

No. 241.

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

BILL.

An Act to amend the Law relating to
the Solemnization of Matrimony in
Upper Canada.

Received and read a first time, Wednesday, 16th
July, 1851.

Second reading, Thursday, 17th July, 1851.

Mr. MORRISON.

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BILL.

An Act to amend the Law relating to the Solemnization of Matrimony in Upper Canada.

WHEREAS it is expedient to remove all doubts as to any Church being entitled to any peculiar privileges in Upper Canada with reference to the Solemnization of Matrimony, and to place upon an equal footing all churches and religious denominations: Be it therefore enacted, &c.,

Preamble.

That any Clergyman, Parson or Minister, of any Church, religious community or society in Upper Canada, regularly ordained, constituted or appointed by the proper authorities of such church, religious community or society, is hereby authorized to solemnize the ceremony of Matrimony in Upper Canada, between any two persons neither of whom is under any legal disqualification to contract matrimony.

Any regularly ordained Minister may solemnize Matrimony.

II. And be it enacted, That the third and fourth sections of the Act of the Parliament of Upper Canada, passed in the eleventh year of the reign of King George the Fourth, and intituled "*An Act to make valid certain marriages heretofore contracted, and to provide for the future Solemnization of Matrimony in this Province,*" and so much of the sixth section of the said Act as refers to the return of a certified list of Marriages to the Clerk of the Peace, and the second, third and fifth sections of the Act passed in the Session held in the tenth and eleventh years of Her Majesty's Reign, and intituled "*An Act to extend the provisions of the Marriage Act of Upper Canada to Ministers of all denominations of Christians,*" be and the same are hereby repealed: Provided that nothing in this Act shall affect in any way the authority to celebrate matrimony, now vested in any person by virtue of any Law of Upper Canada.

Parts of Act of U. C. 11 Geo. 4, c. 34,

and of 10 & 11 Vict. c. 18, repealed.

Proviso.