 9, is abolished, its business being transferred to the Court under s. 19, of Administration of Justice Act, 1874.

Salaries of officers of Courts are payable monthly.

The Judges of the Queen's Bench or Common Pleas may, by rule in Easter term, disperse with Trinity term in each year.

The Judges in Chancery may arrange for additional sessions, if found necessary at any place, after the Circuits have been arranged under the Act. All mortgages, securities, funds, &c., standing in the name of the Accountant of the Court on 26th June, 1876, are declared to have been since vested in the Referee in Chambers, and hereafter, when there is no Accountant, all such securities, &c., shall vest in the Referee, or such other officer as the Court appoints.

When there are two County Judges, or two persons doing the duties, they may sit concurrently, the one for jury trials the other for cases tried without jury, after the adjournment or termination of the Quarter Sessions. The judges may, with the approval of the L. G. in C., fix the sittings of the County Courts and Quarter Sessions in June and December. If the Municipal Council approves, the L. G. in C. may appoint a short-hand writer to any County Court, to be paid by salary or fees or both. If by salary the fees go towards it,—the County Council paying the balance quarterly. But this does not apply to York. A retired County Court judge may hold a court at request of the