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An Ordinance to render and make valid certain
Marriages in this Island heretofore solemnized
before Magistrates. —

Whereas in some parts of this Island owing to the remote situation
of the Inhabitants from any Clergyman divers Marriages have been
heretofore irregularly solemnized before Magistrates otherwise
than as by Law required. —

First be it enacted ordained and ordered by His Honor the
President and Council and by Authority of the same it is hereby
enacted ordained and ordered That all Marriages heretofore
solemnized before Magistrates in the presence of one or more
credible Witness or Witnesses and when the Parties so married
have cohabited together shall be deemed and taken lawful and
of as much force and validity as if the same had been solemnized
before a Minister of the Church of England with all the forms
required by Law.

Secondly And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid
That the issue of such Marriages hereby made valid shall to and the
same are hereby made legitimate to all intents and purposes whatsoever.

Thirdly And be it further enacted ordained and ordered by the
Authority aforesaid That all Magistrates who before the publication
of this Act shall have solemnized any of the Marriages which are
hereby enacted and ordained to be valid shall to and they are

heavily indemnified against the Penalties to which they are otherwise
by Law subject

Ordained and ordered accordingly

this Sixth Day of February one
thousand eight hundred and sixteen.

J. Fitzhubert

President of Council.

Passed in Council 3^d February 1816

J. Browdy

Clerk of Council

Sydney Island Cape Breton May 14th 1817

I certify the above to be a true
copy from the original Ordinance.

A. Gordon

Secy of the Province