

C H A P. XVII.

An ACT to extend the provisions of an act passed in the second Session of the first Provincial Parliament of Upper Canada, entitled "An Act to confirm and make valid certain Marriages, heretofore contracted in the Country now comprized within the province of Upper Canada, and to provide for the future Solemnization of Marriage within the same."

I. WHEREAS it hath been found expedient to extend the provisions of a certain act passed in thirty-third year of his Majesty's reign, entitled "An act to confirm and make valid certain marriages heretofore contracted in the country now comprized within the province of Upper Canada, and to provide for the future solemnization of marriage within the same," Be it therefore 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 from and after the passing of this act, it shall and may be lawful to, and for the minister or clergyman of any congregation or religious community of persons, professing to be members of the Church of Scotland, or Lutherans, or Calvinists, who shall be authorized in manner hereafter directed, to celebrate the ceremony of Matrimony, according to the rites of such church or religious community, between any two persons, neither of whom are under any legal disqualification to contract matrimony, and one of whom shall have been a member of such congregation or religious community, at least six months before the said marriage, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

II. Provided nevertheless, and be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no person shall be taken, or deemed to be a minister or clergyman of any such congregation or religious community, within the intent and meaning of this act, who shall not have been regularly ordained, constituted, or appointed, according to the rites and forms of such congregation or religious community, and unless he shall have appeared, or come before the justices of the peace assembled in quarter-sessions, in the district in which he shall reside, when not less than six magistrates besides the chairman, shall be present, and shall have then with him at least seven respectable persons, members of the congregation or religious community to which