

BILL

*To remedy the improvident Grants
of the Waste Lands of the Crown.*

WHEREAS many of the Grantees of the Waste Lands of the Crown, in this Province, have not complied with the terms and conditions of their respective Grants, and the Letters Patent by which the same were made, have become void and of no effect, whereby large tracts of Land remain at present wholly uncultivated, to the detriment and hindrance of the further settlement of the Country ; For remedy whereof—Be it therefore 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 from and after the passing of this Act there shall be appointed a Commissioner of Escheats and Forfeitures in each of the Districts of Quebec, Montreal, Three-Rivers, and the Inferior Districts of St. Francis, to hear, try, and determine, by good and lawful men, in the manner hereinafter directed, whether the several persons to whom grants of Land have been made, or their Heirs or Assigns, have performed the conditions on which the same were granted.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that there shall be appointed a Registrar in each of the said Courts of Escheat.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that before any proceeding shall be had before any of the said Commissioners of Escheats, for the purpose of escheating any Lands heretofore granted, a Notice signed by the Registrar, shall be inserted in the Quebec Gazette, and in one of the Public Prints of the Districts where such Lands are situated, if there shall be such Public Print, at least times in the course of three months ; that at a certain time and place to be mentioned within the District, an Inquest of Office will be held before the Commissioner of Escheats for the