
BILL

To confirm certain Marriages, heretofore solemnized in the Inferior District of Gaspé, and to render valid divers Actes therein-mentioned.

WHEREAS by reason of the remote and peculiar situation of the Inferior District of Gaspé, many Marriages have been had and solemnized by Ministers of the Church of Scotland, by persons reputed to be Ministers of the Church of Scotland, by Protestant Dissenting Ministers and by persons reputed to be Protestant Dissenting Ministers, and by Justices of the Peace in the said Inferior District, now for the preventing all doubts and questions concerning the validity of the same; Be it therefore enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province of Lower-Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great-Britain, intituled "An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, " *An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec in North America,*" and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province;—and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that all Marriages heretofore had or solemnized within the said Inferior District of Gaspé, by any Minister of the Church of Scotland, or by any person reputed to be a Minister of the Church of Scotland, or by any Protestant Dissenting Minister, or by any person reputed to be a Protestant Dissenting Minister, or by any Justice of the Peace shall be and shall be adjudged, esteemed and taken to be, and have been from the day of the celebration of such Marriages respectively, good and valid in Law to all Civil effects and to all intents and purposes whatsoever, any Law, Usage or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

II Provided nevertheless, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that nothing herein contained, shall be construed or taken to confirm any Marriage betw^{en} persons, who at the time of the celebration of such Marriage, could