

An Act to amend the Judicature Acts of Lower Canada.

WHEREAS the increasing wealth and population of Lower Canada, the recent subdivision thereof into Counties for the purposes of Representation in Parliament, and the establishment of a complete and efficient Municipal System therein, render it expedient to provide more generally for the Local Administration of Justice in every class of cases, and afford means for making such provision; And whereas it is expedient at the same time to make certain improvements in the procedure in the Courts of Justice in the said portion of the Province: Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, enacts as follows:

RE-DIVISION OF LOWER CANADA INTO DISTRICTS.

I. Lower Canada shall be divided into nineteen Districts, in the manner set forth in Schedule A to this Act, the first column whereof contains the name of each District; the second column, the places which shall be comprised within the District; and the third column, the name of the place at or near which the sittings of the Superior Court shall be held and at which the District Court House and Gaol shall be.

Lower Canada divided into 19 Districts as in Schedule A.

II. A Court House and Gaol shall be forthwith built in the manner hereinafter provided, in each of the New Districts mentioned in the said Schedule.

Court Houses and Gaols in New Districts.

III. The immediate re-division of Lower Canada into Districts, in order that proper buildings may be erected and other provision made for carrying this Act fully into effect, shall operate no change in the local jurisdiction of the Superior Court or Circuit Court, in and for any of the present Districts or Circuits, until the day which shall be named as that on which this Act shall take full effect in civil matters, in the first Proclamation to be issued under this Act appointing the times at which Terms of the said Courts are to be held in the new Districts, and declaring them to be established for all purposes of the administration of justice in civil matters.

Re-division not to affect local jurisdiction of Civil Courts until the Act is fully in force in civil matters.

IV. And, in like manner, the said re-division shall operate no change in the local jurisdiction of the Court of Queen's Bench in and for any of the present Districts, in the exercise of its original criminal jurisdiction, or in the local jurisdiction of

Not of Criminal Courts, Justices, &c., until it is fully in force as to