

*The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the third session of the fourteenth Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada.* Quebec: John Carleton Fisher & William Kemble, Law Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1833.

3 William IV – Chapter 27

**An Act to enable the regularly ordained Ministers of the United Associate Synod of the Secession Church of Scotland to keep authenticated Registers according to Law. (3d April, 1833)**

Whereas certain Members of the United Associate Synod of the Secession Church of Scotland, have by their Petition to the Legislature, prayed that their Ministers may be duly authorised to keep Registers authenticated in due form of Law of Marriages, Baptisms and Burials; and whereas it is equitable that these privileges should be extended to them and to other regularly ordained Ministers of the same persuasion: Be it therefore enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province of Lower Canada, constituted by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great Britain, intituled, "An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, 'An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec, in North America,' and to make further provision for the government of the said Province"; And it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that it shall be lawful for every regularly ordained Minister of the United Associate Synod of the Secession Church of Scotland, having a permanent and fixed congregation, to obtain, have and keep (subject always to the penalties by law, in this behalf provided,) registers duly authenticated according to law, of all such marriages, baptisms and burials, as may be performed or take place under the ministry of such Minister or Clergyman; and which registers (the necessary legal formalities as by law already provided in relation to the registers of the like nature being observed) shall to all intents and purposes have the same effect in law as if the same had been kept by any Minister in this Province, of the Church of England or of Scotland: any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

II. Provided always and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that such Registers, after the removal of such Minister or Ministers from the City, Town, Township or place in which they may respectively have officiated, and have kept such registers, shall be deposited with their respective successors in Office, or in case there shall be no such successors, with the Prothonotary of the Court of King's Bench, or Provincial Court of the District or Inferior District wherein such Minister may have usually resided and officiated.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the Registers which shall have been so kept with the several entries made therein according to the Laws in force in this Province, as well as authentic copies of the entries therein made, shall to all intents and purposes be good and available at Law as if the said Register had been kept pursuant to an Act of the Legislature of this Province, of the thirty-fifth year of the reign of His late Majesty

George the Third, entitled, "An Act to establish the form of Registers of Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, to confirm and make valid in law the Registers of the Protestant Congregation of Christ Church, Montreal, and others which may have been in formally kept, and to afford the means of remedying omissions in former Registers." Provided always, that all and every the regulations and requirements of the said Act, with respect to the Registers therein mentioned, be also observed with respect to the Registers to be kept pursuant to this Act.

IV. Provided alwas, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the Ministers keeping Registers pursuant to this Act, shall in all respects comply with, and be governed by the above recited Act, and shall in case of disobedience to the said Act be liable to the penalties in like cases provided by the said Act, which penalties shall also be recoverable, paid, applied and accounted for in the same manner as the penalties by the said Act imposed are thereby directed to be paid, applied and accounted for.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that this Act shall be taken and deemed to be a public Act, and as such shall be judicially taken notice of by all Judges, Justices of the Peace, and all others whom it shall concern, without being specially pleaded.