

BILL

For the relief of the subject in more effectually enforcing the Royal Instructions of His late Most Gracious Majesty, relating to the expense and fees to be allowed upon Grants of the Waste Lands of the Crown in this Province, and to punish persons offending against the said Royal Instructions.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN.

WHEREAS your Majesty's Royal Father, our late Sovereign Lord King, George the Third, of blessed and glorious memory, by His Royal Instructions to His Excellency Robert Prescott, Esquire, Lieutenant General of His Majesty's Forces, Captain General and Governor in Chief of Lower Canada, bearing date at St. James, the 15th day of August, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, did declare it to be His Majesty's Royal will and pleasure, that the Townships therein-mentioned, and the respective allotments within the same, together with the Lands to be reserved as therein-foresaid, should be run and laid out by His Majesty's Surveyor General of Lands for this Province, or some skillful person authorized by him for that purpose; which surveys together with the Warrants and Grants for the respective allotments, should be made out for and delivered to the several Grantees, on payment of such fees as should from time to time, be established by His Majesty, under His Signet and Sign Manual, or by His Majesty's Order in that behalf, signified by one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State: And whereas divers officers and Ministers of His Majesty's Government of this Province, have presumed and still do presume to exact and receive of and from all applicants for, and Grantees of parts and parcels of the Waste Lands of the Crown, divers large sums of money, under the name of fees, and under colour and pretext of the application for a Grant made of such Waste Lands of the Crown, although the said pretended fees were not established either by our said late Sovereign Lord the King, or by Your Majesty, nor in the manner expressed in the said Royal Instructions, whereby divers faithful subjects and meritorious servants of Your Majesty, who served as Officers and Privates in the Embodied Militia of this Province, during the late War between the United Kingdom