

C H A P. III.

An ACT for securing the Titles to Lands in this province.

Preamble

WHEREAS many persons are possessed of lands in this province under land-board certificates, and otherwise, by authority of his Majesty's government, and now hold, or claim to hold the same, either as the original nominees, or as the heirs, devisees or assignees of the original nominees thereof, of which lands no grants have as yet issued under the great seal of this province, whereby the legal estate and interest thereof is still vested in his Majesty: for the securing of all such persons in the ownership and possession of such lands, Be it enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the legislative council and assembly of the province of Upper-Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of, and under the authority of an act passed in the parliament of Great-Britain, entitled "An act to repeal certain parts of an act passed in the fourteenth year of his Majesty's reign, entitled "An act for making more effectual provision for the government of the province of Quebec in North America, and to make further provision for the government of the said province," and by the authority of the same, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the governor, lieutenant-governor or person administering the government of this province, at any time during the space of three years from the passing of this act, to issue such, and so many commissions under the great seal of this province, for the Eastern, Midland and Western districts, and also for the county of Lincoln in the Home district, as he shall think proper, to three or more persons whereof, his Majesty's chief justice of this province, or one of the justices of the court of King's bench shall be one; which commissioners shall have power and authority in their respective districts, to hear and determine all applications that shall or may be made to them by persons holding, or claiming to hold lands as aforesaid, for grants thereof under the great seal of this province, in like manner as the same might be heard and determined by his Majesty's executive council.

Governor, &c.
to appoint
commissioners.

Their authority.

How persons
claiming may
appear.The commissi-
oners may com-
pel attendance
and the produc-
tion of papers.How they shall
be guided:

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid That it shall and may be lawful to and for the persons so holding, or claiming to hold as aforesaid, to come before the said commissioners either in person or by their agents; constituted and appointed under their hands and seals, and to produce to the said commissioners the several documents, vouchers and other evidences on which they severally found their said claims; and the said commissioners, or any two of them, whereof the said chief justice, or justice of the court of King's bench shall be one, shall proceed to hear, decide and report thereon in manner herein after mentioned; and shall for that purpose have full power and authority to administer such oaths, and also by warrant under their hands, or the hand of one of them, compel the attendance of all such persons; and also the production of all such books, papers and other evidences as they in their discretion shall think necessary or proper.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in hearing and deciding on all such claims, whether the same be between subject and subject, or between the subject and