

BILL.

An Act to incorporate the Montreal Baptist Church, under the name of "The First Baptist Church of Montreal," and for other purposes.

(PRIVATE BILL.)

Received and read, first time, Tuesday,
9th April, 1861.
Second reading, Wednesday, 10th April,
1861.

Mr. DUNKIN.

QUEBEC:

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An Act to incorporate the Montreal Baptist Church, under the name of "The First Baptist Church of Montreal," and for other purposes.

WHEREAS the Minister, Trustees, and other officers of the Montreal Baptist Church have, by their petition, set forth that they have been in possession of a lot of land and meeting-house thereon erected, situate in St. Helen Street, in the City of Montreal, acquired
 5 by the Trustees of the said Church, by Deed executed before N. B. Doucet and colleague, Notaries, on the seventh day of June, 1832, from the late John Try of Montreal, Architect, and Ebenezer Muir, of the same place, then Merchant Tailor,—that the said lot of land has become valuable for business purposes, and is distant from the resi-
 10 dences of the Members,—that the Trustees, with the consent of the said Church, have sold the said lot of land and buildings thereon erected, to James Hutton of Montreal, Merchant, by Deed executed before J. J. Gibb and colleague, Notaries, on the twenty-second day of January, 1861, in order that the proceeds may be applied to the erection of a
 15 more central and eligible place of worship,—that doubts have arisen whether the said Trustees had the power to sell the said lot of land,—and that they pray for the passing of an Act to remove the said doubts and confirm the said sale, and also to incorporate the said Church under the name of "The First Baptist Church of Montreal;"
 20 And whereas it is expedient to grant such prayer; Therefore Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, enacts as follows:

I. The Reverend John Goadby, Ebenezer Muir, James Milne, James Thomson, Seth B. Scott, Thomas D. Reed, Robert Barlow, William
 25 Muir, David Bentley, Edward V. Moseley, William Dickson, and George B. Muir, and all other persons who are now or who may hereafter become members of the said Church, according to the principles and usages of the denomination of Christians called Regular or Strict Baptists, shall be and are hereby constituted a body politic and
 30 corporate, under the name of "The First Baptist Church of Montreal," and under that name may acquire and accept, by any description of title, lands and tenements, real and personal property, for the actual use and benefit of the said Church, and for Mission Chapels, Parsonages, and other religious and benevolent purposes in the City
 35 and Island of Montreal; and may sell and alienate any property acquired or accepted, and apply the proceeds thereof for the use of the said Church or the promotion of the gospel in Canada; and may mortgage any such land and tenement for the erection or completion of Meeting-houses or other buildings thereon: Provided such sale or
 40 mortgage is recommended by the majority of the Temporal Committee hereinafter mentioned, and is sanctioned by three-fourths of the male members present at a meeting regularly convened to take into consider-

Preamble.

Corporation created.

Name and general powers.

Proviso as to sale or mortgage of property.

- By-laws. ation such sale or mortgage; and may make, establish and put in execution, alter or repeal such By-laws, Rules and Regulations, as shall not be contrary to the laws of the Province, the provisions of this Act, or the principles or usages of the Regular or Street Baptists, as may appear to the said Corporation necessary or expedient for the interests thereof. 5
- Sale of certain property confirmed. II. The sale of the lot of land and meeting-house thereon erected' situate in St. Helen Street, in the City of Montreal, so made as afore- said by the said Trustees—to wit, Ebenezer Muir, James Milne, Thomas D. Reed, Robert Barlow, William Muir, David Bentley, and Edward V. Moseley, to the said James Hutton of Montreal, Merchant, by Deed executed before J. J. Gibb and colleague, Notaries, on the twenty- second day of January last past, is hereby confirmed and declared good and valid in Law, as if the said Trustees had been a body corporate, with the right to sell and alienate the property thereto belonging. 10 15
- Annual meet- ings. III. An Annual Meeting shall be held on the second Wednesday of December of each year, for the election, by the majority of votes of the members present, of a Secretary-Treasurer and six Trustees, and for the transaction of the necessary business.
- Temporal Committee: powers. IV. The said Trustees and Treasurer shall form a Temporal Com- 20 mittee, who shall administer the secular affairs of the Church, shall let and lease the pews and sittings, and receive the moneys arising there- from, and other revenues of the Church: Provided, however, that the rates of the mode of collecting the revenue shall be determined by the majority of the members present at a General Meeting regularly con- 25 vened, and shall have the appointment and control of the doorkeeper or sexton, and the fixing of his remuneration. Four of the Committee to form a quorum.
- Quorum. V. The Secretary shall keep a book, in which shall be enrolled the names of the members, with the date of admission and the time when 30 they cease to be members by dismissal, death, exclusion or otherwise, which record, being countersigned by the Minister or Pastor, shall be evidence of membership.
- Book to be kept by Secretary. VI. The said Corporation shall assume all the liabilities of the Trustees of the Montreal Baptist Church, and succeed to all their rights 35 and claims.
- Liabilities transferred to Corporation. VII. The Corporation shall at all times, when thereunto required by the Governor or either branch of the Legislature, make a full return of their property, and of their receipts and expenditures for such period, and with such details and other information as the Governor or either 40 branch of the Legislature may require.
- Accounts to the Legislature. VIII. This Act shall be a Public Act.
- Public Act.