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C.

BILL.

An Act to Amend two certain Acts therein mentioned and to make further provision for the Management of the Post Office.

Received and read First time, Thursday, 7th Oct., 1852.

Second reading, Wednesday, 13th October, 1852.

[250 Copies.]

HON. JAMES MORRIS.



B I L L .

An Act to Amend two certain Acts therein mentioned and to make further provision for the Management of the Post Office.

BE it enacted, &c., That so much of the Post Office Act and also of the Act passed in the Session held in the fourteenth and fifteenth years of Her Majesty's Reign intituled "An Act to amend the Post Office Act" as may be inconsistent with the provisions of this Act be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

II. And be enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to advertize Contracts for carrying the mails involving an annual cost of more than fifty pounds in a Newspaper published at the Seat of Government only in cases in which according to his judgment the public interest requires such advertizement to be made.

III. And be it enacted, That the Postmaster General may from time to time, with the approval of the Governor in Council, make any arrangement which may be deemed just and expedient for allowing the mails of the United States to be carried or transported at the expense of the said United States over any part or portion of this Province from any one point in the territory of the said United States to any other point in the same territory upon obtaining the like privilege for the transportation of the Mails of this Province through the United States when required.

IV. And be it enacted, That every United States Mail so carried or transported as aforesaid shall, while within this Province, be deemed and taken to be a Mail of Her Majesty so far as to make any violation thereof any depredation thereon or any act or offence in respect thereto or to any part thereof which would be punishable under the existing Laws of this Province in case the same had been a Mail or part of a Mail of this Province an offence of the same degree and magnitude and punishable in the same manner and to the same extent as though the same were a Mail or part of a Mail of this Province; and in any indictment for such act or offence such Mail or part of a Mail may be alleged to be, and on the trial of such indictment shall be deemed and held to be a Mail or part of a Mail of this Province; and in any indictment for stealing embezzle-

ling secreting or destroying any Post letter, Post letter-bag, packet, chattel, money or valuable security sent by Post through and by all and every of the said United States Mail or Mails as aforesaid it shall be lawful to lay in the Indictment to be preferred against the offender the property of such Post letter, Post letter-bag, packet, chattel, money or valuable security sent by Post as herein mentioned in the Provincial Post Master General, and it shall not be necessary to allege in the Indictment or to prove upon the trial or otherwise that the Post-letter, Post letter-bag, packet chattel or valuable security was of value :—

V. And be it enacted, That if any person shall steal purloin embezzle or obtain by any false pretence, or shall aid or assist in stealing purloining embezzling or obtaining by any false pretence, or shall knowingly or unlawfully make forge or counterfeit, or cause to be unlawfully made forged or counterfeited, or knowingly aid or assist in falsely and unlawfully making forging or counterfeiting any key suited to any lock which has been or shall be adopted for use by the Post Office Department of Canada and which shall be in use on any of the Mails or Mail-bags of the said Post Office Department, or shall have in his possession any such Mail-key or any such Mail-lock with the intent unlawfully or improperly to use sell or otherwise dispose of the same or to cause the same to be unlawfully or improperly used sold or otherwise disposed of, such person shall on conviction be deemed guilty of felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the Provincial Penitentiary for a period not exceeding seven years.

VI. And be it enacted, That it shall be within the discretion of the Postmaster General to authorize and allow a Postmaster to undertake and perform a contract for the transportation of a Mail subject to the regulations applying to all Mail Contracts, when in his opinion the interests of the Public Service will be promoted thereby.

VII. And be it enacted, That no mail stage or other winter or summer vehicle carrying a Mail shall be exempt from tolls or dues on any road or bridge in this Province if on the arrival of the same at the toll-house, toll-bar, or other place where tolls or dues for the use of such road or bridge are collected there be more than four passengers and two hundred pounds of baggage in or on such mail stage or other winter or summer vehicle carrying the Mail as aforesaid.