

*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 29

**An Act to afford relief to a certain Religious Congregation at Montreal, denominated Baptists. (3d April, 1833)**

Whereas certain individuals at Montreal being the Minister, Trustees and Members of the Congregation of the Baptist Church of that City, have by their Petition to the Legislature, prayed that the Reverend John Gilmore, the present Minister of the Congregation, and the person who shall be appointed to succeed him in the pastoral office, may be authorised by Legislative enactment, to record Births, celebrate Marriages and solemnize Funeral Rites, and to make Registers authenticated in due form of Law, for those purposes; and whereas it is equitable that these privileges should be extended to the said Minister, Trustees and Members of the said Congregation: 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 and assembled 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 the said John Gilmore or any Minister for the time being, of the said Congregation, chosen and elected according to the rules and regulations of the said 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, Births and Burials as may be performed or take place under the ministry of such Minister which registers the necessary legal formalities as by Law already provided in relation to Registers of the like nature being observed, shall to all intents and purposes have the same effect at Law as if the same had been kept by any Minister in this Province of the Church of England or Scotland, any Law to contrary notwithstanding.

II. Provided always, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the Minister of the said Congregation shall not be entitled in any respect to the benefit of this Act unless he shall be a Subject of His Majesty, and shall have taken the oath of Allegiance before a Judge of the Court of King's Bench of the said district of Montreal, (which oath such Judge is hereby authorised to administer) and a certificate of the taking of such oath shall be made by the Prothonotary of the said Court in duplicate, and signed by the said Judge, whereof one copy shall be filed of record in the office of the said Prothonotary, and the other shall be delivered to the person taking such oath, and the said Prothonotary shall be authorised to receive for such certificate and the duplicate thereof, and for fying the same, two shillings and six pence currency, in the whole and no more.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that nothing herein contained shall affect or be construed to affect in any manner or way whatsoever, the rights of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, or of any body Politic or Corporate, or of any person or persons, such only as are herein mentioned.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that this Act shall 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.