work which may be submitted to him; to examine and revise the plans, estimates and recommendations of other engineers, architects and officers touching any such public work, and generally to advise the Minister on all engineering or architectural questions affecting any such work: Provided always, that two or more persons may be appointed, each of whom shall act as Chief Engineer of either branch of the Department of Railways and Canals, with respect to such works, or classes of works, as the Governor in Council may from time to time direct.

11. No deed, contract, documents or writing shall be deemed to be binding upon either Department, or be held to be the act of the Minister of such department, unless signed and sealed by him or his Deputy and countersigned by the Secretary, or person authorized to act for him as aforesaid.

Interpretations of expressions in former Acts or documents.  $31 \ V., c. 12.$ 

Administering oath of j office, &c.

Aet 41 V., c. 5, amended.

Act 36 V., c. 31. amended.

12. The expression "the Department" or "the Minister" or "The Minister of Public Works" in the Act intituled "An Act respecting the Public Works of Canada," or in any other Act or document, shall be construed as meaning that department, or the Minister of that department, charged with the management of the work with respect to which the power or duty mentioned in the provision in which such expression occurs, is to be exercised or performed; and either of the said Ministers may administer the oath of office to the official arbitrators or any of them; and generally the said Act and all other Acts and all documents, and the expressions used therein, shall be so construed as to give full effect to the provisions of this Act according to the intent thereof.

13. The second and third sub-sections of the first section of the Act passed in the forty-first year of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act further securing the Independence of Parliament," shall be respectively amended by striking out the words "Receiver-General," where they now occur therein, and inserting the words "and Receiver-General" after the words "Minister of Finance," where they occur therein, and by inserting after the words "Minister of the Interior," the words "Minister of Railways and Canals:" and no person being then a Minister of the Crown, and a member of the House of Commons, shall vacate his seat therein by reason of his accepting any office under this Act, within one month from the coming into force of this section: And the second section of the Act passed in the thirty-sixth year of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act for the re-adjustment of the salaries and allowances of the Judges and other public functionaries and officers, and of the inden nity to the Members of the Senate and House of Commons," shall be amended by inserting after the words "The Minister of Finance

Proviso : as to Chief Engineers.

What writings shall bind the

Department.