

An Act legalizing and providing for the delivery of certain Registers of Marriages, Baptisms and Burials.

**W**HEREAS at different periods, since the second day of February one thousand six hundred and eighty, certain Roman Catholic Missionaries of the diocese of Quebec have performed in their missions Marriages, Baptisms and Burials, and have kept regular Registers of the same; but 5 whereas those Registers have not been kept in duplicate and may not be legal, though the entries therein are authenticated by the signatures of the Missionaries by whom such entries were made; and whereas a large number of families are interested in having the said Registers legalized, and it is expedient to provide for the regular delivery of those Registers 10 which have been from time to time voluntarily delivered by said Missionaries to the Secretary's office of the Roman Catholic Archbishopric of Quebec; Therefore, Her Majesty, enacts as follows:

**1.** The Secretary of the Roman Catholic Archbishopric of Quebec, in so far as the Registers A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, 15 P, Q, R, S, T, U, V and X of Marriages, Baptisms and Burials, mentioned in the Petition of His Lordship the Right Reverend Charles François Baillargeon, Bishop of Tloa and Administrator of the Roman Catholic Arch-diocese of Quebec, dated the twentieth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, are concerned, shall be con- 20 sidered as having and shall have, from the passing of this Act, the same powers as are enjoyed by the Parish Priests in their Parishes, in so far as relates to the Registers of Marriages, Baptisms and Burials of their Parishes.

**2.** A correct copy of each of said Registers A, B, C, D, E, F, G, 25 H, I, J, K, L, M and N shall be made by such person as the Governor in Council may appoint, and the correctness of the said copy shall be certified by the said Secretary of the Archbishopric of Quebec, and shall afterwards be numbered and authenticated by a Judge of the Superior Court in the ordinary way. Copies of certain Registers to be made.

**3.** The copy, so numbered and authenticated, of each of said Regis- 30 ters shall be considered, for all purposes whatsoever, as being in lieu of the duplicate required by law; and any copy of any entry respecting any Marriage, Baptism or Burial, made and certified by the said Secre- 35 tary of the said Archbishopric from the original of the Registers mentioned in the first section of the present Act and remaining in the Archives of the said Archbishopric, or by the officer hereinafter-named, from the authentic copy delivered into his office, shall be a *prima facie* proof of the facts therein alleged, and shall be received in all Courts of Justice and have the same force as any copy made of similar entries by 04 a Parish Priest from the Register of his Parish. Copies to be authenticated: extracts therefrom, duly certified, to be valid.