

ner, as if the said Proclamation, Commissions, Ordinances, and other Acts and Instruments, had not been made, and as may consist with their allegiance to His Majesty, and subjection to the Crown and Parliament of Great Britain; and that in all matters of controversy relative to property and civil rights, resort shall be had to the Laws of Canada, as the rule for the decision of the same; and all causes that shall hereafter be instituted in any of the Courts of Justice, to be appointed within and for the said Province, by His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, shall with respect to such property and rights, be determined agreeably to the said Laws and Customs of Canada, until they shall be varied or altered by any Ordinances that shall from time to time, be passed in the said Province, by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Commander in Chief, for the time being; by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council of the same, to be appointed in manner hereinafter mentioned.

IX. *Provided always*, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to any lands that have been granted by His Majesty, or shall hereafter be granted by His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, to be holden in free and common soccage.

Owners of goods may  
alienate by will, &c.

X. *Provided also*, That it shall and may be lawful to and for every person that is owner of any lands, goods, or credits, in the said Province, and that has a right to alienate the said lands, goods, or credits, in his or her life-time, by deed of sale, gift, or otherwise, to devize or bequeath the same, at his or her death, by his or her last will and testament; any Law, usage or custom, heretofore or now prevailing in the Province, to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding; such will being executed, either according to the Laws of Canada, or according to the forms prescribed by the Law of England.

Criminal Law of  
England to be continu-  
ed in the Province.

XI. And whereas the certainty and lenity of the Criminal Laws of England, and the benefit and advantages resulting from the use of it, have been sensibly felt by the inhabitants, from an experience of more than nine years, during which it has been uniformly administered; *Be it therefore further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the same shall continue to be administered, and shall be observed as Law in the Province of Quebec, as well in the description and quality of the offence, as in the method of prosecution and trial; and the punishments and forfeitures thereby inflicted, to the exclusion of every other rule of Criminal Law, or mode of proceeding thereon, which did or might prevail in the said Province, before the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty-four; any thing in this Act to the contrary thereof in any respect notwithstanding; subject nevertheless to such alterations and amendments as the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Commander in Chief, for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council of the said Province, hereafter to be appointed shall, from time to time, cause to be made therein, in manner herein after directed.