serious consideration the present state of the Public Debt of this Province, and the Message of Your Majesty's Governor General of this Province, transmitting a Despatch from Your Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, bearing date the third day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty one, and containing among other things the following passage :—

Despatch of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 3rd May, 1841, in part recited.

" The Queen's Government coincide in your views of the expediency of making " such an arrangement as may employ the credit of this Country for the benefit " of the Finances of Canada, and have given their consideration to the plan pro- " posed in your Despatches. They are of opinion that such an arrangement, if " it can be carried into effect with the consent of the Creditors, would be, in " every way, desirable; but they feel that the objections to a Bill compelling " parties to receive payment of their money in breach of agreement entered into " with them by competent authority, are insuperable."

" Her Majesty's Government are ready to give any assistance in conformity " with your proposal, which does not appear to them inconsistent with good faith. " They are ready to propose to Parliament to guarantee a Loan which may be " required for Public Works, (under the restrictions suggested by you,) for the " repayment of such part of the Debt as may be now redeemable, or may be held " by Creditors who shall declare themselves willing to accept reasonable terms," —and being desirous of lessening the charge of the said Debt as well as of making provisions for the continuance and completion of Public Works commenced in this Province, by means of a Loan at a reduced rate of interest, under the guarantee proposed in the said Despatch, humbly beseech Your Majesty that it may be enacted ; And be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of the province of Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, intituled *An Act to Re-unite the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada and for the Government of Canada ;* and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that after the charges made on the consolidated Revenue Fund of this Province, under and by virtue of the said Act of the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, the said consolidated Fund shall be charged and chargeable with the payment of the interest and principal of any new Debentures, Loan, or Stock not exceeding the sum of one million five hundred thousand pounds, sterling, money of Great Britain, which shall be raised or created on behalf of this Province, by virtue of this Act or of any Act or Acts of the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, to be passed for the raising and creating any such Loan or Stock, or for the purpose of guaranteeing the payment of the same and interest thereon by this Province.

The Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Province to be charged with any sum not exceeding £1,500,000 sterling, raised by Loan for the purposes aforesaid.

II.