

*The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the first session of the eleventh Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada.* Quebec: P. E. Desbarats, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1821.

1 George IV – Chapter 26

**An Act for the incorporation of certain persons therein-mentioned, under the name of the “Quebec Bank.”**

17th March, 1821. Presented for His Majesty's Assent, and reserved “for the signification of His Majesty's pleasure thereon.”

16th September, 1822. Assented to by His Majesty, in His Privy Council.

30th November, 1822. The Royal Assent signified by the Proclamation of His Excellency the Governor in Chief.

Whereas the incorporation of a Bank in the City of Quebec, would essentially contribute to the prosperity of the Agriculture and Commerce of the of the Province; and whereas divers loyal subjects of His Majesty in this Province, by their humble petition in this behalf, have represented, that an association has been informed, in which they have become Subscribers and Stockholders for the purpose of establishing a Bank in the City of Quebec, under certain articles of agreement, by which the Capital Stock of the said association is limited to Seventy-five Thousand Pounds, current money of this Province, divided into three thousand shares of twenty-five pounds each, and provisions made for the conduct and management of the said Bank; that the said Capital Stock has been subscribed, is in part paid into the said Bank, and is held by them; and that the said Bank is now engaged in carrying on the business for which it was instituted, and have prayed that for the better effecting of the purposes of their association, they, their successors and assigns, may be incorporated; 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 John William Woolley, James M'Callum, Senior, John Jones, junior, Charles Smith, Louis Massue, Jean Langevin, Pierre Casgrain, Jacob Pozer, William Henderlon, junior, Gilbert Henderson, Charles Hunter, Peter Grant, Moses Hart, Nicolas Massue, William Grut Sheppard, James Hunt, Thomas White, James Black, John Black, John Goudie, Jean Baptiste Raymond, Louis Guerout, Pierre Pelletier, Vincent Bonenfant, Francois Buteau, Joseph Morin, James Lempriere Marrett, Jean Olivier Brunet, Amable Dionne, Joseph Leblond, William Pemberton, Pierre Guerout, Jean Fortier, Francois Laurent, fils, James Fraser, John Miller, Etienne Claude Lagueux, George Henderson, Margaret Popps, John Saxton Campbell, Jacques Leblond, Louis Picotte, Noah Freer, Charles Francois Roi, Thomas Graham, Jean Thomas Taschereau, John Foster Fitzgerald, Michel Sauvageau, George M'Beath, Francois Durette, John Davidson, Joseph Jones, Claude Denechau, Charles Jourdain, George J. Pozer, Maria

Pozer, Charlotte Pozer, Caroline Pozer, Louis Fortier, Sarah Montizambert, Joseph Lagueux, fils, Pierre Fortier, Joseph Deblois, Marrio Chinic, John Wright, M. D. Edward Stayner Freer, Augustos Charles Freer, Charles Montizambert, William Measam, Louis Moquin, Charles Bancroft, Francois Beller, Pierre Edouard Desbarats, Thomas Fargoes, Donald Fraser, William Finlay, Horatio Gates, Robert Jones, senior, Robert Jones, junior, John Jones, senior, Jane Jones, Pierre Lagueux, Thomas Lloyd, Hugh Nicoll, Estate of the late John Taylor, William Walker, Benjamin Tremain and John Macnider, their several and respective heirs, executors, curators, administrators, successors and assigns, shall be and they are hereby ordained, constituted and declared, to be a Body Politic and Corporate, by the name and style of the "The Quebec Bank," and shall so continue and have succession until the first day of August, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, and shall and may, by the said name, be able and capable in Law to sue, be sued, plead, and be impleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended, in all Courts and places whatsoever; and shall also be able and capable in Law to purchase, acquire, hold, enjoy, and retail to them, and their successors, lands and tenements, real or immoveable estate, for the convenient conduct and management of the business of the said Bank, and for no other purpose; and may sell, alienate, and dispose of such lands, tenements, real or immoveable estate, and purchase and acquire others in their head, for the purpose aforesaid, and may have a common seal, and may change and alter the same at pleasure; and may also ordain, establish and put in execution such bye-laws, ordinances and regulations, (the same not being contrary to the present Act, or any Laws in force in this Province) as may appear to them necessary and expedient for the management of the said Bank; which bye-laws, ordinances and regulations shall be made by the Directors of the said Bank, or a majority of them, and the said Directors shall and may do and execute in the name aforesaid, all and singular other the matters and things that to them shall or may appertain to do, subject nevertheless to the rules, regulations, limitations and provisions herein-after prescribed and enacted.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the capital flock of the said Quebec Bank, hereby incorporated shall not exceed the said sum of seventy-five thousand pounds, current money aforesaid, divided into three thousand shares of twenty-five pounds each; which shares shall be, and the same are hereby vested in the said several persons herein-before named, their successors and assigns, according to the shares and interest which they may respectively have subscribed, purchased, or acquired, and may now have or hold in the same; and that such part of the capital sum of seventy-five thousand pounds, as may not yet have been paid into the said Quebec Bank, shall be paid by the Stockholders respectively, by whom the same is due, by instalments not exceeding ten per centum on the capital stock of each Stockholder, at such time or times and place as the Directors of the said Quebec Bank shall appoint, after notice of not less than thirty days in this behalf to be previously given, in one or more of the public Newspapers printed and published at the said City of Quebec. Provided, the whole of the capital stock be paid up in the course of nine years from the passing of this Act; and all executors, curators and administrators, who shall pay up the instalments due by the estate or succession which they respectively represent in obedience to any call made for that purpose in the manner aforesaid, shall be hereby, respectively, indemnified.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that for the management of the affairs of the said Bank, there shall be thirteen Directors, who shall be annually chosen and elected by the Proprietors of the said capital stock of the said Bank, at a general meeting of them to be annually held

