

CAP. I

An Act for the relief of the Inhabitants in distress, from the failure of the late Crops, in certain parts of this Province therein mentioned.

[18th. March, 1834.]

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN.

Preamble.

WHEREAS by reason of the almost total failure of the Harvest of last year, in the several Parishes and places hereinafter mentioned, it hath become absolutely necessary to provide relief for the suffering and destitute poor therein, who might otherwise perish for want of food :—May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it 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 Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or person administering the Government of this Province, by Warrant under his hand and out of any unappropriated monies in the hands of the Receiver General, to advance and pay to the several persons, and for the purposes hereinafter mentioned the following sums, that is to say :—

Certain sums of money advanced to the Rectors of several Parishes for the relief of the inhabitants thereof.

The Parishes to which relief is granted.

A sum not exceeding two hundred and seventeen pounds ten shillings, currency, to the Rector (*Curé*) of the Parishes of St. Paul's Bay, *la Petite Rivière* and *le Chemin des Caps*, in the County of Saguenay.

A sum not exceeding one hundred pounds, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of St. Urbain, in the said County.

A sum not exceeding five hundred and eighty-eight pounds ten shillings, currency, to the Rector of the Parishes of Malbaie and St. Agnes, in the said county.

A sum not exceeding one hundred and eighty-seven pounds ten shillings, currency, to the Rector of the Parishes of St. Germain and Ste. Cecile, in the County of Rimouski.

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A sum not exceeding one hundred and fifty pounds, currency, to the Rector of the Parishes of Ste. Luce and Ste. Flavie, in the said County.

A sum not exceeding fifty-five pounds, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of Matane, in the said County.

A sum not exceeding three hundred and thirty-two pounds ten shillings, currency, to the Rector of the Parishes of St. Simon and Trois Pistoles, in the said County.

A sum not exceeding seventy-five pounds, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of St. Fabien, in the said County.

A sum not exceeding one hundred and eighty pounds, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of Isle Verte, in the said County.

A sum not exceeding one hundred and eighty pounds, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of Kacona, in the said County.

A sum not exceeding two hundred and twenty-five pounds, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of Rivière du Loup, lying partly in the said County, and partly in the County of Kamouraska.

A sum not exceeding one hundred pounds, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of St. André, in the County of Kamouraska.

A sum not exceeding one hundred and six pounds five shillings, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of Kamouraska, in the said County.

A sum not exceeding one hundred and six pounds five shillings, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of St. Paschal, in the said County.

A sum not exceeding one hundred and sixty-two pounds ten shillings, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of Rivière Ouelle, in the said County.

A sum not exceeding thirty-seven pounds ten shillings, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of Ste. Anne, in the said County.

A sum not exceeding one hundred and eighty-seven pounds ten shillings, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of St. Gervais, in the County of Bellechasse.

A sum not exceeding one hundred pounds currency, to the Rector of the Parishes of St. George and St. François, in the County of Beauce.

A sum not exceeding fifty pounds, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of St. Joseph, in the said County.

A sum not exceeding one hundred and twenty-five pounds, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of Ste. Marie, in the said County.

And a sum not exceeding sixty-two pounds ten shillings, currency, to the Rector of the Parish of Ste. Claire, in the said County.

The sums so advanced to be applied by the Rectors with the Churchwardens, assisted by other persons elected in each Parish, &c.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the sums so advanced shall be applied by the said Rectors jointly with the Churchwardens of the Fabrique of the Parishes of which they are respectively in charge, assisted by the advice of at least five persons, to be elected in each parish (at a meeting of the inhabitants at the Church door or Prebytere, on some Sunday immediately after Divine Service in the forenoon,

noon, at which Meeting the senior Justice of the Peace, or if there be none present, the officer of militia highest in grade then present, shall preside) to the relief and support of the destitute poor, in such parishes, by purchasing provisions and distributing them among such poor, at the discretion, and to the best of the ability of the said Rectors and Churchwardens, who shall keep a regular and detailed journal of their proceedings under the authority of this Act. Provided always, that out of the sum so advanced to the Rector of the parishes St. François and St. George, the sum of twenty pounds, currency, shall be in a like manner applied to the relief and support of the destitute poor in the Township of Tring, in the County of Megantic, and that the sum so advanced to the Rector of the Parish of Ste. Anne, shall be applied to the relief and support of the destitute poor in the Township of Ixworth, in the County of Kamouraska. And provided further, that no greater portion of the monies advanced under the authority of this Act, shall in any case be expended than is absolutely necessary for the support and relief of the destitute poor, and that the surplus, if any, shall be paid into the hands of the Receiver General, and remain therein at the disposal of the Provincial Legislature for the public uses of the Province.

Proviso.

Proviso.

Amount of sums granted to reimburse the monies that have been advanced by the Governor in Chief for the relief of the destitute poor in the Parishes of Eboulements and in the District of Gaspé.

III. And be further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that a sum not exceeding five hundred and ninety-one pounds eighteen shillings and six pence, currency, to be taken out of any unappropriated monies in the hands of the Receiver General, shall be and is hereby placed at the disposal of His Majesty, to reimburse a sum of one hundred pounds, advanced by His Excellency the Governor in Chief for the relief of the destitute poor in the Parish of Eboulements, during the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three, and a sum of four hundred and ninety-one pounds eighteen shillings and six pence, advanced by His Excellency the Governor in Chief for the relief of the destitute poor in the District of Gaspé, during the same year.

Persons entrusted with the money to make up detailed accounts

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that every person to whom shall be entrusted the expenditure of any portion of the monies hereby appropriated, shall make up detailed accounts of such expenditure, showing the sum advanced to the accountant, the sum actually expended, the balance (if any) remaining in the hands, and the amount of the monies hereby appropriated to the purpose for which such advance shall have been made, remaining unexpended in the hands of the Receiver General; and that every such account shall be made up to, and closed on the tenth day of April and tenth day of October in each year, during which such expenditure shall be made, and shall be transmitted to the Officer whose duty it shall be to receive such account, within fifteen days next after the expiration of the said periods respectively.

Application of the money to be accounted for to His Majesty and detailed account of the monies to be laid before the Legislature.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the due application of the monies appropriated by this Act, shall be accounted for to His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, through the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, for the time being, in such manner and form as His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors shall direct; and that a detailed account of the expenditure of all such monies, shall be laid before the several branches of the Provincial Legislature within the first fifteen days of the next Session thereof.

C A P. II.

An Act further to provide for the summary trial of Small Causes in the Country parts.

[18th - March, 1834.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS an early and expeditious method for the recovery of small debts of the nature herein-after specified, within the Parishes, Seigniories and Townships of this Province, would be of great advantage to the inhabitants residing within the same, and whereas the divers Acts heretofore in force and making provision for the easy recovery of such debts as aforesaid have expired:—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 whenever a Petition shall have been presented to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or person administering the Government, signed by at least one hundred Proprietors of lands or tenements in any Parish, Seigniorie or Township of this Province, and praying for the establishment of a Commissioner's Court for the trial of Small Causes in such Parish, Seigniorie or Township, (such Petition having at the foot thereof a certificate signed by three of the principal Inhabitants of such Parish, Seigniorie or Township, that the persons whose names are thereunto subscribed are really Inhabitants of the same, and also Proprietors of lands or tenements therein,) it shall be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government, by any Commission or Commissions to be by him issued, to appoint such person or persons as to him shall seem fit, residing in such Parish, Seigniorie

Manner by which the inhabitants of Parishes, Seigniories, &c. are to proceed; before Commissioners can be appointed

Governor to appoint them.