

their claims within six months after the passing of this Act, and shall thereupon deposit such declaration attested on oath in the hands of the Receiver General; and in the absence of creditors such Seigneur shall forthwith have and receive to his own profit and advantage, his share in the sinking fund, which shall include all arrears of *droits de quint*, due and payable up to that period, with the interest accrued thereon. 5

How the value of Seignories in possession of the Government shall be estimated and fixed.

IV. That the value of the said seignories, fiefs and *arrière-fiefs*, being as aforesaid in the possession of the Government of this Province, shall be established as soon as possible after the passing of this Act, by three sworn arbitrators, one of whom shall be appointed by the Government, one by the Legislative Assembly, and the third by the *Censitaires* at a meeting of delegates from each Parish situate within every such seignory, fief and *arrière-fief*, notice of such meeting having been first given at the door of the Parish church, or if there be no church, then at the most public place of resort, eight days previous to such meeting; and the Committee of Delegates shall make a Report forthwith to the Secretary of the Province of the appointment by them of an arbitrator, and in such case, one delegate from each Parish shall be sufficient; and in default of such appointment of an arbitrator by the *Censitaires*, the other two arbitrators shall name a third; and the said arbitrators and third arbitrator, as the case may be, shall proceed to make the said valuation, and shall make their Report thereon, within two months from the dates of their respective appointments. 25

Basis of valuation established.

V. That for the purpose of making such valuation, the said arbitrators and the third arbitrators, if it shall have been necessary to appoint such third arbitrators, shall take as the basis of the value of such seignory, fief or *arrière-fief*, the amount in capital of the average net annual revenue for the last ten years. 30

Arbitrators to be appointed for each Seignory, &c.

VI. That the said three arbitrators shall only be appointed for and by each seignory, fief and *arrière-fief*, and not otherwise.

How the value of Seignories, &c., held by others than the Government shall be estimated.

VII. That in order to ascertain and establish, in accordance with the intention of this Act, the value of the seignories, fiefs and *arrière-fiefs*, other than those possessed by the Government, the Seigneur and proprietor, and the Co-seigniors and co-proprietors of every such seignory, fief and *arrière-fief*, shall make a report under oath to the Government of this Province within two months from the passing of this Act, under a penalty of currency, to be paid by the party neglecting so to do, of the revenues and expenditure for the last years of every such seignory, fief or *arrière-fief* at present in his or their possession, or in the possession of his or their predecessors, (*auteurs*) and the