

C A P. I.

AN Act for ascertaining the Population of the several Counties in this Province, and for obtaining certain Statistical information therein mentioned.

[31st March, 1831.]

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

Preamble.

WHEREAS the provisions and enactments of an Act passed in the ninth year of His late Majesty's Reign, chapter seventy-three, intituled, "An Act to make a new and more convenient subdivision of the Province into Counties, for the purpose of effecting a more equal representation thereof in the Assembly than heretofore," have rendered it necessary that a new Census of the population of the Province should be forthwith taken;—May it therefore please Your Majesty, that it may be enacted, and 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 Lower-Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great Britain, intituled, "An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, '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 it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that it shall be lawful from and after the passing of this Act, for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government, to nominate and appoint one or more persons residing within each of the Counties of this Province, to be Commissioners for the execution of this Act.

Governor to appoint persons to be Commissioners for the purposes of this Act.

Commissioners when appointed to be furnished with Copies of this Act.

Their duty.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the Commissioners so appointed, shall be furnished without delay, with a sufficient number of copies of this Act, and of the Schedule thereunto annexed, and shall, between the first day of June, and the first day of October, in the present year, make or cause to be made, an exact Census of the population of the Counties for which they shall be respectively appointed, and shall obtain the information requisite to fill up correctly, the several columns in their Returns, which shall be made in the form of a Schedule (A) hereunto annexed.

Commissioners may require the aid of Militia Officers or Churchwarden to enable them to make out returns.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for each and every Commissioner so appointed, to require the assistance of, and to employ for the purpose of obtaining the information requisite for enabling him to make his return in the form aforesaid, any Captain or Subaltern officer of Militia,

or