

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 18

Illinois, St Vincenne, Detroit, Missilimakinac, and Gaspée, by the Names of the Court of King's Bench for such district, to be held at such times, as shall be thought most convenient, with Authority to hear and determine in all Matters of Criminal Nature according to the Laws of England, and the Laws of the Province hereafter to be made and passed ; and in all Civil matters according to the Rules prescribed by the aforesaid Act of Parliament "for "making more effectual Provision for the Government of Quebec in North "America ;" That each of the said Courts shall consist of one judge, being a natural-born Subject of Great Britain, Ireland, or Our other Plantations, and of one other Person, being a Canadian, by the name of Assistant or Assessor, to give advice to the Judge in any Matter, when it may be necessary ; but to have no Authority or Power to attest or issue any Process, or to give any Vote in any order, Judgement, or decree ; That the said Judges, so to be appointed, as aforesaid, for each District, shall have the same power and Authority in Criminal Cases, as is vested in the Chief Justice of Our said Province ; and also the same Power and Authority in Civil Cases, as any other Judge of Common Pleas within Our said Province, excepting only that, in Cases of Treason, Murder, or other Capital Felonies, the said Judges shall have no other Authority, than that of Arrest and Commitment to the Goals of Quebec, or of Montreal, where alone Offenders in such Cases shall be tried before Our Chief Justice ; That a Sheriff be appointed in each of the said Districts for the Execution of Civil and Criminal Process ; That the Governor and Council (of which, in the absence of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, the Chief Justice is to be President,) shall be a Court of civil Jurisdiction for the hearing and determining all Appeals from the Judgement of the other Courts, where the matter in dispute is above the value of Ten Pounds ; That any Five of the said Council, with the Governor, Lieut^e Governor, or Chief Justice, shall constitute a Court for that purpose ; and that their Judgement shall be final in all Cases not exceeding the value of £500 sterling, in which Cases an Appeal from their Judgement is to be admitted to Us in Our Privy Council. It is however Our Will and Pleasure, that no Appeal be allowed, unless security be first duly given by the Appellant, that he will effectually prosecute the same, and answer the Condemnation, as also pay such Costs and Damages, as shall be awarded by Us, in case the Sentence be affirmed ; Provided nevertheless, where the matter in question relates to the taking or demanding any Duty payable to Us, or to any Fee of Office, or annual Rents, or other such like matter or thing, where the Rights in future may be bound, in all such Cases appeal to Us, in Our Privy Council is to be admitted, tho' the immediate sum or value appealed for be of less value.—And it is Our further Will and Pleasure, that in all Cases, where Appeals are admitted unto Us in Our Privy Council, execution be suspended until the final determination of such Appeal, unless good and sufficient security be given by the Appellee to make ample restitution of all, that the Appellant shall have lost by means of such decree or judgement, in case, upon the determination