

## CHAP. 18.

An Act to amend and consolidate the laws respecting  
Indians.

[Assented to 12th April, 1876.]

**W**HEREAS it is expedient to amend and consolidate the Preamble.  
laws respecting Indians: Therefore Her Majesty, by  
and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House  
of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

**1.** This Act shall be known and may be cited as "*The* Short title  
and extent of  
Act.  
*Indian Act, 1876*;" and shall apply to all the Provinces, and  
to the North West Territories, including the Territory of  
Keewatin.

**2.** The Minister of the Interior shall be Superintendent- Superintendent-  
General.  
General of Indian Affairs, and shall be governed in the  
supervision of the said affairs, and in the control and manage-  
ment of the reserves, lands, moneys and property of Indians  
in Canada by the provisions of this Act.

## TERMS.

**3.** The following terms contained in this Act shall be held Meanings as-  
signed to  
terms in this  
Act.  
to have the meaning hereinafter assigned to them, unless such  
meaning be repugnant to the subject or inconsistent with the  
context:—

1. The term "band" means any tribe, band or body of Band.  
Indians who own or are interested in a reserve or in Indian  
lands in common, of which the legal title is vested in the  
Crown, or who share alike in the distribution of any annuities  
or interest moneys for which the Government of Canada is  
responsible; the term "the band" means the band to which  
the context relates; and the term "band," when action is  
being taken by the band as such, means the band in council.

2. The term "irregular band" means any tribe, band or Irregular  
Band.  
body of persons of Indian blood who own no interest in any  
reserve or lands of which the legal title is vested in the Crown,  
who possess no common fund managed by the Government  
of Canada, or who have not had any treaty relations with the  
Crown.

3, The term "Indian" means Indians.

*First.* Any male person of Indian blood reputed to belong  
to a particular band;

*Secondly.*