

Assent to or Dissent from the Surrender, Re-grant, and Change of Tenure of such Lands, and the Commutation, Release, and Extinguishment of the Feudal and Seigniorial Dues, Rights, and Burthens so applied for; which Consent or Dissent in Writing shall, in case of an Application made by Petition to His Majesty, as herein-before mentioned, be lodged within the said last-mentioned Period of Three Calendar Months (and Access shall be by all Persons freely had thereto) in the Office of the Executive Council of the said Province; and in the Case where such Commutation, Release, and Extinguishment of Feudal and Seigniorial Dues, Rights, and Burthens shall be required of a Seignior, for and in respect of Lands holden under him, *à Titre de Fief*, in *Arriere Fief*, such Consent or Dissent in Writing shall be lodged within the said Time (and Access shall be by all Persons freely had thereto) in the Office of the Prothonotary or Clerk of the Superior Court of Original Jurisdiction, holding Civil Pleas in the District where such Lands shall be situate; and provided further, that no such Surrender, Re-grant, Change of Tenure, or Commutation, Release, and Extinguishment of Feudal and Seigniorial Dues, Rights, and Burthens, shall be good, valid, or effectual to any Purpose whatsoever, unless such Notification shall have been previously made, and the Consent of all such Persons having, holding, or claiming any Right or Interest, Security, Charge, or Incumbrance in or upon the said Lands, shall have been signified and deposited as aforesaid, or until the Person applying for such Commutation, Release, or Extinguishment of Feudal or Seigniorial Dues, Rights, or Burthens, shall show, to the Satisfaction of His Majesty's Executive Council, or of his immediate Superior, Lord, or Seignior, as the Case may be, that no such Claim hath been made or signified, or that having been made, it hath been satisfied or discharged, or been declared by a Judgment of a competent Court of Law to be unfounded.

16 And whereas Doubts have arisen, whether Lands granted in the said Province of *Lower Canada* by His Majesty, or by any of His Royal Predecessors, to be holden in Free and Common Soccage, shall be held by the Owners thereof, or will subsequently pass to other Persons according to the Rules of Descent and Alienation in force in *England*, or according to such Rules as were established by the ancient Laws of the said Province, for the Descent and Alienation of Land situate therein; be it therefore declared and enacted, That all Lands within the said Province of *Lower Canada*, which have heretofore been granted by His Majesty, or by any of His Royal Predecessors, to any Person or Persons, their Heirs and Assigns, to be holden

Lands holden in Free and Common Soccage in Lower Canada to be subject to the Laws of England.