

No. 295.

4th Session, 3d Parliament, 14 & 15 Vict., 1851.

BILL.

An Act to amend the laws regulating
the Election of Members in certain
Counties, in so far as relates to the
Return of Writs.

Received and read a first time, Monday, 11th
August, 1851.

Second reading, Wednesday, 13th August, 1851.

Hon. Mr. HINCKS.

B I L L .

An Act to amend the laws regulating the Election of Members of the Legislative Assembly in certain Counties, in so far as relates to the Return of Writs.

WHEREAS the Magdalen Islands in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, which are included in and form part of the County of Gaspé, as well as certain other parts of the said County, are inaccessible at certain periods of the year and with difficulty accessible at any season, and whereas certain parts of the said County, and of the County of Saguenay, are situate at great distances from the public place most central and most convenient for the great body of the Electors in each of the said Counties, at which the Returning Officer is by law bound to proceed to the election of a Member to serve in the Legislative Assembly of this Province, whenever a Writ of Election is issued for that purpose, and it is therefore expedient and proper to provide for such Writs being made returnable so as to obviate the possibility of either of the said Counties being at any time unrepresented for want of a sufficient delay between the issuing of any such Writ and the period at which the same may be made returnable, or for want of time to give the necessary notices in pursuance of the same; Be it therefore enacted, &c.,

Preamble.

That for and notwithstanding any thing to the contrary contained in the said Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom, any writ which may hereafter issue for the election of a member to serve in the Legislative Assembly of this Province for the County of Gaspé, or for the County of Saguenay, may be made returnable at any time within _____ days from the day on which the same shall bear date.

Period for the return of Writs for the Counties of Gaspé and Saguenay, extended.

II. And be it enacted, That for and notwithstanding any thing to the contrary contained in the Act of the Parliament of this Province passed in the twelfth year of Her Majesty's Reign, chaptered 27, and intituled, "*An Act to repeal certain Acts therein mentioned, and to amend, consolidate and reduce into one Act the several statutory provisions now in force for the regulating of Elections of Members to represent the people of this Province in the Legislative Assembly thereof*," every proclamation issued by a Returning Officer of the County of Gaspé, or of the County of Saguenay, fixing the place, day and hour at which he will proceed to hold the election under any

Time allowed for certain purposes by 12 Vict. c. 27. extended as regards the said Counties

Writ of Election directed to him, shall be posted up at least *twenty* days before the day which by such proclamation he shall have fixed for holding such election, and that there shall be at least *fifteen* days, and not more than *thirty* days between the days respectively fixed by any such Returning Officer in and by any such proclamation for opening the election as aforesaid, and for opening the poll at separate places in the said Counties respectively; and that the delay between the closing of the polls and the day on which the result of the polling shall be announced by the Returning Officer shall not exceed days.