

# BILL.

No. 26.]

[1863.—2nd Sess

An Act to change the tenure of the Indian lands in the Township of Dundee, in the County of Huntingdon.

**W**HEREAS the Township of Dundee in Lower Canada, containing Preamble.  
an area of eleven thousand one hundred and eighty-one acres of  
land, was set apart for the use and benefit of the Indians of the Tribe  
Iroquois of Saint Regis, at an early period of the Government of  
5 Canada, as an Indian Reservation : And whereas the said Indians have  
through their representatives appointed by Her Majesty's Government,  
leased all their rights in such lands for fixed ground rents, and have  
given up possession of the same, after having so leased and conveyed  
them, and the parties to whom such lands were so conveyed, have, at  
10 great expense, cleared the same, erected buildings thereon, and other-  
wise improved them, thereby greatly enhancing their value : And  
whereas doubts have arisen respecting the legality of the said leases or  
conveyances, and such doubts tend to obstruct the further improvement  
of such lands, and it is desirable, and for the interest of the said In-  
15 dians as well as, of the individuals holding such lands, and for the com-  
munity generally, that all such doubts should be removed and the said  
Indians duly compensated, and that the purchasers and lessees shall  
have the right of redemption of such lands : Therefore, Her Majesty,  
by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and As-  
20 ssembly of Canada, enacts as follows :

1. All leases *baux emphytéotiques*, or *baux à longues années* granted Leases made before a certain day confirmed.  
by the St. Regis Indians, or their representatives, of the said lands of  
the Township of Dundee, which shall have been passed before the first  
day of \_\_\_\_\_, one thousand eight hundred and \_\_\_\_\_, and  
25 which at the time the same were executed, or prior to the date above  
mentioned, were approved by a recognized agent of the Indian Depart-  
ment, shall be considered to have been legally made ; Provided always,  
that an annual ground rent of not less than at the rate of five dollars  
for each lot of one hundred acres, French measure, shall have been  
30 stipulated in favor of the said Indians.

2. Any purchaser or lessee, or the heirs, representatives, assignee or Proviso: as to reserved rent.  
assignees of any purchaser or lessee of any lot or part of a lot of the  
Indian lands in the Township of Dundee, now in the possession of the  
same, may redeem the rent annually accruing upon such land or lot, or  
35 part of lot of land, under the leases mentioned in the preceding section  
of this Act, by paying to the Indians, in addition to any arrears that  
may be due, the capital represented by such rent at the rate of six per  
cent., which payment as to capital shall be made to the Commissioner  
of Crown Lands, as Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs, who is  
40 hereby authorized to receive the same and grant duplicate receipts  
therefor, according to Schedule A of this Act ; Provided such redemp- Proviso.  
tion shall be made within five years after the passing of this Act.