

No. 15.

1st Session, 6th Parliament, 21st Victoria, 1858.

A.

BILL.

An Act to allow Verdicts on Trials by Jury in
Civil Causes to be returned although the Jury
may not be unanimous.

Received and read 1st time Tuesday, 2nd March,
1858.

Second reading Friday, 5th March, 1858.

(500 Copies.)

HON. MR. PATON.

TORONTO:—LEADER STEAM-PRESS PRINT.

BILL.

**“An Act to allow Verdicts on Trials by Jury in Civil
 Causes to be returned although the Jury may not be
 unanimous.”**

WHEREAS on the trial of Civil Causes it not unfrequently happens that the Preamble.
 Jury are unable to arrive at an unanimous decision, and by reason thereof are
 discharged; and whereas the unnecessary delay thereby occasioned and the heavy
 expenses of a new trial consequent thereon are productive of serious inconvenience
 5 as well as hardship to Suitors. Therefore Her Majesty, &c.,

10 I. That from and after the passing of this Act, if upon the Trial by Jury of any
 Civil Cause in any of Her Majesty's Courts of Record in Upper Canada the Jury are
 unable to agree upon a Verdict, and if, after having been kept in deliberation for a
 period of six hours, nine of the said Jury shall agree, the Verdict agreed to by such
 10 If Jury unable to agree, and if after six hours deliberation nine of the Jury agree, the Verdict of such nine to be taken.
 nine may be returned as the Verdict of the Jury, and shall be taken and recorded,
 and shall have the same force and effect as if found unanimously by the whole of
 the said Jury, any Statute, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding; and
 during the said period they may be furnished with necessary refreshment by leave of
 the Judge.