

Laws of His Majesty's Province of Upper Canada in North America, passed in the year 1820.
York: R. C. Horne, 1820.

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An Act to provide for Increasing the Representation of the Commons of this Province in the House of Assembly. Passed 7th March, 1820.

Whereas, from the rapid increase of the population in this Province, the Representation thereof in the Commons House of Assembly is deemed too limited; 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 Upper 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 by the authority of the same, That so much of the several Laws now in force as regulates the number of Representatives to serve in the Provincial Parliament, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That from and after the end of the present Parliament, each and every County now formed or organized, or which shall or may hereafter be formed or organized, the population of which shall amount to one thousand souls, shall be Represented in the Provincial Parliament by one Member; and when the population of such County or Counties, as aforesaid, shall amount to four thousand souls, the said County or Counties shall be Represented by two Members; and that each and every Town, in which the Quarter Sessions for the District are or may by Law be holden, and in which there shall be one thousand souls, shall be Represented by one Member.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the population required to be contained in each and every Town or County for the purposes aforesaid, shall be ascertained by the Returns of the several Town Clerks of the number of souls in the several Towns and Townships of this Province, certified copies of which Returns the Clerk of the Peace of the District in which such Town, Township, or County shall or may be situated is hereby required to transmit to the Office of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person administering the Government of this Province.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That whenever an University shall be organized, and in operation as a Seminary of Learning in this Province, and in conformity to the Rules and Statutes of similar Institutions in Great Britain, it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, to declare by Proclamation the Tract of Land appendant to such University, and whereupon the same is situated, to be a Town or Township, by such name as to him shall seem meet, and that such Town or Township, so constituted, shall be Represented by one Member. Provided always, nevertheless, That no person shall be permitted to vote at any such Election for a

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Member to Represent the said University in Parliament, who besides the qualification now by Law required, shall not also be entitled to vote in the convocation of the said University.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person administering the Government of this Province, to issue Writs of Election for Members to serve in the Commons House of Assembly for such Counties and Towns, as aforesaid, and for the said University, in like manner as is provided by the eighteenth clause, of an Act passed in the thirty-first year, of His Majesty's Reign, entitled, "*An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign,*" entitled, *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.*"

VI. Provided always, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to lessen the number of Members now returned for any County or Counties under the authority of any Law heretofore in force in this Province, or to make necessary the issuing of any new Writ of Election, during the continuance of any Parliament, by reason of the increase of inhabitants in any Town or County since the then last preceding General Election.

VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when any County now formed, or hereafter to be formed, shall contain less than one thousand souls, the said County or Counties shall be attached to the next adjoining County of the District in which there shall be the smallest number of souls.

VIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the number of souls residing in any Town, as aforesaid, shall be ascertained and distinguished in the Return of the Town Clerk of the Township in which such Town shall be situated, from the number of souls of such Township.

IX. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no person qualified to vote in any Town, as aforesaid, shall be allowed to vote in the County in which such Town is situated, upon the same Freehold which may qualify him to vote for a Member to Represent the said Town.

X. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the number of souls contained in any Town which may hereafter elect a Member, as aforesaid, shall not be considered as a part of the number of souls required to give the County in which such Town shall be situated two Members.