

No. 26.

1st Session, 8th Parliament, 27 Victoria, 1863

BILL.

An Act to change the tenure of the Indian
Lands in the Township of Dundee.

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August, 1863.
Second reading, Wednesday, 2nd September,
1863.

Mr. SOMERVILLE.

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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.

WHEREAS 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.

Receipt for
redemption
money to be
a good title,
when regis-
tered

3. Every such receipt after the enregistration thereof in the Registry Office of the County of Huntingdon, shall, as between, the person obtaining the same and the said Indians, be equivalent to a title under letters patent of the Government, and shall discharge every such lot or part of a lot designated in such receipt from all future rents or other 5 charges which have heretofore been payable on the same in favor of the said Indians for whose benefit such lands were reserved by the Govern-
ment.

Accounts to
be kept &c

4. The said Commissioner of Crown Lands, as Superintendent of Indian Affairs, shall keep an account of all sums deposited in his hands 10 and shall pay over the interest thereon annually or semi-annually to the said Indians in any way which he may deem most beneficial to them.

Public Act

5. This Act shall be a Public Act.