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**BILL**

*To enforce the Laws of this Province, compelling Seigniors to grant Lands to Applicants, subject only to Rents and Services, and granting relief in case of refusal on the part of any Seignior so to grant the same.*

**W**HEREAS by the Laws, usages and customs of this Province, the Proprietors of Seigniories therein are bound to grant Lands to the Inhabitants of the said Province, for settlement, subject only to certain Rents and Services (*à titre de redevance*),—And whereas divers of the said Proprietors of Seigniories have, under various pretexts and contrary to the said Laws, usages and customs, and in breach of the conditions of the original Grants under which the said Seigniories are held, refused to grant unto Inhabitants of the said Province, Lots of Land in the said Seigniories, for settlement, and have retained large tracts of Waste and unsettled Lands in their own hands, with the intention of selling the same and receiving for the said Lots of Land large sums of money as the prices of the same, over and above the said Rents and Services, whereby the settlement of this Province is greatly retarded; and whereas previous to the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty-nine, it was provided in and by a certain Decree, or *Arrêt* of His Most Christian Majesty the King of France, relating to Lands in New France or Canada, granted in Seigniories and remaining Waste and unconceded by the Seigniors owning the same, bearing date at Marly, the sixth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and eleven, “ That whensoever any Seigniors refused or made default to grant to Inhabitants of the said Province, the Lots of Land within the said Seigniories by them demanded for settlement, subject to the said Rents and Services, and without any other pecuniary demand whatsoever on the part of them, the said Proprietors of Seigniories from them the said Inhabitants, it was lawful for the said Inhabitants to require Lands of them the said Seigniors by summons, and in case of refusal to resort to the Governor, Lieutenant-General, and the Intendant of this Province, who were authorised and required to grant to the said Inhabitants the Lands by them so demanded in the said Seigniories, subject to the same Rents and Services as the other Lands in the said Seigniories were subject to and charged with; which Rents and Services should be paid and rendered to the Receiver-General of His Majesty's Domain in the Town of Quebec, the