

*The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the fourth session of the fourth Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada.* Quebec: P. E. Desbarats, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1808.

48 George III – Chapter 15

**An Act to extend the provisions of an Act made and passed in the forty seventh year of His Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act for the more easy recovery of small Debts in certain parts of this Province." (14th April, 1808.)**

Whereas in and by an Act made and passed in the forty seventh year of His Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act for the more easy recovery of small Debts in certain parts of this Province," it is amongst other things enacted, 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, by any Commission or Commissions, to be by him issued under the Great Seal of this Province, to authorise and empower, such and so many of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, acting in, and for the Townships and Seigniories, in the said Act specified, as to him shall seem meet, to take cognizance of such Actions and Suits as are therein also specified, And Whereas it is expedient, that the power, in and by the said Act, vested in the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, should be further extended. Be it therefore enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council, and the 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, by any Commission or Commissions, to be by him issued, under the Great Seal of this Province to authorise and empower such, and so many of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, acting in and for the Parish and Seigniorie of Sorel, and such other Seigniories [Seigneuries] and Parishes, as to him shall seem meet, to take cognizance of such Causes and Suits, as in the above in part recited Act are specified, and any, or either of them.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all Justices who in manner aforesaid, shall be authorised and empowered to take cognizance of such Causes and Suits as aforesaid, under and by virtue of this Act, and each and every of them, shall have, hold, exercise and enjoy the same rights, powers, authorities and jurisdiction, as any Justice, who is, or are, or shall be appointed under and by virtue of the above in part recited Act.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that this Act Shall continue, and be in force until the first day of January, which will be in the year of our Lord, one thousand

eight hundred and ten, and from thence, to the end of the then next Session of the Provincial Parliament, and no longer.

IV. Provided always and it is hereby declared and enacted by the authority aforesaid, that nothing herein contained, shall be construed in any manner, to derogate from the rights of the Crown, to erect, constitute and appoint Courts of Civil or Criminal Jurisdiction, within this Province, and to appoint from time to time the Judges and Officers thereof, as His Majesty, his heirs or successors, shall think necessary, or proper for the circumstances of this Province, or to derogate from any other Right or Prerogative of the Crown whatsoever.