

the aforesaid act, intituled “ An Act for making
 “ more effectual provision for the government of
 “ the Province of Quebec in North America,”
 a great variety of objects hold themselves forth to
 the attention of the legislative Council.

12th, The establishment of courts, and a proper mode of administering civil and criminal justice throughout the whole extent of our Province, according to the principles declared in the said act for making more effectual provision for the government thereof, demand the greatest care and circumspection; for, as on the one hand, it is our gracious purpose, conformable to the spirit and intention of the said Act of Parliament, that our Canadian subjects should have the benefit and use of their own law, usages, and customs, in all controversies respecting titles of land; and the tenure, descent, alienation, incumbrances, and settlement of real estates, and the distribution of personal property of persons dying intestate; so on the other hand, it will be the duty of the legislative Council to consider well in framing such ordinances, as may be necessary for the establishment of courts of justice, and for the better administration of justice; whether the laws of England may not be, if not altogether, at least in part, the rule of decision in all cases of personal actions, grounded upon debts, promises, contracts, and agreements; whether of a mercantile or other nature;