No 109.]

F1860.

An Act to regulate the Presidency at *Fabrique* Meetings in the Catholic Parishes of Lower Canada.

THEREAS doubts have arisen as to the person who ought by law Preamble. to preside at general parish or fabrique meetings for the election of churchwardens and other purposes, for which parish and fabrique meetings in the Catholic parishes of Lower Canada are by law required. 5 and it is expedient to remove these doubts by establishing one uniform mode in which such meetings shall hereafter be presided over in all the Catholic parishes; Therefore Her Majesty, &c., enacts as follows:

I. Hereafter every general fabrique and parish meeting for the elec- Who shall tion of churchwardens and other purposes for which the law and custom 10 require general meetings of the parishioners and members of *fabriques* in the Catholic parishes of Lower Canada, shall be presided over by the Curé of the parish, or the priest administering the same; and every proceeding at such meeting shall be entered in the register of proceedings of such parish in the usual manner and form, notwithstanding any usage

15 or custom to the contrary which may have been introduced into any parishes.

II. This Act shall not affect fabriques and parish meetings which may Act not to afhave been held and presided over contrary to the provisions thereof, and feet meetings any proceedings which may have been or shall be instituted in consequence held.

20 of such meetings shall be decided as though this Act had not been passed.

hercafter preside at such meetings.

heretofore