on the first Monday of August; at which annual meeting, the said Stockholders shall vote according to the rate herein-after established, as to the manner of voting at General Meetings; and the Directors so chosen by a majority, in conformity to such rule, shall be capable of serving as Directors for the then next ensuing twelve months; (unless removed, for mal-administration before that period, or suspended as herein-after provided) and at their first meeting after such election, shall choose out of their number a President, and Vice-President, who shall hold their offices respectively during the same period, for which the said Directors shall have been elected, as aforesaid: and it shall be lawful for the said Directors, from time to time, in case of death, resignation, absence from the Province, or removal of the persons so chosen to be President and Vice-President, or either of them, to choose in their or his stead, from among them the said Directors, another person or persons to be President and Vice-President respectively; and in case of the death, resignation, absence from the Province for three months at a time, or the removal of a Director as aforesaid, his place, in case of such removal, shall be filled up by the said Stockholders at any one of their General Meetings; and the person so appointed, in the place and stead of such Director, shall serve till the next General Meeting for the election of Directors; and the said Directors, appointed as aforesaid, are hereby prohibited, during the period of their services as Directors of the said Bank, from acting as Private Bankers.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the persons who may have been elected, and shall be the Directors, President and Vice-President respectively of the said Quebec Bank, at the time of passing this Act, shall be and continue Directors, President and Vice-President of the said Bank, until the first Monday in August next, being the day herein-before appointed for the annual election of Directors of the said Bank; Provided always, that any of the said Directors, in the mean time may, at a general meeting, be removed for mal-administration; and that in case of death, resignation, absence from the Province, or removal of any of the said Directors so appointed to continue in office as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the said Stockholders, at a general meeting, to fill up the vacancy or vacancies, as aforesaid, by the appointment of another or other Director or Directors, to continue in office till the said first Monday in August then next ensuing; and the said Director or Directors so appointed to be and continue in office; until the first Monday in August then next ensuing, shall have the same power as to the appointment of a President and Vice-President, in case of the death, resignation, absence from the Province or removal of the President or Vice-President before the period, that is herein-before given to the Directors to be chosen and elected, at the period fixed for the annual meeting as aforesaid.

V. Provided always, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that no Stockholder who shall not be a natural born subject of His Majesty, or a subject of His Majesty naturalized by Act of the British Parliament, or a subject of His Majesty by the effect of the conquest and cession of this Province, or being a subject of any Foreign Prince or State, shall either in person or by proxy, vote for the election of any Director to be elected in the manner herein-before directed, nor shall vote at any meeting of the said Stockholders, for the purpose of ordaining, establishing or putting in execution, any bye-laws, ordinances or regulations to be made under the authority of this Act, or shall assist in the calling of any meeting of such Stockholders, or shall vote for any other purpose or purposes whatsoever, herein-before authorised, any thing herein-before contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if, at any time, it shall happen, that an Election of Directors shall not be made or take effect on the day when, in pursuance of this Act, it ought to be made and take effect, the said Bank, shall not be deemed or taken to be dissolved, but it shall be lawful, at any other time, to make such election at a general meeting, of the Stockholders, to be called in the manner herein-after prescribed.

VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the Directors for the time being, shall have power to appoint such Officers, Clerks and Servants under them as shall be necessary for conducting the business of the said Quebec Bank, and to allow them such compensation for their services respectively, as shall be reasonable and proper, and the said Directors shall be capable, of exercising, such other powers and authority for the well governing and ordering of the affairs of the said Bank, as shall be prescribed by the bye-laws, ordinances and regulations of the said Bank.

VIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the following rules, restrictions, limitations and provisions, shall form and be deemed and held to be fundamental Articles of the said Quebec Bank, that is to say: FIRST—The number of votes to which each Stockholder or Stockholders, Co-partnership, Body Politic or Corporate, holding stock in the said Bank, shall be entitled, on every occasion, when in conformity to the provisions of this Act, the votes of the Members of the said Bank are to be given, shall be in proportion following, that is to say; for one share, and not more than two shares, one vote; for every two shares above two, and not exceeding ten, one vote, making five votes for ten shares; for every four shares above ten, and not exceeding thirty, one vote, making ten votes for thirty shares; for every six shares above thirty, and not exceeding sixty, one vote, making fifteen votes for sixty shares; and for every eight shares above sixty, and not exceeding one hundred, one vote, making twenty votes for one hundred shares; but no person or persons, co-partnership or body politic or corporate, being a Member or Members of the said Bank, shall be entitled to a greater number than twenty-votes; and all Stockholders in the said Bank, resident within this Province or elsewhere, may vote by proxy, if he, she or they shall see fit, provided that such proxy be a Stockholder in the said Bank, and do produce an authority from his constituents for so representing and voting for him, her or them, according to the Schedule (A) affixed to this Act.—Provided always, that after the first election of Directors, to be made after the passing of this Act, no share or shares of the Capital Stock of the said Bank shall confer a right of voting either in person or by proxy which shall not have been held during three calendar months at lead prior to the day of election or of the general meeting when the votes of the Stockholders in the said Bank are to be given, and when two or more persons are the joint owners of any part of the said Stock, it shall be lawful, that one person only be empowered by letter of Attorney from the other owners, or a majority of them, to represent the said Stock and to vote accordingly. SECOND—No person other than a Stockholder, actually resident in the City of Quebec, and holding at lead twenty shares in the Capital Stock of the said Quebec Bank, and being a natural born subject of His Majesty, or a subject of His Majesty naturalized by Act of Parliament, or who shall have resided seven years in this Province; and in any of the above cases, who shall have resided in the City of Quebec, three years, shall be capable of being, elected or chosen a Director of the said Bank or shall serve as such. THIRD—Nine of the Directors in office at the period of each annual election, shall be re-elected for the next succeeding twelve months, and the President and Vice-President shall always be two of the number to be re-elected as Directors. FOURTH—No Director shall be entitled to any salary or emolument, unless the same shall have been allowed to him by a general meeting of the

