

XII. And whereas, it may be necessary to ordain many regulations for the future welfare and good government of the Province of Quebec, the occasions of which cannot now be foreseen, nor, without much delay and inconvenience, be provided for; without intrusting that authority, for a certain time, and under proper restrictions, to persons resident there; And whereas, it is at present inexpedient to call an Assembly; *Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, by warrant under His or their Signet or Sign Manual, and with the advice of the Privy Council, to constitute and appoint a Council for the affairs of the Province of Quebec, to consist of such persons resident there, not exceeding twenty-three, nor less than seventeen, as His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, shall be pleased to appoint; and, upon the death, removal, or absence of any of the Members of the said Council, in like manner to constitute and appoint such and so many other person or persons as shall be necessary to supply the vacancy or vacancies; which Council, so appointed and nominated, or the major part thereof, shall have power and authority to make Ordinances for the peace, welfare, and good government of the said Province, with the consent of His Majesty's Governor, or in his absence, of the Lieutenant Governor, or Commander in Chief, for the time being.

His Majesty may appoint a Council, &c

XIII. *Provided always*, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend to authorize or empower the said Legislative Council to lay any taxes or duties within the said Province, such rates and taxes only excepted, as the inhabitants of any Town or District, within the said Province, may be authorised by the said Council to assess, levy, and apply, within the said Town or District, for the purpose of making roads, erecting and repairing public buildings, or for any other purpose respecting the local convenience and œconomy of such Town or District.

XIV. *Provided also, and be it enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That every Ordinance so to be made, shall, within six months, be transmitted by the Governor, or in his absence, by the Lieutenant Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, and laid before His Majesty for his Royal Approbation; and if His Majesty shall think fit to disallow thereof, the same shall cease and be void from the time that His Majesty's Order in Council thereupon shall be promulgated at Quebec.

XV. *Provided also*, That no Ordinance touching Religion, or by which any punishment may be inflicted greater than fine or imprisonment for three months, shall be of any force or effect, until the same shall have received His Majesty's approbation.

XVI. *Provided also*, That no Ordinance shall be passed at any meeting of the Council where less than a majority of the whole Council is present, or at any time except between the first day of January and the first day of May, unless upon some urgent occasion, in which case every Member thereof resident at Quebec or within fifty miles thereof, shall be personally summoned by the Governor, or, in his absence, by the Lieutenant Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, to attend the same.

When Ordinances are to be passed by a majority.

XVII.