

**BILL.**

An act to allow Notaries to call meetings of relations and friends, in certain cases, without being thereto specially authorized by a Judge, and for other purposes.

**W**HEREAS great inconvenience and delays arise, Preamble.  
and heavy expenses are incurred, in consequence of the personal attendance of the relations and friends before a Judge of the Superior Court, or of the Circuit Court, being necessary in all cases in which by the Laws of Lower Canada, the counsel and advice of relations and friends is required, where the said relations or friends reside at the distance of five leagues from the place at which any such Court is held, and of the necessity of obtaining the formal authorization of a Judge of one of the said Courts to empower such relations and friends to appear before a Notary or other person when such relations or friends reside beyond the said distance of five leagues ; Be it therefore enacted, &c.

**I.** Whenever it shall be necessary to call a meeting of friends and relations to give their counsel and advice upon the appointment of Guardians or Tutors, Subrogate Tutors, Curators to absentees or to vacant estates, and other matters which require the counsel and advice of relations and friends, it shall be lawful for any Notary near the residence of such relations and friends, or who may be on the spot when the meeting shall be held, whatever be the distance from the residence of the said relations and friends to the place of sitting of the Superior Court for the District, or of the Circuit Court, and without the formal authorisation of a Judge of either of the said Courts, to call such meeting ; and such Notary is hereby authorised, at the request of any of the parties on whose application any such Judge could have called such meeting, to call a meeting of the said relations and friends, administer to them the oath by law prescribed, and receive their counsel and advice respecting the matter submitted to their decision, and also to administer the oath of office by law required, to the Tutors, Curators and other persons, who shall be so appointed, with the advice and consent of the said relations and friends.

Notaries may call meetings of relations and friends when thereunto required.

**II.** Before calling any such meeting of relations and friends, the party requiring such meeting shall state to the Notary, and represent to him truly and correctly, the object and purpose of the meeting, and the reasons for

The Notary shall make a minute of the declaration of the party