

1852-3.]

BILL.

[No. 365.

An Act to protect the *Employés* of the Government of this Province in certain Departments of the Public Service, from being compelled to labour on the Lord's Day.

WHEREAS it is the natural right of all men to refrain from ordinary labour on Sunday, and experience hath shewn that the habitual prosecution of such Sunday labour is injurious to the physical and moral well-being of man: And whereas the denial of this right to a large class of meritorious persons in the employment of the Government, is unjust to those persons and their families; And whereas the habitual despatching and running of Boats and Stages with the Public Mails, and the opening of the Locks on the Canals, and the transaction of business at all the Post Offices throughout the Country, on Sunday, is not only unjust to the servants of Government, but has a tendency to lower the public morality, and to encourage the open disregard of an observance which it is alike the duty and the interest of all carefully to uphold; Be it therefore enacted, &c.,

Preamble.

15 That no Post Office in this Province shall be opened for the transaction of business on Sunday; nor shall any letter, paper, packet or other mailed matter, be delivered from any Office on Sunday.

No Post Office to be opened on Sunday.

20 II. That no Mail shall be made up at or despatched from any Post Office on Sunday.

No Mail to be made up.

25 III. That any Mail despatched from any point on Saturday, but which shall not have reached its destination by Sunday, shall be stopped and held over until Monday morning, at the first of the following places which it shall reach on Sunday, namely: Chatham, London, Hamilton, Toronto, Kingston, Montreal, Quebec and River du Loup *en bas*.

Mails reaching certain place on Sunday to remain thence till Monday.

IV. That the Locks on all the Canals in this Province shall be closed from Saturday at midnight, until Sunday at midnight.

Locks to be closed on Sunday.