

Now the organization of these two Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada had been decreed by the act of 1791, 31 George III, chap 31, 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." The same Statute adds:

"And whereas, by reason of the distance of the said Provinces from this Country and of the change to be made by this Act in the Government thereof, it may be necessary that there should be some interval of time between the notification of this act to the said Provinces respectively, and the day of its commencement within the said Provinces respectively"; Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty, with the advice of His Privy Council, to fix and declare, or to authorize the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Quebec or the person administering the Government there, to fix and declare the day of the commencement of this Act within the said Provinces respectively, provided that such day shall not be later than the thirty-first day of December, in the year of Our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one."

The proclamation provided for and sanctioned by the act quoted above, was consequently issued in November 1791, in the following terms:

PROCLAMATION OF NOVEMBER 1791

DECLARING WHEN THE CONSTITUTIONAL ACT SHALL HAVE EFFECT IN THE PROVINCES OF UPPER AND LOWER CANADA.

ALURED CLARK :

GEORGE THE THIRD, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

To all Our loving subjects whom these presents may concern—

GREETING :

"Whereas we have thought fit, by and with the advice of Our Privy Council, by Our Order-in-Council, dated in the month of August last, to order that Our Province of Quebec should be divided into two distinct Provinces, to be called the Province of Upper and the Province of Lower Canada, by separating the said two Provinces according to the following line of division, viz: To commence at a stone boundary on the North bank of the Lake St. Francis, at the Cove West of the Pointe-au-Budet, in the limit between the Township of Lancaster and the Seigneurie of New Longueil, running along the said limit in the direction of North thirty-four degrees West to the westernmost angle of the said Seigneurie of New Longueil; thence along the North-Western boundary of the Seigneurie of Vaudreuil, running North twenty-five degrees East, until it strikes the Ottawa River, to ascend the said River into the Lake Temiscamingue, and from the head of the said Lake by a line drawn due north until it strikes the boundary line of Hudson's Bay, including all the territory to the westward and southward of the said line to the utmost extent of the country commonly called or known by the name of Canada."

This Proclamation clearly determines the boundary line between the two Provinces, which it even prolongs as far as Hudson's Bay, but it contains no clear indication of the northern limits of the said Provinces. It is therefore neces-

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