Stockholders in the said Bank, but the Stockholders may make such compensation to the President or Vice President of the said Bank for their extraordinary attendance at the said Bank, or other services, as to them may appear reasonable and proper. FIFTH—Not less than five Directors shall constitute a Board for the transaction of the business of the said Bank, whereof the President or Vice-President shall always be one, except in case of sickness or necessary absence, in which case their places may be supplied by any other Director whom the President or Vice-President so sick or absent shall respectively, by writing, under their hands appoint for that purpose. The President and Vice-President shall vote at the Board as Directors and in case of there being an equal number of votes for and against any question before them, the President, and in his absence, the Vice-President shall have a calling vote. SIXTH—Any number of Stockholders not less than twenty-five, who shall together be proprietors of at least two hundred and fifty shares in the said Bank, shall have power, at any time, by themselves or their proxies, to call a general meeting of the Stockholders for purposes relative to the said Bank, giving at least six weeks notice thereof in at least one of the newspapers printed and published in the City of Quebec, and specifying in such notice the time and place for such meeting, with the subject or objects thereof; and the Directors or any seven of them, shall have the like power, at any time, (upon observing the like formalities) to call a general meeting as aforesaid, and if the object for which any general meeting, called either by the Stockholders or Directors in the said Bank as aforesaid, shall be to take into consideration any charge or complaint against the President, Vice-President or other Director or Directors, for mal-administration, then and in such case, the person or persons against whom such charge or complaint shall be made, shall from the day on which such notice shall be first published, be suspended from the execution of the duties of his or their office, and if he be the President or Vice-President, his place shall be filled up by the remaining Directors, who shall appoint a Director to serve as such President or Vice-President during the time such said person shall continue; and the Stockholders in the said Bank shall at the first meeting held in pursuance of such notice, nominate and appoint by ballot, twelve persons, being Stockholders in the said Bank, none of whom shall be Directors in the said Bank, which persons so nominated and appointed shall proceed in a summary manner to take into consideration the subject for which such Director shall have been suspended, and shall declare whether such Director is innocent of the charge alleged against him, in which case such Director shall be forthwith reinstated, and in case such Director shall be found guilty of the charge laid against him, the persons so as aforesaid nominated and appointed, shall, if they may think it expedient, declare him incapable of continuing to Act as a Director in the said Bank, and such Director shall accordingly forthwith thereafter be disqualified to serve any longer as a Director in the said Bank. Provided always, that the verdict of any nine of the persons so as aforesaid nominated and appointed, shall be binding and conclusive. And provided also, that in case the Director whose conduct is the subject of inquiry shall require that the evidence produced against him be given on oath, it shall be lawful for any one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace to administer the necessary oath for that purpose, and any person or persons who, upon being so as aforesaid sworn, shall wilfully and knowingly take a false oath, shall, on being lawfully convicted, incur and suffer the pains and penalties of wilful and corrupt perjury. SEVENTH—Every Cashier and Clerk of the said Bank, before he enter upon the duties of his office, shall give bond, with two or more sureties to the satisfaction of the Directors of the said Bank, that is to say: every Cashier in a sum not less than five thousand pounds, with condition for his good and faithful behaviour, and every Clerk with like condition and sureties, in such sum as the Directors shall consider adequate to the trust to be reposed in him. EIGHTH—The lands and tenements which it shall be lawful for the said Bank to hold, shall be such only as may be

necessary for the transaction and accommodation of the business of the said Bank, and shall in no case exceed the value of six thousand pounds, or three hundred and sixty pounds the legal interest thereof, per annum. It shall nevertheless be competent for the Directors on behalf of the said Bank, to take and hold mortgages, hypothèques, according to the Laws of the Province, on real property, by way of additional security for debts contracted with the said Bank, in the course of its dealings, but on no account shall money be lent upon mortgage or hypothèques on lands or other real property; nor shall such be purchased by the said Bank, upon any pretext, except in the case herein-above mentioned.

NINTH—The total amount of the debts which the said Bank shall, at any time owe, whether by Bond, Bill or Note, or other contract whatsoever, shall not exceed treble the amount of the Capital Stock actually paid in, (over and above a sum equal in amount to such money as may be deposited in the said Bank for safe keeping) and in case of excess, the Directors under whose administration it may happen, shall be jointly and severally personally liable for the same, as well towards the Stockholders as to the bearers of Bonds, Bills and Notes of the said Bank, and an action or actions in this behalf, may by the bearer or bearers of such Bonds, Bills or Notes be brought against them or any of them, their heirs, executors, administrators and curators respectively, as well as against the Stockholders in the said Bank, or any of them, their heirs, executors, administrators and curators, and be prosecuted to judgment and execution, according to the Laws of this Province, but the same shall not exempt the said Bank, nor the lands, tenements, goods or chattels thereof from being also liable for such excels. Provided always, that such Director or Directors as shall have been absent when the said excess may have been contracted or incurred, or shall have entered his or their protest against it upon the Book or Books of the said Bank, may respectively exonerate and discharge himself or themselves therefrom, by pleading and proving such absence or entry of such protest as aforesaid, and publishing the same in the Newspapers within eight days.

