An Act to smend the Act 22 Victoria, Chapter 85, intituled, "An Act to amend the Laws of this Province regulating the Laws of interest," and to prevent usury, by fixing the rate of interest at six per cent. per annum.

WHEREAS the Act passed during the last Session of the Legislature Preamble. of this Province, intituled "An Act to amend the Laws of this 22 Vic., c. 85. Province regulating the rate of interest," and the Act passed in the sixteenth year of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to modify 16 Vic., c. 80. 5 the Usury Laws," and which are embodied in Chapter 58 of the Consolidated Statutes of Canada, have not produced the happy results which were expected from them, and their operation has on the contrary been most prejudicial to the best interests of the Province; and whereas it is expedient to repeal the Acts hereinbefore mentioned with the view of 10 puting an end to the abuses which have resulted from them: Therefore. Her Majesty, &c., enacts as follows :-

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I. From and after the passing of this Act, the Acts mentioned in the The said Acts preamble to this Act shall be repealed, except in so far as relates to the repealedto the Acts or parts of Acts thereby repealed, and to contracts hereto- Exception. 15 fore executed but after the coming into force of the Acis above mentioned, which shall remain in force and shall have the same effect after the passing of this Act.

II. In all transactions whatsoever the rate of interest shall be six Rate of interper cent per annum, subject to the penalty, as regards the creditor, of est, renalty. 20 losing the principal amount if he exacts a higher rate.

III. No bank or banking institution carrying on business as such in Charge for this Province shall charge, stipulate for or take a higher rate of interest premium in than that prescribed by this Act; and it shall not be lawful for any discount, bank or banking institution carrying on business as such in this Pro-limited. 25 vince in discounting at any of its places or scats of business, branches, agencies or offices of discount and deposit, any note, bill, or other negotiable security, or paper payable at the office, branch, place of business, or office of discount or deposit, at which such negotiable security shall be discounted, to receive or retain in addition to the discount, an amount exceeding one-eighth of one per cent.,—or if such note, bill, or other negotiable security is payable at any other place in the Province, at any bank, office of discount, or other place of business belonging to the institution at which the discount is effected, the charge for commission or agency shall not exceed one-fourth of one per cent.

IV. Any person accused of any offence against the provisions of this Parties ac-35 Act, may be compelled to appear and give testimony in relation to the cused of contravening this