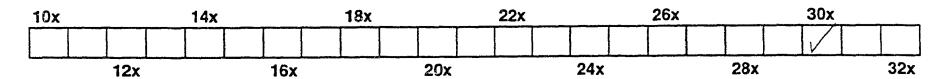
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4th Session, 3rd Parliament, 14 Victoria, 1851.

BILL.

An Act to allow Notaries to call meetings of relations and friends in certain cases without being thereto specially authorized by a Judge, and for other purposes.

Received and read a first time, Thursday, 5th June, 1851.

Second reading, Monday, 9th June, 1851.

Mr. LACOSTE.

BILL.

An act to allow Notaries to call meetings of relations and friends, in certain cases, without being thereto specially authorized by a Judge, and for other purposes.

THEREAS great inconvenience and delays arise, Preamble. and heavy expenses are incurred, in consequence of the personal attendance of the relations and friends before a Judge of the Superior Court, or of the Circuit 5 Court, being necessary in all cases in which by the Laws of Lower Canada, the counsel and advice of relations and friends is required, where the said relations or friends reside at the distance of five leagues from the place at which any such Court is held, and of the neces-10 sity of obtaining the formal authorization of a Judge of one of the said Courts to empower such relations and friends to appear before a Notary or other person when such relations or friends reside beyond the said distance of five leagues; Be it therefore enacted, &c.

I. Whenever it shall be necessary to call a meeting of Notaties may friends and relations to give their counsel and advice upon of relations the appointment of Guardians or Tutors, Subrogate Tutors, and friends Curators to absentees or to vacant estates, and other unto required. matters which require the counsel and advice of relations 20 and friends, it shall be lawful for any Notary near the residence of such relations and friends, or who may be on the spot when the meeting shall be held, whatever be the distance from the residence of the said relations and friends to the place of sitting of the Supe-25 rior Court for the District, or of the Circuit Court, and without the formal authorisation of a Judge of either of the said Courts, to call such meeting; and such Notary is hereby authorised, at the request of any of the parties on whose application any such Judge could have called 30 such meeting, to call a meeting of the said relations and friends, administer to them the oath by law prescribed, and receive their counsel and advice respecting the matter submitted to their decision, and also to administer the oath of office by law required, to the Tutors, Curators and 35 other persons, who shall be so appointed, with the advice and consent of the said relations and friends.

II. Before calling any such meeting of relations and The Notary friends, the party requiring such meeting shall state to minute of the the Notary, and represent to him truly and correctly, the declaration of 40 object and purpose of the meeting, and the reasons for the party

requiring such the same, in the same manner as he is now required to do in applications made to the Judges for similar purposes, of all which the said Notary shall draw up a minute in the form of schedule A; Provided always that it shall be lawful for several persons, having a com- 5 mon interest, conjointly to make such declaration, and to appear and act together in all the proceedings and instruments mentioned in the following sections.

The Notary may cause relations and friends to come before him, adminis. ter the oaths.

III. In all appointments of Guardians or Tutors, Subrogate Tutors or Curators, as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for 10 any Notary to cause to come before him the relations, and in default of the relations, the friends of the parties, (such default of relations being previously declared and established;) he shall administer the usual oath to the persons composing such meeting, and read to them the 15 contents of the minute mentioned in the next preceding section, and receive their advice and opinion, ad minister the oath of office to the Guardian, Tutor, Subrogate Tutor, Curator, or other person so appointed, and shall draw up a minute thereof in the form of Schedule 20 B, stating the degree of relationship, residence and occupation of the persons composing the said meeting, and if there be any opposition or difference of opinion, he shall state in the said minute the reasons given by the several persons composing the said meeting. 25

Proceedings to be adopted when the sale of the property of minors, &c. shall be in question.

