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2 May 1817.



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To regulate the Celebration of Marriages in
Newfoundland.

Note.--The Figures in the Margin denote the number of the Folios
in the written Copy.

1 **W**H¹HERES a Doubt has existed whether the Law of *England*, Preamble.
requiring Religious Ceremonies in the celebration of Marriage
to be performed by persons in Holy Orders for the perfect validity of the
Marriage Contract, be in force in *Newfoundland*; and by reason of this
doubt, Marriages have been of late celebrated in *Newfoundland* by persons
not in Holy Orders: AND whereas great inconvenience and irregularities
may arise if these Doubts shall continue to prevail;

2 **Be it therefore Enacted**, by The KING's Most Excellent MAJESTY,
by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal,
and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority
of the same, **THAT** from and after the
all Marriages contracted in *Newfoundland* shall be performed by persons
in Holy Orders; and all Marriages, which shall be contracted or cele-
brated contrary to this Act, after the shall
be and are hereby declared to be null and void. Marriages to
be solemnized
in Newfound-
land accord-
ing to the
Laws in
England.

And be it farther Enacted, That nothing in this Act shall affect or be
construed to affect Marriages already celebrated, although such Marriages
may have been celebrated by persons not in Holy Orders: Provided
also, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend to any Marriages
amongst the people called Quakers, or amongst the persons professing
the Jewish Religion; where both the Parties to any such Marriage
shall be of the people called Quakers, or persons professing the Jewish
Religion respectively. Act not to
affect Mar-
riages already
contracted, or
the Quakers,
or Persons
professing the
Jewish
Religion.

And be it further Enacted, That this Act may be altered, amended,
or repealed by any Act or Acts to be passed in the present Session of
Parliament. Act may be
amended.