

in law, as if the said registers had been kept pursuant to any Act, Statute or Law of or in Lower Canada in relation to registers of baptisms, marriages or deaths.

III. The duplicate of the Registers to be kept by such Minister or Pastor, shall be the property of the Circuit or Mission; and whenever the connexion between any such Minister or Pastor and the said Circuit or Mission shall cease, such Registers shall be deposited with the Recording Steward thereof, to be kept by the successor of such Minister or Pastor for the use of the said Circuit or Mission.

Custody of duplicate Registers.

IV. The said Ministers or Pastors shall, in all respects, comply with and be governed by the Acts, Statutes, and Laws at present in force in Lower Canada, in the keeping of the said registers, and shall in case of disobedience to the requirements thereof, be liable to the penalties in like cases thereby imposed, which penalties shall be paid, recoverable, applied and accounted for in the same manner as the penalties imposed by them are therein directed to be paid, applied and accounted for.

Laws of Lower Canada in this behalf to be observed.

V. This Act shall be a Public Act, and the Interpretation Act shall apply thereto.

Public Act.

C A P . C C X V .

An Act to amend the Act to provide for the division of the Common of Maskinongé.

[Assented to 10th June, 1857.]

**W**HEREAS certain persons interested in the Common of Maskinongé have by their petition represented, that the powers conferred by the fifth and sixth sections of the Act passed in the sixteenth year of Her Majesty's reign, intituled, *An Act to divide the Common of Maskinongé among the co-proprietors thereof*, upon the Judge of the Superior Court who is to make an examination of the titles produced by the parties claiming to have rights in the said Common, and to give judgment, are insufficient for the purpose, and for the purposes of justice it is expedient to extend them; And whereas some of the parties interested in the said Common may not have been aware of the publication of the notice required by the fifth section of the said Act: Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, enacts as follows:

Preamble.

16 V. c. 237.

I. It shall be lawful for all and every of the Co-proprietors of the said Common who may not have exhibited their deeds of concession, judgments, or other titles establishing their respective rights in the said Common at the Office of the Commissioner under the provisions of the said Act, to file the same at the

Parties who have not filed their claims under the said Act, may file them during a certain time.

the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the Three-Rivers Circuit within one month from and after the passing of this Act.

Legal effect of titles so filed as aforesaid.

II. All titles filed as aforesaid in pursuance of this Act shall be dealt with in every respect, and the parties filing the same shall have the same rights and be in the same position as if they had been transmitted to a Judge of the Superior Court of Lower Canada in the town of Three-Rivers by the Commissioner under the provisions of the said Act.

Titles for uncontested claims to be admitted as of course.

III. The Judge, whose duty it shall be to examine the titles exhibited to the Commissioner elected in virtue of the said Act hereby amended, or filed in pursuance of this Act, and to pronounce judgment thereupon, may, without further examination, declare valid those titles which shall serve as the foundation of uncontested claims, and thereupon allow such claims.

Powers of the Judge as to contested cases.

IV. With respect to contested titles and claims, it shall be lawful for the said Judge to permit the parties to such contestation to plead in writing, produce titles, documents and papers, examine witnesses upon oath, appoint and swear one or more *experts* or arbitrators, hear the parties, who may be interrogated upon *faits et articles*, upon *serment décisoire* or *serment judiciaire*, if deemed expedient, and allow costs in the matter, all the proceedings to be in every respect similar to those in ordinary actions; and the said costs shall be recoverable by process of execution upon a writ to be issued out of the Court having jurisdiction therein, as in any ordinary case.

Judge may make orders, &c., in such cases.

V. It shall be lawful for the said Judge to make such orders and to render such interlocutory judgments, to regulate the pleadings and procedure as he shall deem expedient for the purposes of justice.

Public Act.

VI. This Act shall be deemed a Public Act.

## C A P. C C X V I.

An Act to amend the Act to enable the inhabitants of the Parish of St. François du Lac better to regulate the Common of St. François.

[Assented to 10th June, 1857.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the division of the Common of St. François du Lac among the co-proprietors thereof, in accordance with their respective rights therein, so that each one may be enabled separately to enjoy or dispose of his share in the said common, and for that purpose to grant more ample powers to the Chairman and Trustees of the said Common appointed in virtue of the Act of 1853, intituled, *An Act*