

cinoidal buildings; the provincial penitentiary and insane hospital; the light houses, Sable Island, etc.;—the railways are controlled by three officers. In New Brunswick, there is a *Commissioner of the Board of Works*, who superintends the construction and improvement of the bridges and great roads of the province. The Railway Board, consisting of three officers, is non-political.

#### NON-POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

These are Auditor General, Receiver General, and Provincial Treasurer.

The duties of the AUDITOR GENERAL is merely to audit the public accounts.

#### THE RECEIVER GENERAL

Receives all monies paid in under the head of casual revenue, fines in courts of law, fees of the Secretary's office.—He has charge of the surplus civil-list fund, and pays all warrants touching these departments.

The duties of the PROVINCIAL TREASURER are, to collect, at his office and through his deputy treasurers, who are scattered throughout the province, all the revenues. Warrants for payment have to be drawn on him,—which he pays.

#### JUDICIAL INSTITUTIONS.

The principal Courts of Justice consist of the Court of Chancery, Supreme Court, Court of Marriage and Divorce, Court for the punishment of Piracy, Court of Vice-Admiralty, Probate Court, Court of General Sessions of the Peace, Justices' Courts, and Sheriffs' Courts.

#### DUTIES.

*Court of Chancery.*—This court has been recently abolished in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and its equitable jurisdiction is transferred to the Supreme Court. Its duties are to decide causes which cannot be justly settled by the strict rules of common law.

*The Supreme Court* consists of one Chief Justice, and other Assistant or Puisne Judges. Its jurisdiction extends to all criminal and civil suits, except such as are cognisable by Magistrates' Courts. The proceedings of this court are regulated by the forms, statutes, and rules of common law.

*The Court of Marriage and Divorce* consists of the Governor and Council, and other officers. Its jurisdiction extends over all matters relating to matrimonial rights, prohibited marriages, and divorce.

*Court for the trial and punishment of Piracy committed on the high seas.*—The officers of this court consist of the Governor and Council, and Judges of the Supreme Court and Court of Vice-Admiralty, etc. It has jurisdiction over all piratical offences committed on the high seas within the respective boundaries of the court.

*Court of Vice-Admiralty.*—This Court is presided over by a Judge appointed by the Crown. It has jurisdiction over maritime disputes, prizes taken in war, etc.

*Probate Court.*—This Court extends to the disposal and settlement of the estates of deceased persons. It is presided over by a Surrogate Judge.

*The Courts of General Sessions of the Peace*, are local courts held in each county by the Justices and Grand Jury, for the levying of taxes and the settlement of local affairs. Connected with this court in New Brunswick is the

*Court of Common Pleas*, which is presided over by local Judges, of which there are several in each county: their jurisdiction extends to the collection of debts of any amount.

*Justices' Courts* are held in each parish, township, or district, into which the counties may be divided. The jurisdiction of Justices differ in the different colonies. In Nova Scotia, ten pounds, and in New Brunswick, five pounds, can be collected; and in Prince Edward Island, District Courts are established, presided over by Commissioners, with a Clerk to each court. Justices have power to adjudicate on breaches of the peace, assault and battery, Sabbath desecration, and all violations of order and decorum; and also to examine and inquire into all felonies, and other criminal acts, with many other minor matters of a judiciary nature.

*The Sheriff* of each county has power to hold courts of inquiry in certain cases; and also, by himself or his deputies, to execute the Queen's writs,