

The Assembly
to appoint a Com-
mittee to examine
witnesses.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful in all cases of controverted Elections, to examine and take the testimony of all and every witness or witnesses which shall or may be produced by the parties before any special Committee of the House of Assembly, which may be by the said House of Assembly appointed for that purpose; and the Chairman of such Committee shall be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to administer to the said witnesses the oaths required by the said first-mentioned Act; and the Members of the said Committee, and the person acting as Clerk to the said Committee, shall before examining such witnesses, and taking their testimony, take the oaths required to be made and taken by the eighth clause of the said Act first herein-before mentioned; and it shall be the duty of such Committee to report with all convenient speed to the said House of Assembly, the testimony which they shall have taken touching and concerning the affair in question.

The Chairman
of the said Com-
mittee to admini-
ster the oaths to
witnesses.

The Members
and Clerk of the
said Committee
to take an oath,
and to report to
the Assembly
their Proceed-
ings.

Penalty for
wilful perjury.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that any person who shall be guilty of wilful and corrupt perjury in every evidence which he shall give before the Commissioners appointed in virtue of this Act, or before any special Committee appointed in virtue of the same, in consequence of any oath which he shall have taken in virtue of this Act, shall on conviction thereof, incur and suffer the like pains and penalties to which any person convicted of wilful and corrupt perjury, is liable by law.

Continuance of
this Act.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that this Act shall continue to be and remain in force until the first day of May, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty, and no longer.

C A P. VI.

An ACT for the encouragement of Agriculture in this Province.

(1st April, 1818.)

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

Preamble.

WHEREAS the welfare and prosperity of this Province depend upon its Agriculture; for the encouragement and improvement whereof Your Majesty hath ever evinced the most paternal solicitude—Wherefore, we, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Lower-Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, taking also into our consideration the Speech delivered to us from the throne, at the opening of the present Session of the Legislature, most humbly beseech 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 and may be lawful to and for the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, to advance out of the unappropriated monies which at present are, or which hereafter may come into the hands of the Receiver-General of the Province, a sum of money not exceeding two thousand pounds, current money of this Province, to any Agricultural Society or Societies which already is, or are, or that may hereafter be formed in the several Districts of Quebec, Montreal, and Three-Rivers, under the sanction of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or person administering the government of this Province for the time being, to be employed by the said Societies, for the promotion and encouragement of Agriculture; and out of the said sum of two thousand pounds, that of eight hundred shall be employed for the afore-said purposes in the District of Quebec; that of four hundred pounds shall be employed for the same purposes in the District of Three-Rivers; and that of eight hundred pounds shall be employed for the like purposes in the District of Montreal.

£2000 granted for the promotion of Agriculture.

Agricultural Societies to offer Premiums for superior excellence in grain.

No single premium to exceed in amount the sum of £30.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Agricultural Society or Societies, by advertisement in the newspapers of Quebec, Montreal, and Three-Rivers, and by such other notifications as the said Societies may respectively think proper, to offer rewards or premiums for the production of any specimen of superior excellence of any species of grain, pulse, or other useful vegetables, the growth of this Province; for the invention, production, or extension of the use of any implement or implements, utensil or utensils of Agriculture, or of tillage fit for abridging labour, or capable of procuring any other important advantage; for the introduction of any improved method or practice of culture or husbandry, or for the attainment of any other object whatsoever whereof the promotion or encouragement is within the scope of the institution of the said Society or Societies; and that the rewards or premiums which the said Society or Societies may have offered shall be publicly distributed or paid in the several counties of the said Districts at the places which shall have been indicated by the notifications. And provided always, that no single premium shall exceed in amount the sum of twenty pounds, current money of this Province.

III.

Agricultural Societies to offer Premiums for the superior excellence in Cattle.

III. And whereas the breeding of good and strong horses, and of good and strong neat cattle, and the improvement of the breed of sheep, and hogs would produce great benefit to the Inhabitants, and to the Province; Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that any person or persons, being a subject or subjects of His Majesty residing within this Province, who, upon a day to be fixed by any such Society or Societies as aforesaid, once in every year (public notification therefore being made in manner above-mentioned, and at the places indicated by the said notifications) shall produce at such place or places the best stallion, mare or gelding, of the age and height to be fixed by the respective Societies as aforesaid, such stallion, mare or gelding being of the genuine Canadian breed, shall be entitled to a premium or reward, not exceeding twenty pounds, current money of this Province. And any person or persons who shall produce the best bull, cow or heifer, of the age and breed to be so fixed, shall be entitled to a premium or reward not exceeding twenty pounds, currency. And to the person or persons who shall produce the best ram, ewe or wether, of the age and breed to be so fixed and notified, shall be entitled to a premium or reward not exceeding five pounds, currency. And to the person or persons who shall produce the best hog, male or female, of the age and breed to be fixed and notified as aforesaid, shall be entitled to a premium or reward not exceeding five pounds, currency. Which said several sums or premiums shall be paid out of the monies by this Act appropriated, on the fact being established by inspection and report of persons appointed by the said Society or Societies.

Societies to report to the Legislature.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that each of the said Societies of Agriculture respectively, shall report the application of the said sums of money to the three branches of the Legislature within the first ten days of the next Session, with their remarks and observations upon the state of Agriculture, and upon what may remain to be done for the advancement thereof.

Application of the money to be accounted for to His Majesty.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the due application of all monies expended in virtue of 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.

Public Act.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a Public Act, and as such shall be noticed by all the Judges, Justices of the Peace, and other persons whomsoever, without specially pleading the same.