

respect to such persons only as shall profess the said religion. Section VI. gives power to His Majesty to make provision for the support of the Protestant clergy out of the rest of the accustomed dues and rights. Section VII. declares that no person professing the Romish religion is to be obliged to take the oath prescribed by 1 Elizabeth, but may, in lieu thereof, take before the governor the following, namely:— "I, A. B., do sincerely promise and swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King George, and him will defend to the utmost of my power against all traitorous conspiracies and attempts whatsoever which shall be made against his person, crown and dignity; and I will do my utmost endeavour to disclose and make known to His Majesty, his heirs and successors, all treasons and traitorous conspiracies and attempts which I shall know to be against him, or any of them; and all this I do swear without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation, and renouncing all pardons and dispensations from any power or person whomsoever to the contrary, so help me God." This section also provides that any person refusing to take this oath shall be subject to the penalties imposed by the Act 1 Elizabeth. Section VIII. continues to all His Majesty's Canadian subjects (religious orders only excepted) the right to hold all their possessions, &c. as heretofore, and provides that in matters of controversy, resort is to be had to the laws and customs of Canada for decision. Section IX. exempts from the provisions of this Act any lands granted, or to be granted, by His Majesty in common soccage. Section X. gives power to owners of lands, goods, &c., to alienate during lifetime, or devise by will according to the laws of Canada or of England. Section XI.

declares that the criminal law of England shall continue to have force in Canada. Section XII. authorizes His Majesty, with the consent of the Privy Council, to appoint a council for the affairs of the Province of Quebec, to consist of persons resident in the Province, not exceeding twenty-three, nor less than seventeen, who are to have power, with consent of the governor, to make ordinances for the peace, welfare, and good government of the Province. Section XIII. prohibits the council created by the preceding section from levying any taxes, but the council may authorize towns and districts to assess taxes for local purposes. Section XIV. provides that all ordinances of the council shall be laid before His Majesty within six months, and if disallowed, shall be void from the date of the publication in Quebec of the order in council disallowing them. Section XV. declares that no ordinance touching religion, or imposing greater punishment than fine or imprisonment for three months, shall be in force until approved by His Majesty. Section XVI. provides that no ordinance shall be passed at any meeting of council where less than a majority of the whole council be present, nor at any time, except between 1st January and 1st May, unless upon any very urgent occasion, when the council may be specially summoned. Section XVII. reserves to His Majesty the power to create any courts with criminal, civil, or ecclesiastical jurisdiction. Section XVIII. declares that no general acts respecting trade or commerce in British North America, shall be affected by this Act, but that all such Acts are in force in the Province of Quebec. An Act (14 George III., chap. 88) was also passed to impose a duty on the importation into Canada of spirits and molasses, and to levy a license duty on the