

for the time being, relative to the civil government and administration of Justice in the said Province, and all Commissions to Judges and other Officers thereof, be, and the same are hereby revoked, annulled, and made void, from and after the first day of May one thousand seven hundred and seventy five.

Inhabitants of Quebec may profess the Romish religion, &c.

V. And, for the more perfect security and ease of the minds of the inhabitants of the said Province, it is hereby declared, that his Majesty's subjects, professing the religion of the Church of Rome, of and in the said Province of Quebec, may have, hold and enjoy, the free exercise of the religion of the Church of Rome, subject to the King's supremacy, declared and established by an Act made in the first year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, over all the dominions and countries which then did, or thereafter should belong, to the Imperial Crown of this Realm; and that the Clergy of the said Church may hold, receive and enjoy their accustomed dues and rights, with respect to such persons only as shall profess the said religion.

VI. Provided nevertheless, That it shall be lawful for his Majesty, his heirs or successors, to make such provision out of the rest of the said accustomed dues and rights, for the encouragement of the Protestant religion, and for the maintenance and support of a Protestant Clergy within the said Province, as he or they shall from time to time, think necessary and expedient.

No person professing the Romish religion, obliged to take the oath of Elizabeth, but to take the following oath.

VII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That no person professing the religion of the Church of Rome, and residing in the said Province, shall be obliged to take the oath required by the said statute passed in the first year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, or any other oaths substituted by any other Act in the place thereof; but that every such person who, by the said statute, is required to take the oath therein mentioned, shall be obliged, and is hereby required, to take and subscribe the following oath before the Governor, or such other person in such Court of Record as his Majesty shall appoint, who are hereby authorized to administer the same, *videlicet*,

*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 and Person whomsoever to the contrary — So help me God.*

And every such person who shall neglect or refuse to take the said oath before mentioned, shall incur and be liable to the same penalties, forfeitures, disabilities and incapacities, as he would have incurred and been liable to for neglecting or refusing to take the oath required by the said statute passed in the first year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

Canadian subjects (religious Orders excepted) may hold all their possessions, &c.

VIII. And he it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all his Majesty's Canadian subjects within the Province of Quebec, the religious Orders and Communities only excepted, may also hold and enjoy their property and possessions, together with all customs and usages relative thereto, and all other their civil rights in as large, ample, and beneficial manner, as if the said Proclamation, Commissions, Ordinances, and other Acts and Instruments, had not been made, and as may consist with their allegiance to his Majesty, and subjection to the Crown and Parliament of Great Britain; and that in all matters of controversy relative to property and civil rights, resort shall be had to the Laws of Canada, as the rule for the decision of the same; and all causes that shall hereafter be instituted in any of the Courts of Justice, to be appointed within and for the said Province by his Majesty, his heirs and successors, shall, with respect to such property and rights, be determined agreeably to the said Laws and Customs of Canada, until they shall be varied or altered by any Ordinances that shall, from time to time be passed in the said Province by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Commander in Chief, for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council of the same, to be appointed in manner herein after mentioned.

IX. Provided always, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to any lands that have been granted by his Majesty, or shall hereafter be granted by his Majesty, his heirs and successors, to be holden in free and common socage.

Owners of goods may alienate by will, &c.

X. Provided also, That it shall and may be lawful to and for every person that is owner of any lands, goods, or credits, in the said Province, and that has a right to alienate the said lands, goods, or credits, in his or her life time, by deed of sale, gift, or otherwise, to devise or bequeath the same at his or her death, by his or her last will and testament; any Law, Usage, or Custom, heretofore or now prevailing in the Province, to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding; such will being executed either according to the Laws of Canada, or according to the forms prescribed by the Laws of England.

Criminal Law of England to be continued in the Province.

XI. And whereas the certainty and lenity of the Criminal Laws of England, and the benefits and advantages resulting from the use of it, have been sensibly felt by the inhabitants, from an experience of more than nine years, during which it has been uniformly administered; Be it therefore further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the same shall continue to be administered, and shall be observed as Law in the Province of Quebec, as well in the description and quality of the offences in the method of prosecution and trial; and the punishments and forfeitures thereby inflicted to the exclusion of every other rule of Criminal Law, or mode of proceeding thereon, which did or might prevail in the said Province before the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty-four; any Act in this Act to the contrary thereof in any respect notwithstanding; subject nevertheless to such alterations and amendments as the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Commander in Chief, for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council of the said Province, hereafter to be appointed shall, from time to time, cause to be made therein, in manner herein after directed.

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