IV. In all cases of sale or other alienation of the immovable property of minors, or of any other person whose immovable property cannot be sold or otherwise alienated without the formalities by law prescribed for the sale or other alienation of the immovable property of 30 minors, the Notary, before calling a meeting of relations and friends for the said purpose, shall proceed to the appointment of two experts, who shall not be related to any of the parties or their legal representatives, nor interested in the matter in question (the fact of their not being so 35 related nor interested being duly mentioned in the minute appointing them); one of the said experts shall be appointed by the tutor, and the other by the subrogate tutor of the minors, or in the case of immovable property of any other person subject to the same formalities as by 40 law required for the immovable property of minors, one shall be appointed by the Curator to such person, and the other by one of the nearest relations who shall appear to have the greatest interest in the said person; a minute of the said appointment shall be drawn up in the form of 45 Schedule C; and the said Notary is hereby authorised. to administer the oath by this Act provided to the said experts; and the said oath shall be taken by the said experts before entering upon their duties, in the form of Schedule D; it shall then be the duty of the said experts 50 to proceed to establish the value of the immovable property in question; and if the sale thereof is applied for

on account of joint possession (indivision,) they shall ascertain whether the said property cannot be divided with advantage, and report by an instrument in writing before Notaries delivered en brevet in the form of Schedule E; 5 it shall thereupon be lawful for any Notary to cause to appear before him the relations and friends who are to compose the meeting; he shall administer the usual oath to the persons composing the said meeting, and shall read to them the contents of the minute in the second section 10 above mentioned, and also the contents of the minute appointing the experts, in this section mentioned and shall take down notes of their opinion and draw up a minute thereof in the form of Schedule F, containing the names, age of the minors, degrees of relationship, 15 occupation and residence of the persons composing the said meeting, and the description of the immovable pro-

V. The applicant shall transmit and submit all the ori- The proceedginal proceedings above mentioned, in both cases, to the inge to be transmitted to 20 Judges of the Superior Court, or of the Circuit Court, by the Court for a memorial (which any Notary is hereby authorised to homologation, certify in the ordinary manner) setting forth clearly, but without entering into details, the object and purpose of the said proceedings, which are to be homologated if by 25 law they ought so to be, and the said memorial shall be in the form of Schedule G; if the Judge to whom the said proceedings are submitted homologates the counsel and advice of relations and friends (avis de parents et amis), he shall enter such homologation and his order 30 at the end of the minute containing the said counsel and advice of relations and friends, in the usual form, and the same shall be deposited with the other proceedings in the archives of the Court, and copies thereof may be had according to law; and if the Judge to whom the said pro-35 ceedings are referred shall think fit to refuse the homologation of the same, he shall state his motives for such refusal at the foot of the memorial, and shall sign the same.

VL So much of the ninth section of the Act of the A certain 40 Legislature of Lower Canada passed in the thirty-fourth Act of L. C. year of His Majesty, King George the Third, intituled, 34 G. 3. c. 6. " An Act for the division of the Province of Lower Canada, repealed. "for amending the judicature thereof, and for repealing " certain Laws therein mentioned," or of any other law, as 45 shall be repugnant to this Act, shall be and is hereby repealed: Provided always, that nothing in this Act con- Provise. tained shall prevent any Judge of the Superior Court, or of the Circuit Court, from calling such meeting of relations and friends, or from authorising any Notary or other 50 person, on the application of parties, to call such meeting in the manner by law prescribed, and as such Judge shall deem expedient for the ends of justice.

The Judges the power to examine persons alleged to be non compos mentis.

VII. Whereas certain doubts exist as to the right of may in certain any Judge of the Superior Court, or of the Circuit Court, to delegate a person for the purpose of examining, as by law provided, any person who shall be non compos mentis. before such person can be interdicted, in case such person cannot be brought before the Judge without great difficulty, it is hereby enacted, That whenever a person who shall be non compos mentis cannot be brought before a Judge to undergo the examination by law required, and it shall not be in the power of the Judge to be pre- 10 sent at the place at which such person resides, within a sufficiently short period, it shall be lawful for such Judge, on proof being shewn to him of the inconvenience which would arise in bringing such person before him, and if he shall find such inconvenience sufficient, to delegate any 15 person whom he shall deem qualified, for the purpose of examining and questioning the party who shall be non compos mentis, at the place at which such party shall then be; and any interdiction pronounced and ordered by any Judge of the said Courts upon an examination made by 20 any person delegated by any such Judge, and upon the counsel and advice of friends and relations, shall be as valid to all intents and purposes as if the said examination had been conducted by the Judge himself; and further, any interdiction which may have been pronounced and ordered, 25 before the passing of this Act, by any Judge, upon any examination made in such case by a person delegated by a Judge, and with the counsel and advice of friends and relations, shall be considered and be as valid to all intents and purposes whatsoever, as if the same had been pro-30 nounced and ordered upon an examination conducted by the Judge himself.

