

*North-western Territories (British America).*

committed within the Provinces of *Lower* or *Upper Canada*; and by the secondly herein-mentioned Act it was enacted, that it should be lawful for His Majesty, if he should deem it convenient so to do, to issue a Commission or Commissions to any Person or Persons to be and act as Justices of the Peace within such Parts of *America* as aforesaid; and it was also enacted, that it should be lawful for His Majesty, by Commission under the Great Seal, to authorize and empower such Persons so appointed Justices to sit and hold Courts of Record for the Trial of Criminal Offences and Misdemeanors, and also of Civil Causes: And whereas no Courts of Record have been established or authorized as aforesaid, and it is expedient to make further Provision for the Administration of Justice in Criminal Cases in the said *Indian Territories*, and such other Parts as aforesaid of *America*, and also to make Provision for better regulating Trade with the *Indians* in the Territories and Parts aforesaid: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, as follows:

Justices of the Peace in the British American Indian Territories authorized to try Offences summarily, and punish by Fine or Imprisonment.

I. It shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by the Commission by which any Justices of the Peace are appointed under the said Act of King *George* the Fourth, or by any subsequent Commission, or by any Order in Council, from Time to Time to authorize any such Justice or Justices to take cognizance of and try in a summary Way all Crimes, Misdemeanors, and Offences whatsoever, except as herein-after mentioned, within the local Limits of the Jurisdiction of such Justices (or such Parts thereof as Her Majesty may direct in this Behalf), and to punish such Crimes, Misdemeanors, and Offences by Fine or Imprisonment, or both; and it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, in manner aforesaid, from Time to Time to restrict or regulate the Exercise of such Jurisdiction as She may think fit, and to direct in what Cases the same may be exercised by One or by more than One of such Justices, and generally to make such Provision concerning the Exercise of such Jurisdiction as to Her Majesty may seem expedient; and it shall also be lawful for Her Majesty, in manner aforesaid, to order or authorize the Appointment of all proper Officers to act in aid of such Justices, and the said Justices respectively may do or cause to be done all Acts, Matters, and Things for the Execution of their Sentences, and in aid of their Jurisdiction under this Act, which might be done or caused to be done by Courts of Record having Jurisdiction in the like Cases: Provided always, that where the Offence with which any Person is charged before any such Justice or Justices is one which is punishable with Death, or one which in the Opinion of such Justice or Justices