

commissioners appointed to make inquiry on public matter, power to examine on oath, &c.

any part of the Public business thereof, and such inquiry is not regulated by any special Law, the 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 such Commissioners deem requisite to the full investigation of the matters into which they are appointed to examine :

Power to commissioners to compel attendance of witnesses.

2. The Commissioner or Commissioners shall then have 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; and any wilfully false statement made by any such witness on oath or solemn affirmation, shall be a misdemeanor punishable in the same manner as wilful and corrupt perjury; but no such party or witness shall be compelled to answer any question, by his answer to which he might render himself liable to a criminal prosecution.

Proviso.

C A P . X X X I X .

An Act respecting the Department of Justice.

[Assented to 22nd May, 1868.]

Preamble.

HER Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows :

Department constituted. Minister of Justice to preside : to be Atty. Gen.

1. There shall be a Department of the Civil Service of Canada, to be called "The Department of Justice" over which The Minister of Justice of Canada, for the time being, appointed by the Governor by Commission under the Great Seal, and who shall, *ex-officio*, be Her Majesty's Attorney General of Canada, shall preside; and the said Minister of Justice shall hold office during pleasure and shall have the management and direction of the Department of Justice.

Duties of the Minister : as official legal adviser of the Crown.

2. The duties of The Minister of Justice shall be as follows : He shall be the official legal adviser of the Governor and the legal Member of Her Majesty's Privy Council for Canada; It shall be his duty to see that the administration of public affairs is in accordance with law; He shall have the superintendence of all matters connected with the administration of Justice in Canada, not within the jurisdiction of the Governments of the Provinces composing the same; He shall advise upon the Legislative Acts and proceedings of each of the Legislatures of the Provinces of Canada, and generally advise the Crown upon all matters of Law referred to him by the Crown; and he shall be charged generally with such other

As to Legislative Acts.

General duties.