

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

THE attention of the Supervisors and Commissioners of Roads is hereby called to the following Instructions, and to the second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh Sections of the Act 17 Victoria, Chap. 17, to which they are enjoined strictly to adhere; and on sending their Accounts to the *Auditor General*, as required, they are to make Reports to the Lieutenant Governor of the state of the Roads; in which Reports are to be noted any alterations that may have been made in them, and also the state and number of the Bridges on the Lines under their charge.

The several Supervisors and Commissioners appointed to expend the Road Grants of 1854 are hereby directed and required to send in their Accounts to the Auditor General on or before the tenth day of October next, and are strictly enjoined to keep the expenditure within the amount of the sums granted; and in cases where they may consider that injury or inconvenience would result from delay in executing work which would require a further outlay, they are to report the circumstances to the Government, and are on no account to take upon themselves to expend more than the sums intrusted to them; and in case of any deviation from this rule, they will be surcharged with the amount so expended.

No payment is to be made to any person for Work or Materials on Roads or Bridges except in Cash; or in Cheque *bona fide* payable at sight.

No Order for Goods on Store or Shop is to be tendered or given in payment for Work or Materials of any kind.

No Supervisor or Commissioner is allowed to set off Money due for Work or Materials on the public account, against any claim or debt due to himself or others, nor receive any allowance as per centage on Goods, Materials or Provisions furnished for the Public Service, on any pretence whatever.

All Supervisors and Commissioners are to observe the utmost caution in making the Advertisements for Contracts full and specific; and that all Contracts framed in pursuance of such Advertisements do *bona fide* correspond with such conditions, and be strictly observed.

The fact of any violation of these Rules will be brought before His Excellency and the Council, in order that the unfitness of the person violating them may be specially recorded.

Extracts from the Act 17 Victoria, Chap. 17.

2. The said several and respective sums of money, and every part thereof, shall be expended under the direction of such Supervisors and Commissioners as the Governor in Council may be pleased to appoint; and shall be paid to the several and respective persons who shall actually work and labour in making, completing, and repairing the several Roads and Bridges, or in furnishing materials therefor, at the most reasonable rates that such labour and materials can be provided; and every Commissioner so to be appointed shall, as early in the season as may be, carefully examine the part of the Road where any sums of money are to be expended, and shall lay out and mark off such allotment or allotments as may conveniently be contracted for, in order that the making or repairing of the same may be let by auction to the lowest bidder; and in all such cases, such Commissioners respectively are hereby required to put a sufficient number of notices, not less than ten days previous to such sale, in three or more of the public places in the neighbourhood where the work is to be done, which notice shall specify and describe the work to be performed, and also the place, day and hour, when and where the same will be let by auction as aforesaid; and it shall further be the duty of such Commissioners respectively, to attend personally at the time and place so appointed, and there to let out to the lowest bidder such allotment or allotments, and at the same time to enter into written Contracts for the faithful performance of the work, in time and manner set forth in such Contracts; and in cases where the work required to be performed cannot be conveniently let at auction, it shall be the duty of said Commissioners to agree with fit and proper persons to perform the same by days' labour, provided that in no case shall more than one quarter part of any grant be so expended; and the said Commissioners shall severally keep an exact account of such moneys, and shall produce receipts in writing of the several and respective persons to whom any part of the said money shall be paid, as vouchers of such payments, and render an account thereof in duplicate, upon oath, (which oath any one of the Justices of the Peace in the several Counties is hereby authorized to administer), one copy of which, with vouchers, to be transmitted to the Secretary's Office on or before the first day of December next, to be laid before the General Assembly at the next Session, and the other copy to be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Peace in the respective Counties, for public information.

3. The before-mentioned sums of money shall be paid by the Treasurer out of the moneys in the Treasury, or as payments may be made at the same, by Warrant of the Governor in Council.

4. The said Commissioners intrusted with the expenditure of the said several and respective sums of money shall for their time and labour be allowed to retain at and after the rate of five per centum out of the said money so intrusted to them respectively, together with a reasonable compensation for actual labour and work performed by them on the said several Roads and Bridges.