

No. 213.

2nd Session, 3rd Parliament, 12 Victoria, 1849.

BILL.

An Act to define the Division Line between Upper and Lower Canada.

Received and Read a first time, Thursday, 29th
March, 1849.

Second Reading Tuesday, 3rd April, 1849.

Mr. DRUMMOND.

PRINTED BY LOVELL AND GIBSON.

BILL.

An Act to declare and establish the division line between Upper and Lower Canada, from the River St. Lawrence to the River Ottawa.

WHEREAS the Proclamation issued by His Excellency Alured Clarke, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor of the then Province of Quebec, bearing date the eighteenth day of November one thousand seven hundred and ninety one, for the purpose of determining and fixing the division line between the Provinces of Lower and Upper Canada, cannot be carried into execution, inasmuch as it is contradictory in its terms and inconsistent with the laws in force in the said then Province of Quebec, nor without a violation of the vested rights of individuals who, under the said laws, held peaceable possession of property under the titles granting the same, for more than sixty years anterior to the date of the said Proclamation; Be it therefore enacted, &c.

Preamble.

15 And it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the Division Line between the two said late Provinces of Lower and Upper Canada, is and shall be taken to have been as follows; commencing on the northerly bank of Lake St. Francis at the Cove West of *Pointe au Baudet*, at the point where the said Cove is intersected by the south-western boundary line of the Seigniori of *Nouvelle Longueuil*, as established agreeably to the 28th article of the *Arrêt et Règlement du Conseil Supérieur de Québec*, pronounced and enacted on the eleventh day of May, one thousand six hundred and seventy-six, by the *procès verbal* of the late Joseph Bouchette, in his lifetime Surveyor General of Lower Canada, bearing date the 19th day of July, 1806; proceeding thence along the said south western boundary line of the said Seigniori of *Nouvelle*
 20 *Longueuil*, to a stone boundary erected at the westernmost angle of the said Seigniori, and mentioned in the said *procès verbal*; running thence along a straight line to be drawn from the said westernmost angle of the said Seigniori of *Nouvelle Longueuil*, to a stone boundary erected at the south westerly angle of the Seigniori of Rigaud, by the said late Joseph Bouchette, at the time of the survey made by him of the western boundary line of the said Seigniori of Rigaud, and described in his *procès verbal*, of the last mentioned survey, (which also bears date on the 19th day
 30 of July, 1806,) and running thence along the western boundary line of the said Seigniori of Rigaud, as established by the said late Joseph Bouchette, to the Ottawa River:

Boundary between Upper and Lower Canada described.

II. Provided always, and be it enacted, That any person or the legal representative of any person, who at any time before the eighth day of April which was in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and six;
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Grantees from the Crown of lands in New Longueuil, but supposed when granted to be in Lancaster.

shall obtain deeds of Concession thereof from the Seignior on certain conditions.

What shall be paid to the Seignior on taking such deed.

Proviso ; the deed must be applied for and arrears paid within a certain time, or the right to such deed will be lost, and the possession of the party who might have obtained it shall be held to have been in bad faith.

