

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 18

they were Subject, and Concerning the Inheritance and Succession to the said Lands upon the Death of any of the Proprietors thereof; and Concerning the Forfeiture, Confiscation, Reannexing or reuniting to the Demesne of the Lord, Escheat, Reversion, or other Devolution whatsoever of any of the said Lands, either to the King's Majesty or any of His Majesty's Subjects of whom they are held; and Concerning the Power of Devising, or Bequeathing, any of the said Lands by a last Will and Testament; and Concerning the Power of Alienating the same by the Proprietors thereof in their Life Time; and Concerning the Power of Limiting, Mortgaging, Hypothecating, or any Way incumbering, or affecting, any Lands in the said Province; shall continue in full Force and Vigor untill they are changed in some of these Particulars by Ordinances made for that Purpose and expressly mentioning such Changes and setting forth in a full and distinct Manner the Laws introduced in the stead of those which shall be so changed or abolished, to the End that all the Inhabitants of this Province, Canadians as well as English, may fully understand and be made acquainted with the said new Laws that shall be so introduced, any Laws, Customs, or Usages of England, or any Ordinances of this Province, to the Contrary hereof in any Wise Notwithstanding—

Also the said French Laws and Customs hereby Continued and Confirmed shall be deemed and taken to have continued without Interruption from the Time of the Conquest of this Country by the British Arms to the present Time; any former Ordinance, or Ordinances, of this Province to the contrary thereof in any Wise Notwithstanding.

And further this Ordinance shall extend not only to all Lands in this Province held immediately of the Crown by Grants made by the French King before the Conquest of this Country, and to all Lands held under these immediate of the Crown, who are commonly called *Seigneurs*, by Grants made by the said *Seigneurs* to inferior Tenants or Vassals, before the said Conquest, but likewise to such Lands as have been granted by the said *Seigneurs* to the said inferior Tenants since the said Conquest, and likewise to all such Lands as shall be granted hereafter by the said *Seigneurs* to the said inferior Tenants or Vassals; all which said Grants from the said *Seigneurs* to the said inferior Tenants, or Vassals, both these that shall hereafter be made, and those that have been made already, shall be subject to the same Rules, Restrictions, and Conditions, as were lawfully in Force Concerning them in the Time of the French Government at, or immediately before, the Time, of the said Conquest of this Province by the British Arms. But this Ordinance shall not extend to, or any Way affect, any new Grants of Land in this Province made by the King's Majesty since the said Conquest, or hereafter to be made by his said Majesty; but the Laws and Rules relating to such Royal Grants shall be the same as if this Ordinance had not been made.

Given by the Hon^{ble} Guy Carleton Lt. Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Quebec, Brig^{er} Genl. of His Majesty's Forces &c