

perintendent for granting such Documents shall become vacant by the death of the Patentee, and until the same shall be filled up by a new appointment, the same may be executed by any Justice of the Peace for the District where such vacancy shall happen, and all the Acts of such Justice shall have the same force and effect in the Law as if he was thereunto appointed under the Great Seal of the Province, until such vacancy shall be provided for by a new Patent in the manner directed by the said Ordinance.

DORCHESTER.

Enacted and Ordained by the authority aforesaid, and passed in Council under the Great Seal of the Province, at the Council-chamber in the castle of St. Lewis, in the city of Quebec, the Thirtieth day of April, in the Thirty-first Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Third, by the grace of God of Great-Britain, France and Ireland King, defender of the Faith, and so forth, and in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and ninety-one.

By His Excellency's Command,
J. WILLIAMS, C. L. C.

C A P. VI.

An ACT or ORDINANCE

Concerning the building and repairing of Churches, Parsonage Houses and Church-yards.

Vide Prov. Stat.
34. Geo. III. c.
6. s. 8.

Preamble.

WHEREAS doubts have arisen respecting the authority of the Judges of the Courts of Common Pleas in this Province, to ratify and homologate the Resolutions and Determinations of the Inhabitants thereof at their parish meetings, for the purpose of building and repairing Churches and Parsonage Houses, by reason whereof it becomes necessary to promulgate and make known to His Majesty's subjects the Laws, Usages, and Customs respecting the same; be it therefore enacted by His Excellency the Governor and the Legislative Council, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that whensoever it shall become expedient to form Parishes or build or repair Churches or Parsonage Houses or Cemeteries, the same course shall be pursued as was requisite before the conquest, according to the Laws and Customs at that time in force and practice, and that the Bishop or Superintendent of the Romish Churches for the time being, shall have and exercise the rights of the then Bishop of Canada for the purposes afore-mentioned; and that such rights as were then in the Crown of France and exercised by the Intendant and Provincial Government of that day, shall be considered as vested in the Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being, except so far as may relate to the compelling of the payment of the Assessments and Repartitions for the construction and repair of Churches, Presbyteries and Cemeteries, and all disputes relative to the same, shall be recognizable in any of His Majesty's Courts for Civil Causes to the amount of the matter in controversy.

Forming parishes, or building or repairing Churches, &c.

His Majesty's Protestant subjects, &c. not chargeable with contribution.

II. Provided always, and be it also enacted by the same authority, that nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to bring any of His Majesty's subjects of any Protestant denomination whatsoever, or any other person than such as shall be of the Roman Catholic communion into charge for any of the purposes aforementioned, or into any manner of compulsory contribution to the support of the communion of the Church of Rome.

III. And