
BILL.

An Act to alter, simplify and amend the Practice of the Law, and to diminish Law Expenses.

WHEREAS experience has shewn that the system Preamble.
of pleading introduced under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Upper Canada in the seventh year of the Reign of King William the Fourth, intitled, "*An Act for the further amendment of the Law*" Act 7, W. 4, c. 3.
5 "*and the better advancement of Justice,*" and confirmed by an Act of the Parliament of Canada, passed in the sixth year of Her present Majesty's Reign, intitled, "*An*" Act 6 V. c. 19, recited.
10 "*Act to confirm certain Rules, Orders and Regulations made by the Chief Justice and Judges of Her Majesty's Court of Queen's Bench for Canada West,*" instead of diminishing costs has tended materially to increase them: Be it therefore enacted, &c., as follows :

I. That the said Acts and all Rules, Orders and Regu- The said Acts, and Rules under them, repealed.
15 lations made in pursuance thereof, shall be repealed after the first day of November next.

II. All mesne process is abolished and the filing the Declaration shall be the commencement of the suit, should the Plaintiff cause a copy thereof to be served personally How actions shall be commenced.
20 on each Defendant within *six months* thereafter or without further unnecessary delay.

III. Each Defendant shall have *one month's* time to plead from the day of serving the Declaration, and the filing the plea shall be held also to be an appearance. Delay to plead. Pleading to be an appearance.

IV. In all cases where the defence consists of a denial As to pleas, denying the whole or part of facts alleged by Plaintiff.
25 of the Plaintiff's cause of action, the Defendant may plead the general issue, or any general denial of the Plaintiff's Declaration, or he may deny any particular fact or facts set forth by the Plaintiff, when the facts not denied will
30 be held to have been admitted.

V. Special pleas in justification or excuse, or of any Statute are admitted as heretofore. As to pleas of justification or excuse.

VI. After issue in fact joined, either party may require his opponent to appear before a Judge having jurisdiction After issue joined, parties to be examined by a Judge, who shall certify the facts as to which they agree.
35 to hear Chamber business in the cause, at a certain day and hour to be examined upon oath or otherwise, as the Judge shall think fit touching the matters in dispute, when the Judge shall examine both parties and certify to