

BILL.

An Act to amend the Act therein mentioned, and to make other provisions for the management and disposal of the Public Lands, and to limit the period for making Free Grants.

WHEREAS it is deemed expedient and necessary Preamble.
to amend and otherwise extend the provisions of the Act of the Legislature of this Province, passed in the session held in the fourth and fifth years of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled, "*An Act for the disposal of Public Lands,*" 4 and 5 Vict. c. 100.
as well as to remove certain doubts which have arisen as to the intent and meaning of some of the provisions of the said Act; And whereas by the second section of the said Act, it is enacted that with certain exceptions therein-
10 after provided, no free grants of Public Land shall be made to any person or persons whatsoever; And whereas doubts have been entertained whether the same does not preclude Her Majesty from the exercise of Her Royal Grace, in the relinquishment of her rights to Escheats
15 and Forfeitures in favour of those near of kin, or otherwise connected with the parties last seized thereof, and it is expedient to remove all such doubts: Be it therefore declared and enacted, &c.

And it is hereby declared and enacted by the authority To what lands only Sect. 2 of the said Act, shall extend.
20 of the same, that the second section of the said Act, extends and shall be deemed to have at all times extended to such lands only as no Patent Deed had ever issued for, and not to such as having been once granted by Letters Patent, had subsequently become vested in Her Ma-
25 jesty, either by act of the party or by operation of Law.

II. And whereas by the eighteenth section of the said Recital.
Act, it is amongst other things enacted, that the receipt to be given to the purchaser of any land from the Crown, shall bear date on the day on which it is actually signed,
30 and shall authorize the purchaser to take immediate possession of the lot so sold, and maintain suits in law or equity, against any wrongful possessor or trespasser on such land, as fully and effectually as if the Patent Deed had issued on the day of the date of such receipt; And
35 whereas great inconvenience has arisen from its having been held that such provision does not extend to receipts on sales of the lands commonly known as Clergy Reserves, and it is expedient to extend the operation thereof, generally to all sales by or on the part of the Crown; Be
40 it therefore declared and enacted, That the said eighteenth Section 18 of the said Act extended to