

registrar, and every such notarial copy of a notarial act, so acknowledging the payment and discharge, shall remain filed upon record in the office of the registrar. Provided always, that a payment, or discharge in part, may, under the like formalities as above, be entered upon the register as to such payment or discharge in part.

XV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that when and as often as the said office of registrar shall become vacant by death or otherwise, the same shall be signified without delay to the secretary of the province for the information of the governor, lieutenant-governor or person administering the government, by the sheriff of the inferior district, or if in a circle, by the senior justice of the peace of the circle where the vacancy happens, and thereupon the governor, lieutenant-governor, or person administering the government, shall within one month after the receipt of such signification, appoint a fit person of integrity and ability to fill the said office. And during the interval which shall elapse between such vacancy and such appointment, the duties of the same shall be performed by the prothonotary of the court of the inferior district, or if in a circle, by such person as shall be appointed by the registrar thereof, in his life time, to do the duty when a vacancy happens, until a new appointment be made as above; which prothonotary or such person respectively, shall take possession of the books of registry, and of all papers appertaining to the said office, and upon such appointment as above, deliver over the said books and papers to the new registrar; and it shall be the duty of every person having possession of a register book or books, upon any vacancy taking place, to deliver over the same without delay to the said newly appointed registrar, or during the interval aforesaid, to the said prothonotary or such person as abovesaid, if in a circle; and if any person having such possession, shall refuse or neglect so to deliver up such books as above directed, upon being thereunto required, every such person for every such offence, shall, upon conviction thereof before his Majesty's Court of King's Bench for the district, forfeit and pay to his Majesty, his heirs and successors, the sum of 500 pounds, current money of this province.

XVI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any person or persons shall at any time forge or counterfeit any notarial act or certificate herein before mentioned, and be thereof lawfully convicted, every such person or persons shall incur and be liable to such pains and penalties as in and by an act of the parliament of England, made in the fifth year of the Queen Elizabeth, intituled, "an act against forgers of false deeds and writings," are imposed upon persons for forging deeds, charters or writings.