

## C A P . V I I .

An Act to supply the place of the speaker of the legislative council in certain cases.

[Assented to, 5th April, 1869.]

**H**ER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows :

1. Whenever, from sickness or other cause, the speaker of the legislative council shall be unable to take the chair at the meetings of the said council, the lieutenant-governor, by an order in council, may appoint one of the legislative councillors as temporary chairman, to supply the place of the speaker during such absence. Councillor may be appointed to act in absence of speaker.

2. Every act passed, or order made, and every thing done by the legislative council, when the temporary chairman is in the chair, shall be equally lawful, and shall have the same force and effect, to all intents and purposes, as if the speaker himself was in the chair. Validity of acts done while temporary chairman presides.

3. In all cases of absence of the speaker, if no temporary chairman is present to supply his place, the clerk, by order of the council, shall declare the house adjourned, as often as it may be necessary, until the speaker himself or the temporary chairman shall take the chair. In absence of speaker and chairman clerk may adjourn.

## C A P . V I I I .

An Act respecting inquiries concerning public matters.

[Assented to, 5th April, 1869.]

**H**ER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows :

1. Whenever the lieutenant-governor in council deems it expedient to cause inquiry to be made into and concerning any matter connected with the good government of this province, or the conduct of any part of the public business thereof, or the administration of justice therein, and such inquiry is not regulated by any special law, the lieutenant-governor may, by the commission in the case, confer upon the commissioners or persons by whom such inquiry is to be conducted, the power of summoning before them any party or witnesses, and of requiring them to give evidence on oath, orally or in writing, (or on solemn affirmation, if they be parties entitled to affirm in civil matters,) and to produce such documents and things as Lieutenant-Governor in Council may confer on Commissioners appointed to make enquiry on public matters, power to examine on oath &c.

such commissioners deem requisite to the full investigation of the matters into which they are appointed to examine.

Lieutenant-Governor may confer like powers on certain other persons.

2. The board of inspectors of prisons, hospitals and other institutions, and any one of such inspectors, and the board of examiners for the civil service, and the council of public instruction shall have, by law, at all times, the power mentioned in the foregoing section; and the lieutenant-governor may by order in council, and whenever he deems it advisable in the interest of the public service, confer the same power upon any other board, body or person, who demands the same for the purpose of any inquiry requiring to be made by such board, body, or person.

Power to compel attendance of witnesses.

3. The power thus conferred by law, or by the lieutenant-governor, in virtue of either of the preceding sections, shall carry with it the same power to enforce the attendance of such witnesses, and to compel them to give evidence, as is vested in any court of law in civil cases; but no party or witness shall be compelled to answer any question by his answer to which he might render himself liable to a criminal prosecution.

## C A P . I X .

An Act respecting the security to be given by Officers of the Province of Quebec.

[Assented to 5th April, 1869.]

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows :

Interpretation.

1. The following terms shall, in this act, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meanings hereby assigned to them, that is to say :

"Public officer."

The term "public officer" shall mean every person holding, or who may hereafter hold, or be appointed to, any office or employment, under the control of this province, which is remunerated out of the consolidated revenue fund of the province, or out of moneys provided by the legislature, or out of, or by, fees authorized by some public statute or by some order in council or departmental order made thereunder.

"Security."

The word "security" shall mean security for the due performance by the public officer of any trust reposed in him, for his duly accounting for and paying over all public moneys entrusted to him, or under his control, and for the due fulfilment in every way of his duty, or of any obligation undertaken by him or legally imposed on him as such.