

of each of the non-resident proprietors who have disputed or will persist in disputing the titles of the resident proprietors, the Governor shall appoint three fit and proper persons to enquire into and report upon the best and most equitable mode of dividing or partitioning the lands so granted as aforesaid, between the Crown and the resident proprietors, and of quieting the titles of such resident proprietors to their lawful holdings, with a view to effecting such object by further and final legislation.

acquired by the Crown.

IV. And in investigating the said titles, and in making such enquiry and report, the said Commissioners shall not be bound to follow the strict rules of law either as to the interpretation of the titles or as to the evidence which they may think proper to have adduced before them; but they shall be governed in all matters connected with such investigation and report by broad principles of equity and justice, and by a due regard to the peculiar position in which the parties interested in the said lands so granted as aforesaid, have been placed.

Commissioners not bound by strict rules of law.

V. The Commissioners so to be appointed shall have the same powers as the Judges of the Superior Court, within their jurisdiction, to compel the appearance of witnesses and the production of all papers, plans and documents required for the purposes of this Act.

Powers of Commissioners under this Act.

VI. And the Governor shall, by Order in Council, from time to time, upon the report of the Attorney General for Lower Canada, order the Commissioner of Crown Lands to grant certificates for the purchase of Crown Lands, either in the said Township of Bolton or elsewhere, for the amount of taxable and duly taxed costs incurred by the parties to the proceedings now pending as aforesaid, as well as for the costs of the arbitrators and Commissioners to be appointed as hereinabove provided.

Governor in Council may award lands in compensation of costs.

VII. The term "non-resident proprietor" wherever it is used in this Act, whether in the singular or the plural number, shall apply only to persons who have not, either by themselves or their predecessors, cultivated or improved any portion of the land claimed by them.

Interpretation of certain expressions in this Act.

C A P . C X L .

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the Bar of Lower Canada.

[Assented to 10th June, 1857.]

WHEREAS the Bar of Lower Canada, Section of the District of Quebec, desire to possess a Library for the use of the members of the said section, and for that purpose it becomes necessary to increase the annual payment required to be

Preamble.

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12 V. c. 46.

be made by the thirty-third section of the Act intituled, *An Act to incorporate the Bar of Lower Canada*, passed in the twelfth year of Her Majesty's Reign : Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, enacts as follows :

Yearly payment under Section 33, increased to £1 10s.

I. As regards the Bar of the Section of the District of Quebec only, in lieu of the sum of one pound currency mentioned in the said thirty-third section of the said Act, there shall be paid and payable one pound ten shillings currency, payment whereof may be enforced by the means and in the manner provided by the said Act.

Provision for further increase or decrease of such annual payment.

II. It shall be lawful for the said Section, at any meeting to be specially called for the purpose, to make and ordain from time to time a By-law or By-laws whereby the sum annually to be paid by the members of the said section respectively, may be augmented beyond the sum of one pound ten shillings currency, or reduced to a less sum ; and any sum so fixed upon shall be paid and payable by the members of the said section and recoverable in the manner and by the means provided by the said Act ; Provided always, that the alteration in the amount so to be paid shall apply to the year first succeeding such alteration.

Proviso.

Library Council to be appointed.

III. It shall be lawful for the Council of the said Section to appoint annually a Committee of not less than five, to be chosen from amongst the members of the said Section, whose duty it shall be to superintend and take charge of the Library belonging to the said Section, and to make rules pertaining to the management thereof.

All members of the section may use the Library, subject to rules to be made by the Council.

IV. All members of the Bar of the said Section paying the annual subscription, shall have the use of the Library and books of the said Section, subject only to such rules as the Council of the said Section and the said Committee may enact for the regulation of the said Library, and for the payment of the said subscription, and for enforcing the payment thereof, even by disqualifying any member from voting at any meeting of the said Section so long as any part of his annual subscription shall remain unpaid ; and the said Council is hereby authorized to make such rules and from time to time alter the same as to it may seem fit.

Public Act.

V. This Act shall be deemed a Public Act.