

Indians' Protection Bill. (Upper Canada.)

An Act for the protection of the Indians in Upper Canada from imposition, and the property occupied or enjoyed by them from trespass and injury.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make provision for the Preamble.
 protection of the Indians in Upper Canada, who in their intercourse with the other inhabitants thereof are exposed to be imposed upon by the designing and unprincipled, as well as to provide more summary and effectual means for the protection of such Indians in the unmolested possession and enjoyment of the lands and other property in their use or occupation:—Be it, &c.

10 That no purchase or contract for the sale of land in Upper Canada, which may be made of or with the Indians or any of them, shall be valid unless made under the authority and with the consent of Her Majesty, her Heirs or Successors, attested by an instrument under the Great Seal of the Province or under the Privy Seal of the Governor thereof for the time being. Purchases of land from Indians not valid without the consent of the Crown.

15 **II.** And be it enacted, That if any person, without such authority and consent, shall in any manner or form, or upon any terms whatsoever, purchase any lands within Upper Canada of or from the said Indians or any of them, or make any contract with such Indians, or any of them, for or concerning the sale of any lands therein, or shall in any manner, give, sell, demise, convey or otherwise dispose of any such lands, or any interest therein, or offer so to do, or shall enter on, or take possession of, or settle on
 25 any such lands, by pretext or colour of any right or interest in the same, in consequence of any such purchase or contract made or to be made with such Indians or any of them unless with such authority and consent as aforesaid, every such person shall, in every such case, be deemed
 30 guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, on conviction thereof before any Court of competent jurisdiction, forfeit and pay to Her Majesty Her Heirs or Successors the sum of *two hundred pounds* and be further punished by fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the Court. Such purchase without consent to be a misdemeanor. Penalty.

35 **III.** And be it enacted, That no person shall sue or maintain any action on any bond, bill, note, promise or other contract hereafter to be made, against any Indian within Upper Canada, unless such Indian shall be seized Indians not to be sued.