

BILL.

An Act to remove certain doubts, as to the Law for the Trial of controverted Elections.

WHEREAS a petition has been presented to the Legislative Assembly, complaining of an undue Election or Return of a Member for the County of Richelieu, to serve in Parliament; And whereas such petition is endorsed by a certificate under the hand of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, to the effect that the recognizance required by an Act passed in the Session held in the 14th and 15th years of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled, "*An Act to repeal several Acts of the Parliaments of Upper and Lower Canada now in force for the Trial of controverted Parliamentary Elections, in the two Sections of the Province respectively, and to provide by one General Act for the Trial of Parliamentary Election Petitions,*" had been entered into and received by him, with the proper affidavit thereunto annexed; And whereas objections have been made as to the validity of the recognizance so entered into as aforesaid; And whereas such objections relate to a mere discrepancy in the name and signature of one of the sureties, in no degree attributable to the neglect or laches of the petitioners, or their agents; And whereas such recognizance has been held invalid, and the ends of justice have thereby been defeated, and the petitioners deprived of all remedy; And whereas reasonable doubts exist as to the validity of such recognizance, and such doubts ought to be removed; And whereas justice and equity require that relief should be afforded to the petitioners, and that a mode of proceeding should be prescribed with respect to the determination of the before mentioned petition; Be it therefore enacted, &c.,

That the recognizance and affidavit of sufficiency entered into on behalf of the petitioners against the election and return of the sitting Member for the County of Richelieu, shall be amended, by making the same conformable to the requirements of the above recited Act; and such amendment shall be made by executing at full length a new instrument containing the alterations, substitutions or additions necessary to make such recognizance and affidavit of sufficiency, conformable to the above recited Act; or it shall be lawful for the said petitioners to enter into a new recognizance, with sufficient sureties as required by the said recited Act, or to pay in the hands of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly the sum of two hundred pounds, currency, in lieu of such recognizance.

Preamble.

Recognizance and affidavit in the case of the petition concerning the election for the County of Richelieu may be amended and how.

II. And be it enacted, That such amendment of recognizance and affidavit of sufficiency, new recognizance and affidavit of sufficiency, or payment of money as aforesaid, shall be made and executed in the manner prescribed by the above recited Act, within ten days from the passing of this Act, and shall be made and deposited in the hands of the Clerk of the

Within what time such amendment shall be made, and proceedings consequent thereupon.