TENTH—The Stock of the said Bank shall be assignable and transferable according to the form and tenor of the Act of transfer or assignment in the Schedule (B) affixed to this Act, but no assignment or transfer shall be valid or effectual, unless such transfer or assignment be entered or registered on a Book or Books, to be kept by the Directors of the said Bank, for that purpose, nor until the person or persons making the same, shall previously discharge all debts actually due by him, her or them to the said Quebec Bank, which may exceed in amount the remaining stock, belonging to such person or persons; and in no case shall any fractional part of a share or shares or other than a complete share or shares, be assignable or transferable.

ELEVENTH—All Bank Bills, Bank Bonds, Bank Notes, and engagements or contracts on behalf of the said Quebec Bank, signed by the President or Vice-President and countersigned by the Cashier of the said Bank, which shall be made to or in favor of any person or persons, shall be assignable by indorsements thereupon, without signification thereof, any law or usage to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding; and Bank Notes which shall be issued by order of the said Bank, signed and countersigned as aforesaid, promising the payment of money to any person or persons, his, her or their order, or to bearer, although not under seal of the said Bank, shall be binding and obligatory upon the same, and shall be assignable and negotiable by blank or other indorsement or otherwise, in like manner as if they were made and issued by private persons—that is to say: those which shall be payable to any person or persons, his, her, or their order, shall be assignable by blank or other indorsement, in like manner, and with the like effect as foreign Bills of Exchange now are, and those which shall be payable to Bearer, shall be assignable and negotiable by delivery only.

TWELFTH—The Books, Papers, Correspondence and Funds of the said Bank, shall at all times be subject to the inspection of any Director appointed by the Directors or a majority of them for that purpose, and not otherwise, nor shall any Stockholder in the said Bank,

inspect the account of any individual or individuals with the said Bank. THIRTEENTH.—Half-yearly dividends shall be made of so much of the profits of the said Bank as shall appear to the Directors for the time being advisable, and shall be payable at such place or places as the said Directors may appoint, of which they shall give public notice thirty days previously in at least two of the public newspapers, printed and published at the City of Quebec, and the said Directors shall every year, at a general meeting held for the election of Directors, lay before the Stockholders, for their information, an exact and particular statement of the amount of debts due to and by the said Bank, specifying the amount of the Bank Notes then in circulation, and the amount of such debts as in their opinion are bad or doubtful; also dating the surplus of profit (if any remaining) after deduction of the losses and provision for dividends. Provided, that the making and rendering of such statements shall not give, nor be construed to give, any right to the Stockholders, not being Directors in the said Bank, to inspect the account of any individual or individuals with the said Bank; and Provided always, that no dividend shall be made whereby the Capital Stock of the said Bank shall be reduced or impaired. FOURTEENTH—If there shall be a failure by or on the part of any person or persons, co-partnership, body politic or corporate, to pay the amount of any instalment required to be paid on account of his, her or their shares in the said Capital Stock of the said Quebec Bank, the person or persons failing to pay the amount of such instalment, shall incur a forfeiture and penalty for the use of the said Bank of five per centum on the amount of his, her or their shares in the said Bank, and of the dividends due to him, her or them at the time appointed for the payment of such instalments, and also of all dividends which may afterwards accrue and become due to him, her or them until the payment of the amount of such instalment. FIFTEENTH.—The said Bank shall not directly nor indirectly deal in any thing except Bills of Exchange, discounts on Notes of Hand or Promissory Notes, and to receive the discount at the time of negotiating Gold or Silver Bullion, or in the sale of Stock pledged for Money lent and not redeemed, which said Stock so pledged and not redeemed, shall be sold by the said Bank at public sale, at any time not less than ten days after the period of redemption, without judgment previously obtained, and without any previous suit or proceedings at law any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding; and if upon the sale of such Stock, there shall be a surplus after deducting the expences of sale over and above the Money lent, such surplus shall be paid to the Proprietors of such Stock, respectively.

IX. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall not be lawful for the said Bank at any time whatever, directly or indirectly, to advance or lend to or for the use, or on account of any foreign Prince or State, any sum or sums of money whatever, and if any such unlawful advance or loan be made, then and from thenceforth the said Bank shall be divided, and all the powers, authorities, rights, and advantages hereby granted to the said Bank, shall from thenceforth cease and determine, any thing in the present Act contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding, nor shall it be lawful for the said Bank, at any time whatever, to raise any sum or sums of money by loan or to increase the Capital Stock of the said Bank otherwise than is herein-before provided.

X. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the Notes of the said Quebec Bank shall be payable in Gold and Silver Coin, current by the Laws of this Province. And that the said Bank shall not demand, receive or require upon its loans or discounts, or upon any other pretext whatsoever, any interest exceeding the lawful interest of six per centum per annum, as established by the Laws of this Province.

XI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all seizures of any share or shares in the capital stock of the said Bank, or of any dividend or profit or of any sum or sums of money, effects or things soever at the suit of any person or persons against any proprietor or proprietors of such shares, dividends, profits, sums of money or other things invested in the said Bank, shall be notified and served at the suit of the party seizing on the Cashier of the said Bank, at the office thereof, and on the proprietor whose shares are seized (saisies) as by law required, and in case the proprietor (saisie) should not be resident within the jurisdiction where such seizure shall be made, service of the process at the office of the said Bank, shall be valid and sufficient to all intents and purposes.

XII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that no Stockholder or Stockholders in the said Quebec Bank, shall be personally answerable or liable for the debts of the said Bank, except as herein-before provided, in cases where the total amount of debts contracted by the said Bank, shall exceed the limits prescribed by this Act.

XIII. And for the better security of the public, be it further enabled by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or the person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, or for any or either Branch of the Provincial Parliament, from time to time, to require from the President, Vice-President and Directors of the said Bank, statements of the amount of the Capital Stock of the said Bank, and of the debts due to the same, of the monies deposited in the Bank, of the Notes in circulation, and of the cash in hand, which statements the said President, Vice-President and Directors shall be bound to furnish, when required as aforesaid, under oath, which oath any Justice of the Peace is hereby authorized to administer, and in case such President, Vice-President and Directors, shall in making such oath, be guilty of wilful and corrupt perjury or of subornation of perjury, they shall on conviction thereof incur the pains and penalties of wilful and corrupt perjury or of subornation of perjury according to law. Provided always, that nothing herein contained, shall extend to compel or authorize the said President, Vice-President and Directors in such statements, to particularize the private, account of any person, or persons with the said Bank.

XIV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any Officer, Cashier, Clerk or Servant of the said Bank, entrusted with any Bond, Obligation, Bill obligatory, or of Credit, or of any other Bill or Note, or any Security, Money or Effects belonging to the said Bank, or having any Bond, Obligation or Bill obligatory or of Credit, or any other Bill or Note, or any Security, Money or Effects of any other person or persons, lodged or deposited with the said Bank, or with him, as an Officer, Cashier, Clerk or Servant of the said Bank, shall secrete, embezzle, or run away with any such Bill, Bond, Bill obligatory or of Credit, or any such other Bill or Note, Security, Money or Effects, or any part of them, every such Officer, Cashier, Clerk or Servant so offending and being thereof convicted in due form of law, shall be deemed guilty of felony without benefit of Clergy.

XV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any person or persons shall forge or counterfeit the common seal of the said Bank, or shall forge, or counterfeit or alter any Bond, Obligation, Bill obligatory, or of credit, or any other Bill or Note of the said Bank, or any indorsement or indorsements thereon, with intention to defraud the said Bank or any person or persons whomsoever,



or shall alter, or falsify any forged, counterfeit or altered Bond, Obligation, Bill obligatory or of credit, or any other Bill or Note of the said Bank or indorsement or indorsements thereon, or shall demand the money therein-mentioned and contained, knowing the same to be forged, counterfeited or altered, every such person for every such offence upon conviction thereof in due form of law for the first offence, shall be deemed and adjudged to be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on being lawfully convicted thereof shall be liable for such offence to be imprisoned for a time which shall not be less than six months, nor more than six years, and to be kept at hard labour or be publicly whipped, or stand in the pillory, or undergo one or more of the said punishments at the discretion of the Court before which such conviction shall take place and shall for a second offence be deemed and adjudged guilty of Felony.

