

As the absolute withholding of pay from an officer means a serious inconvenience, I am further instructed to ask that you will furnish the statement asked for at your earliest convenience.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
The Auditor General. B. CHAMBERLIN, Q. P.

AUDIT OFFICE, OTTAWA, August 23, 1888.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date with reference to the appointment of Mr. H. J. Bronskill as Superintendent of Stationery.

Please let me know the facts by which Mr. Bronskill has complied with the restriction: "No person shall be appointed Superintendent of Stationery unless he has had at least five years' experience in the business of a stationery establishment in Canada, or in the management and superintendence of similar work for the Parliament of Canada."—51 Vic., Cap., 17, Sec. 3, Sub-Sec. 4.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
The Queen's Printer. J. L. McDOUGALL, A.G.

QUEEN'S PRINTER'S OFFICE, OTTAWA, Aug. 24, 1888.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant, with reference to the appointment of Mr. H. J. Bronskill, as Superintendent of Stationery, and to state that it will be placed before the Honorable the Secretary of State, on his return to Ottawa.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
The Auditor General. B. CHAMBERLIN, Q.P.

QUEEN'S PRINTER'S OFFICE, OTTAWA, Sept. 4, 1888.

SIR.—I have submitted your communication of the 23rd ultimo to the Honorable, the Secretary of State, and am directed by him to state in reply that the Governor General in Council has the duty and responsibility of ascertaining the statutory qualifications of the officers he appoints. The requirements and conditions of the statute have been complied with in the case of the appointment of Mr. Bronskill; the report of the Treasury Board and the Order in Council are in that respect evidence which the Auditor has no right to question.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
The Auditor General. B. CHAMBERLIN, Q.P.

AUDIT OFFICE, OTTAWA, Oct. 3, 1888.

SIR.—In reply to your letter of the 4th ult., regarding the appointment of Mr. Bronskill, I beg to say that the words in the Order in Council "he being duly qualified for the appointment thereunder," are not, I think, evidence that Council investigated the statutory requirement. It appears to me that the position of Mr. Bronskill would be much stronger if the five years' service qualification had been specially named in the Order, and if it had been made clear that Mr. Bronskill's case had been examined by Council with the object of determining whether he possesses this qualification, and that Council had found that he does possess it.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
The Queen's Printer. J. L. McDOUGALL, Auditor General.

QUEEN'S PRINTER'S OFFICE, OTTAWA, Oct. 15, 1888.

SIR,—In answer to your letter of 3rd instant, I am directed by the Honorable the Secretary of State to say that the Treasury Board, and the Privy Council had