

*W. L.* (Legislative Council)

## B I L L .

### An Act to amend the Law of Dower in that part of Canada, formerly called Upper Canada.

**W**HEREAS it is desirable to alter the Law in regard Preamble.  
to the claim to Dower advanced by the widows of  
persons who had during coverture alienated their estates,  
without their wives joining in the conveyance thereof:  
5 And whereas many persons are deterred from making  
improvements on such estates, lest the widows should  
recover part of such improvement which their husbands  
had not contributed to make, and it is therefore expedient  
to declare what such widows shall be entitled to: Be it  
10 therefore enacted, &c.,

And it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,  
That no widow shall be entitled to recover Dower out of  
land on which improvements have been made, or shall be  
made, after the sale by the husband, but such widow shall  
15 and may recover in lieu thereof, a sum equal to one-third  
of the annual value at the time when she shall demand  
the same in writing, or sue for the recovery thereof, and  
she may levy such annual value by distress, in like manner  
as rent is now recoverable.

20 **II.** And be it enacted, That no widow shall be entitled to  
institute proceedings for the recovery of her Dower, with-  
out having first demanded the same in writing from the  
proprietor of the land out of which she shall claim her  
Dower, or from the party in possession thereof, at least  
25 one month before any action brought.

**III.** And be it enacted, That on such demand of Dower  
being so made, it shall and may be lawful for the proprie-  
tor, or party from whom the same is demanded, within  
one month after such demand, to apply to the Sheriff of  
30 the County within which such land shall be situate to set