XVI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any person or persons shall engrave, form, make or mend any plate or plates, paper, rolling press, or other tool, instrument or material devised, adapted and designed for damping, forging or making any false and counterfeit Bill of Exchange, Promissory Note, undertaking or order for the payment of money, purporting to be a Bill of Exchange, Promissory Note, undertaking, or order of the said Quebec Bank or of any of the officers or persons engaged in the management of the concerns of the said Bank, in the name and on the behalf of the said Bank, or shall have in his possession any such plate or plates engraven in any part, or any paper, rolling press or other tool, instrument or material devised, adapted or designed as aforesaid with intent to use and employ the same, or to cause or permit the same to be used and employed in forging and making any such false and counterfeit Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, undertakings or orders, every person so offending, shall be deemed and taken to be guilty of felony, and being thereof convicted, shall suffer death as a felon, without benefit of Clergy.

XVII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful to and for any one Justice of the Peace on complaint made before him upon the oath of one credible person, that there is just cause to suspect that any one or more person or persons, is or are, or hath, or have been concerned in making or counterfeiting any such false Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, Undertakings, or Orders, as aforesaid, by warrant under the hand of such Justice, to cause the dwelling-house, room, work-shop, out-house or other building, yard, garden or other place belonging to such suspended person or persons, or where any such person or persons shall be suspected to carry on such making or counterfeiting, to be searched for any such false bills of exchange, promissory notes, undertakings or orders, and if any such false bills of exchange, promissory notes, undertakings or orders, or any such plates, rolling presses or other tools, instruments, or materials shall be found in the custody or possession of any person or persons whomsoever, not having the same by some lawful authority, shall and may be lawful to and for any person or persons whomsoever discovering the same, to seize and he and they are hereby authorized and required to seize such false or Counterfeit bills of exchange, promissory notes, undertakings or orders, and such plates, rolling presses or other tools, instruments or materials, and carry the same forthwith before a Justice of the Peace of the County or District in which the same shall be seized, who shall cause the same to be located, and produced in evidence against any person or persons who shall or may be prosecuted for any of the offences aforesaid in some Court of justice competent for the determination thereof, and the same after being so produced in evidence, shall by order of the Court before which such offender or offenders shall be tried, be defaced or destroyed or otherwise disposed of as such Court shall direct.

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

XIX. 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 judicially taken notice of by all Judges, Justices of the Peace and other persons whomsoever, without specially pleading the same.

XX. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that this Act shall continue to be in force until the first day of August, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, and no longer. Provided that if before the expiration of such period, it shall at any time be found expedient to establish a Provincial Bank in this Province, and that the same should be so established by an Act of the Legislature thereof, then and in that case, the said Bank hereby established shall from and after the expiration of seven years from the passing of such Act, be dissolved, and all and every the powers, rights, privileges and benefits hereby given and granted to the said Bank, shall from thenceforth wholly and utterly cease and determine, any thing in the present Act contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Schedule A.  
QUEBEC BANK STOCK.  
ACCEPTANCE, DIVIDENDS, SALE AND TO VOTE.

Know all men by these presents, that I \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ do make, constitute and appoint \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ my true and lawful Attorney for me, in my name and on my behalf to accept, all such transfers as are or may here-after be made unto me of my interest or share in the Capital or Joint Stock in the Quebec Bank, also to receive and give receipts for all Dividends that are now due and that shall hereafter, become due and payable for the same for the time being—Likewise to sell, assign and transfer all or any part of my said Stock, to receive the consideration money, and give a receipt or receipts for the same, and to vote at all Elections, and to do all lawful Acts requisite for effecting the premises; hereby ratifying and confirming all that my said Attorney shall do therein by virtue hereof. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal at \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year of Our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and \_\_\_\_\_.

Signed and Sealed in the presence of \_\_\_\_\_

Schedule B.

For value received \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ hereby assign and transfer unto \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and assign \_\_\_\_\_ shares on each which has been paid \_\_\_\_\_ pounds, \_\_\_\_\_ shillings, currency, amounting to the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ pounds, \_\_\_\_\_ shillings, in the Capital Stock of the Quebec Bank, subject to the Rules and Regulations contained in the Articles of Association of the said Bank. Witness \_\_\_\_\_ hand at the Bank aforesaid, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ one thousand eight hundred and \_\_\_\_\_.

Witness, \_\_\_\_\_.

I do hereby accept the foregoing assignment of \_\_\_\_\_ shares in the Quebec Bank, assigned to  
\_\_\_\_\_ as above-mentioned at the Bank, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ one thousand eight hundred and  
\_\_\_\_\_.