

CHAP. 11. An Act to amend the Acts relating to Port Wardens at Montreal and Quebec.

CHAP. 42. An Act to continue for a limited time the Insolvent Act of 1869, and the Acts amending the same.

CHAP. 49. An Act to amend and consolidate, and to extend to the whole Dominion of Canada, the laws respecting the Inspection of certain Staple Articles of Canadian Produce.

CHAP. 54. An Act respecting Pilotage.

CHAP. 56. An Act respecting Deck-loads.

CHAP. 58. An Act to amend the Acts for more effectually preventing the Desertion of Seamen.

CHAP. 61. An Act respecting the Trinity House and Harbor Commission of Montreal.

The General Inspection Act requires alteration in many of its details; whilst the "Act respecting Pilotage" unfortunately perpetuates the vicious system so often condemned by this Board. The Act for preventing the desertion of seamen is but a small instalment of much-needed reform.

Your Council entertain no doubt that the Acts relating to "Port Wardens," and "Deck-loads," will be productive of the happiest results, in preventing the destruction of much valuable property, and infinitely more valuable lives.

#### THE CENTAL SYSTEM.

With reference to a notice in the Official Programme respecting the introduction of the Cental System, your Council request attention to an Act of the Dominion Parliament, entitled "an Act respecting Weights and Measures," assented to on 23rd May last. The following are noted as among its provisions:—

1st. It is enacted that "A weight of one hundred pounds avoirdupois shall also be, and may be called and described as a 'CENTAL'."

2nd. On and after the first day of January, 1874, the provisions of the present Law as to the weight of a bushel of the under-mentioned articles, namely:—

*Wheat, Indian Corn, Rye, Pease, Barley, Oats, Beans, Clover Seed, Timothy Seed, Buckwheat, Flax Seed, Hemp Seed, Blue Grass Seed, Castor Beans, Potatoes, Turnips, Carrots, Parsnips, Beets, Onions, Salt, Dried Apples, Dried Peaches, and Malt,—*

will cease to have effect, and thereafter "all the above-mentioned articles when bought or sold by weight, shall be specified by the Cental and parts of a Cental."

3rd. It will follow, therefore, that parties who make contracts with reference to the bushel of any of the above-mentioned articles, will only be legally bound by the bushel of capacity, which, until otherwise proclaimed under the provisions of the Act, will be the *Winchester* bushel.

It is believed by some who have examined the provisions of