may have obtained from the Crown a grant of any part of the said tract of land (namely of that part of the said Seignior of New Longueuil formerly erroneously supposed by some persons to be included within the limits of the Township of Lancaster) as being part of the said Township of Lancaster, shall be entitled to have, demand and receive from the Seignior of the said Seignior of New Longueuil, (who is hereby required and rendered liable to grant the same and whose obligations in this respect may be enforced by any Court having competent jurisdiction,) a deed of concession of the piece of land for which such person or persons or his or their predecessors shall so have obtained a grant from the Crown, and the concession deed to be so granted, shall be made and granted on the same terms and conditions as the other Lands in the same range or concession of the said Seignior have usually been conceded ; and the person or persons demanding such concession deed shall pay to the said Seignior of the said Seignior of New Longueuil at the time of the passing of the said deed of concession, in lieu of arrears or past revenue, such a sum of money as the *cens et rentes* on the land to be so conceded would have amounted to had the party claiming such concession deed, or his predecessors, obtained such concession deed upon the terms aforesaid at the time of the making of the grant under and in consequence of which such concession deed may by virtue of the present Act be demanded, but the sum of money to be so payable at the time of the passing of such concession deed, shall not in any case exceed the sum that twenty nine years arrears of the *cens et rentes* to be imposed on the piece of land to be so conceded would amount to, nor shall the person or persons claiming concession deeds from the Seignior of the said Seignior of New Longueuil under the present Act be liable to pay any sum of money as arrears of *lods et ventes* or as arrears of any Seigniorial dues other than *cens et rentes* as aforesaid ; Provided always, that the Seignior of the said Seignior of New Longueuil shall not be liable to grant any such concession deed, unless the person or persons entitled to the same by virtue of this Act shall have demanded such concession deed and complied with the conditions hereby imposed in that respect within twelve months from the passing of the present Act, and any person or persons entitled to demand any such concession deed under the present Act, who shall fail to demand the same or to comply with the conditions aforesaid within the said period of twelve months from the passing of this Act, shall from and after the expiration of the said period of twelve months cease to have any right to demand a deed of concession of the land for which under the provisions of the present Act he or they might within the said last mentioned period have demanded a deed of concession, and shall immediately after the expiration of the said period of twelve months be bound and liable to deliver up to the Seignior of the said Seignior of New Longueuil, possession of the land for

which he or they might so have demanded a deed of concession on the conditions and within the period aforesaid, and no person or persons so entitled to demand any such concession deed under the present Act and failing to do
 5 so, or to comply with the conditions aforesaid, shall be entitled to hold, have or claim the piece of land for which he might have demanded, but shall have failed to demand a deed of concession, by reason or on account of any
 10 possession which his or their representatives may have had of such piece of land, even when such possession shall have been for a longer period than thirty years, but such possession shall in all suits at law and in all other matters be considered and held to have been in
 15 bad faith ; And provided also, that nothing in this Act contained shall defeat, impair or otherwise prejudice any concession deed heretofore made by the Seigneur of the Seignior of New Longueuil of any part of the said tract of land ; and the Seigneur of the said Seignior of New Longueuil shall not by reason of any thing in this
 20 Act contained, be liable or be obliged to grant a concession deed of any part of the said tract of land which has heretofore been conceded by the present or any former Seigneur of the said Seignior of New Longueuil.

Proviso ; concessions heretofore made by the Seigneur not to be affected.

III. And whereas in consequence of the doubts created
 25 and difficulties caused by the said error in the said Proclamation, the owners of the said tract of land forming part of the said Seignior of New Longueuil, but so erroneously supposed by some parties to form a part of the said Township of Lancaster, have been prevented
 30 from exercising their just rights as owners of the said tract of land, and divers persons have taken or obtained possession of part thereof without having either through themselves or their predecessors, obtained any grant thereof from the Crown or lawful authority from the Seigneur
 35 of the said Seignior of New Longueuil : Be it therefore enacted, That any person or persons in possession of any part of the said tract of land without any grant thereof from the Crown, either through themselves or their predecessors, or without lawful authority from the Seigneur of the Seignior of New Longueuil, shall not
 40 be entitled to hold, have or claim the parts of the said tracts of land so possessed by them by reason of any possession which they or their predecessors may have had thereof, even where such possession shall have been
 45 for a longer period than thirty years, but such possession shall in all suits at law and other matters be considered and held to have been in bad faith.

The possession of parties holding lands in the said tract without grant either from the Crown or the Seigneur shall be held to be in bad faith.

IV. Provided also and be it enacted, That should any
 50 party in consequence of the establishment of the present line suffer any loss or damage, either by having their lands transferred from free and common soccage into the Seignioral tenure, or by being deprived of improvements, or of lands for which the said parties had deeds from, or derived from the Crown or from the adjoining Seigniors, it
 55 shall be lawful for the Governor in Council to direct adequate compensation to be made to the said parties either in money or lands for any loss that shall be established to have been so sustained.

Compensation may be made out of the public moneys on lands in certain cases of loss by the line hereby esta-