VIII. This Act shall only apply to Lower Canada. Extent of Act.

SCHEDULE A.

day of in the noon, in the year one thousand eight hundred and , before me the undersigned Public Notary for Lower Canada, residing in the District of , came and appeared A, residing who hath declared that

requires the counsel and whereupon advice of the relations and friends of

Whereof Acte at

SCHEDULE B.

On the day of in the in the year one thousand eight hundred and before me the undersigned, Public Notary for Lower Canada, residing in the District of , came and appeared B, residing

Who ha caused to be assembled before me the said Notary, for the purposes mentioned in the above declaration made before me on the (or made before any other Notary on) to the intent that to wit: in default of relations

Who after having been duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, taken communication of the declaration above mentioned and maturely deliberated together, were unanimously of opinion that the said be who being present ha voluntarily accepted the said office, and promised to fulfil the duties thereof.

Whereof Acte at

SCHEDULE C.

On the day of in the noon. in the year one thousand eight hundred and before the undersigned Public Notaries for Lower Canada, residing in the District of , came and appeared A residing at on the one part, and B residing at on the other part; who have appointed, to wit, the said A the and the said B the person of as experts to proceed to visit the immovable property belonging , designated in the declaration made by the said to by an instrument before Notary, or one of the undersigned Notaries, and establish the value thereof, (and if the sale is applied for on account of joint possession,) and examine whether the said property can be divided with advantage.

Whereof Acte, delivered en brevet, at

SCHEDULE D.

I and I do make oath and swear, that I will faithfully proceed to perform the duties required of me by my acte of appointment, received by and his colleague, Notaries, and that I will make a true report of my opinion on the whole, without favor or partiality to any of the parties interested in the matter in question.—So help me God.

Sworn before me the undersigned Notary at the 18

SCHEDULE E.

On the day of in the noon, in the year one thousand eight hundred and , before the undersigned, Notaries Public for Lower Canada, residing in the District of , came and appeared experts appointed by the minute above drawn up by the undersigned Notaries (or such other Notary as shall have drawn up the same,) on the

Who do declare, that having first been sworn as appears he

the certificate hereunto annexed, they proceeded on the day of to visit the immovable property with its circumstances and dependencies, mentioned and described in the minute of declaration of received before

Notary on the and after having made an examination of the whole, and obtained all the information necessary for the purposes mentioned in their said minute of appointment, they declare that they estimate and value the said

immovable property at (if there be more than one immovable property they must be estimated separately,) and that the said immovable property cannot be divided with advantage.

The said experts do further declare that they are not related to the parties interested in the matter in question, nor to their legal representatives.

Whereof Acte, delivered en brevet, at

SCHEDULE F.

On the day of in the noon. in the year one thousand eight hundred and , before me the undersigned, Notary Public for Lower Canada, residing in the District of , came and appeared who hath declared to me, that in conformity with declaration made by an instrument in writing before Notary, dated for the purpose of being authorized, for the reasons therein contained, to sell the immovable property belonging to and designated and described as follows:—(Description of the immovable property,) he hath caused to assemble before me, to wit, in default of relations, requiring me to receive them before me and take down their opinion and advice respecting the contained in the minute of declaration above mentioned, and the said parties having appeared, I have read to them the said minute of declaration, and the report of experts drawn up before and his colleague. Notaries, and have administered to them the usual oath, and after having taken the same they are unanimously of opinion that (in case of a difference of opinion, mention the same and the rea-

Whereof Acte at

sons therefor.)

7

SCHEDULE G.

Province of Canada,)
District of

To the Honorable the Judges of the Superior Court, or of the Circuit Court, &c. &c. &c.

A. (occupation and place of residence,) humbly sheweth, that he hath caused the counsel and advice of relations and friends to be received by

Notary at on the and adopted all the proceedings by law required to succeed in and submit the same to your approbation.

Wherefore he prays your Honors to take the said proceedings into your consideration, and homologate the same as the case may be, and you will do justice.

At

the

18

