

CAP. XIII.

An Act respecting the settlement of Jesuits' Estates.

[Assented to 12th July, 1888.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS at the opening of this session of the Legislature, it pleased His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, in his gracious Speech from the Throne, to give expression to the following words:—

“I am happy to inform you that the question of the Jesuits' Estates, which has been so long pending between the religious and civil authorities, and which has caused so much uneasiness in this country, will soon be decided favorably, and to the satisfaction of all who are interested, and that my Government hopes, during this session, to submit a settlement in this connection for your approval.

“The obstacles which prevented the sale of the site of the old college of the Jesuits in this city have been removed; the principle of restitution in kind has been abandoned by the interested parties, and all that remains to be done is to determine the amount of the compensation to be granted.

“On the occasion of the settlement of this delicate question certain Protestant educational institutions will receive a fair allowance, proportionate to the numerical importance of the minority in this Province.”

Whereas the said estates were confiscated by the Imperial authorities under the reign of George III, after the suppression of the Order of the Jesuits, and were afterwards transferred to the authorities of the former Province of Canada.

Whereas a large portion of the said estates was, at the time of and since Confederation, ceded to this Province.

Whereas energetic representations have been made to the civil authorities respecting these estates, by the religious authorities and the citizens of this country, and, especially, by His Lordship Jean Francois Hubert, Bishop of Quebec, on the 10th November, 1799; by the citizens of Quebec, on the 4th February, 1793; by their Lordships, the Bishops Joseph, Bishop of Quebec, Pierre Flavien Turgeon, Bishop of Sidyme, Coadjutor of Quebec, and Jean Jacques Lartigue, Bishop of Telmesssa, suffragan of the Bishopric of Quebec, and Grand Vicar of the district of Montreal, in or about the year 1835; by their Lordships, the Bishop Joseph, Archbishop of Quebec, Pierre Flavien Turgeon, Bishop of Sidyme, Coadjutor of Quebec, Pius, Bishop of Kingston, Patrick, Bishop of Carraha, Coadjutor of Kingston, Ignace, Bishop of Montreal, T. Charles, Bishop elect of Martyropolis, Coadjutor of Montreal, Michael, Bishop of Toronto, in January, 1845; by the clergy