

2 ACTS OF THE PARLIAMENTS OF CANADA AND JAMAICA,

CANADA.

order to give effect to the same, such Act should be transmitted to England without delay, for the purpose of being laid before Parliament previous to the signification of his Majesty's Assent thereto.

Among the Acts in respect of which it is required that the formalities just mentioned should be observed, are those "containing any provisions which shall in any manner relate to or affect the enjoyment or exercise of any religious form or mode of worship." Within this description of Acts the Bill now under consideration, I apprehend, is included; and I am therefore humbly of opinion, that this Bill is of a nature necessarily to be reserved for the signification of his Majesty's pleasure respecting the same, and that an Address of the Legislative Council and Assembly, and the transmission of the Bill to be laid before Parliament, as required by the section above cited, would be indispensable preliminaries to the giving of his Majesty's Assent to this Bill. But I am also humbly of opinion, that the provisions of the Bill are inexpedient, imperfectly and insufficiently framed, and not such as would be required to answer the purposes intended.

Lieut.-colonel Yorke, Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) J. Stuart,
Attorney-general.

Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

Encl. 2, in No. 1.

(No. 607.)

BILL.

AN ACT to extend certain Privileges therein mentioned to Persons professing the Jewish Religion, and for the obviating certain inconveniences to which others of His Majesty's subjects might otherwise be exposed.

Preamble.

WHEREAS serious inconveniences are experienced by persons professing the Jewish religion, being British subjects resident in this province, from their disability under the existing laws to have and keep authentic registers of the births, marriages and burials occurring among them, which disability may injuriously affect the interests of others of his Majesty's subjects throughout the province, and particularly those of such persons as may derive their titles to real property from persons so professing the Jewish religion: And whereas, it is expedient that there should be in each of the districts of this province fit and proper places of worship and of burials for the use of such persons: 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 14th 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 the prothonotaries of the Courts of King's Bench for the districts of Quebec, Montreal and Three Rivers respectively, shall, immediately after the passing of this Act, open and keep in each of the said districts a register, to remain of record, wherein any person residing in the district in which such register shall be kept, being a British subject professing the Jewish religion, and above the age of 21 years, may inscribe his name, age, addition and place of residence, after oath by him made before the said prothonotaries or any of them, that he believes himself to be of the full age of 21 years, and that he is a British subject professing the Jewish faith.

Prothonotaries of the several Districts in this Province to keep Registers of Persons professing the Jewish Religion.

When 15 persons are enregistered Justices of the Court of King's Bench or Judge of the Provincial Court, may convene a public meeting of all persons so enregistered.

Proviso.

Persons so enregistered may, at their meeting, elect Trustees.

And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that when and so soon as 15 persons shall have been so enregistered, it shall and may be lawful for any Justice of the Court of King's Bench, or Judge of the Provincial Court, as the case may be, upon petition to that effect to him made by seven persons so enregistered in his district; and such Justice is hereby required, upon such petition, to convene a public meeting of all persons so enregistered within his district, to be held in the chief city or town thereof, and at such place therein, and at such time as the said Justice shall deem advisable, to appoint and to name some Justice of the Peace for the said district to preside at such meeting, and to make his return of the proceedings thereat to the Prothonotary of the Court of King's Bench for the said district, or Prothonotary of such Provincial Court, as the case may be: Provided always, that the day on which such meeting shall be held shall not be more than 60 nor less than 30 days after the time at which the said petition shall have been presented; and that due notice of such meeting shall be given, by inserting such notice during two weeks in such public newspaper as the said Justices may appoint, or if no newspaper be published in his district, in such manner as the said Justices shall order.

And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that at such meeting it shall be lawful for the persons so enregistered in the district in which such meeting shall be held, and then and there present, to elect by a majority of their votes, five persons from among such persons as shall have been so enregistered in the same district as themselves, to be trustees for the purposes hereinafter mentioned, which persons shall be returned as such trustees by the Justices of the Peace presiding at such meeting, in his official return of the proceedings had at such meeting as before directed.

And