

# BILL.

## An Ordinance to provide for the better internal Government of this Province, by the establishment of local or municipal authorities therein.

Preamble.

**W**HEREAS, for the better protection and management of the local interests of Her Majesty's subjects in this Province, and for the advancement of the internal prosperity thereof it is expedient and necessary that Municipal authorities be established in the several Districts of the said Province :—Be it therefore Ordained and Enacted, by His Excellency the Governor of the Province of Lower Canada, by and with the advice and consent of the Special Council for the affairs thereof constituted and assembled by virtue and under the authority of an Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland passed in the first year of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled, "*An Act to make temporary provision for the Government of Lower Canada;*" And also by virtue and under the authority of a certain other Act of the said Parliament, passed in the Session held in the second and third years of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled, "*An Act to amend an Act of the last Session of Parliament, for making temporary provision for the Government of Lower Canada;*" And it is hereby Ordained and Enacted, by the authority of the said Acts of Parliament, that this Province shall, for the purposes of this Ordinance, be divided into such number of Districts as to the said Governor shall seem fit; and it shall be lawful for the Governor, by and with the advice of the Executive Council for the said Province, on or before the first day of January which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-one, to issue a Proclamation under the Great Seal of the said Province, whereby the said Province shall be divided into Districts and the limits of such Districts fixed, appointed, and declared.

Districts to be declared and their limits fixed by the Governor's Proclamation.

Inhabitants of Districts incorporated.

**II.** And be it Ordained and Enacted, that the inhabitants of each of the Districts so determined, appointed, and declared, shall be and they are hereby constituted a Body Corporate, and as such shall be capable in law of suing and being sued; and of purchasing and holding lands and tenements situated within the limits of such District, for the use of the inhabitants thereof; and of making and entering into such contracts and agreements as may be necessary for the due exercise of the functions of such Body Corporate, to which contracts and agreements it shall not be required, for their validity, that a seal be affixed: and the powers aforesaid shall be exercised by, and through, and in the name of the Council of every such District.

Councils to consist of Warden and Councillors.

**III.** And be it Ordained and Enacted, that each of the said District Councils shall consist of a Warden and Councillors to be appointed and elected as hereinafter provided.

Appointment of Wardens.

**IV.** And be it Ordained and Enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Governor of this Province by Letters Patent to be issued under the Great Seal of this Province to appoint from time to time, as occasion may require, one fit and proper person to act as Warden in each of the said Districts; which person shall perform the duties of the office of Warden as hereinafter prescribed.

Election of Councillors.

**V.** And be it Ordained and Enacted, that, on the of in every year such of the inhabitants of the Townships and Parishes comprised within each of the said Districts respectively as,