

1767

BILL.

An Act to lessen the expense of Solemnizing Marriage by License.

WHEREAS it is in accordance with the dictates of Preamble.
sound policy, to encourage early Marriages in a
thinly populated country, by lessening the expense of
obtaining Marriage Licenses: and whereas it is expedient
5 to relieve the Governor from the trouble of granting and
signing such Licenses, and to authorize certain County
and City Officers to grant and sign them: Be it therefore
enacted, &c ,

That after the passing of this Act, the Governor shall not
10 have the power to grant licenses for the solemnization
of Marriage ; but the authority now vested in the Governor
to grant such licenses shall henceforth be given to and
conferred upon the Register of any County and the Mayor
of any City, who are hereby severally authorized and em-
15 powered to grant licenses for the public solemnization
of marriage, without publication of banns, by any person
legally qualified to solemnize and perform the ceremony
or rite of marriage, within the limits of their respective
jurisdictions. By whom Li-
censes shall
be granted in
future.

20 **II.** Every license to solemnize marriage shall state
the name and place of abode of each of the contracting
parties, and be signed by the County Register (or Mayor
as the case may be,) who shall also affix thereto his office
seal ; and all such licenses shall be in the following form
25 of words : Form of Li-
cense fixed.

PROVINCE OF CANADA.

The Form.

License for the solemnization of Marriage, by A. B.,
Esquire, Registrar of the County of _____, in the
Province of Canada :

30 " Whereas C. D. of _____ and E. F. of _____
are determined to enter into the holy bands of Matri-
mony, and are desirous of having their Marriage publicly
solemnized, in order that such their honest desires may
the more speedily have the due effect, and that they may
be able to procure the same to be lawfully solemnized
35 without publication of Banns, I do hereby, for good causes,
give and grant this license of Faculty, as well to them the
said parties contracting, as to all or every person or mi-
nister duly ordained and lawfully exercising his ministry
within the County (or City) of _____ to solemn-