

14-15 Vict.,  
c. 175,  
(Canada),  
not affected.

**2.** This act shall not affect the provisions of the act 14-15 Victoria, chapter 175 (Canada) in respect of the said Church of England in Canada in the Diocese of Montreal.

Coming into  
force.

**3.** The present act shall come into force on the day of its sanction.

## CHAP. 139

An Act for the relief of the Congregational Denomination heretofore also known as the Members of Congregational Societies respecting the keeping of their registers of civil status and to simplify the procedure

*[Assented to, 21st of March, 1922]*

Preamble.

**W**HEREAS the Congregational Union of Canada, has, by its petition, represented:

That the religious body generally known as the Congregational Denomination, and heretofore also known as the Members of Congregational Societies, represented in Canada by the said Union (which was duly incorporated by the statute of Canada, 9-10 Edward VII, chapter 86), is one of the most ancient, well-known and well-established of Protestant churches; that its ministers in charge of its churches, congregations and missions, have long been duly recognized as entitled to all the usual rights and powers of officers of civil status; that they have long been in undisputed possession of all the said rights and powers, and have performed and kept the usual registers of a vast number of acts of civil status in connection with the numerous well-known congregations of the denomination; that nevertheless the claims to be entitled to the same rights recently put forward by certain persons claiming to be Congregationalists in principle, but not belonging to the said organized denomination, nor received as members of the Congregational Union of Canada, have given rise to certain doubts and vexatious difficulties of procedure regarding the identifications and powers of the ministers and congregations of the said Congregational Denomination; and whereas it is expedient to quiet all such doubts, and to simplify the procedure to accord with that of the other duly recognized denominations;

Therefore, His Majesty, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of Quebec, enacts as follows:

**1.** Each and all of the churches, congregations and missions of the religious denomination generally known as the Congregational Denomination, and heretofore also known as the Members of Congregational Societies, duly recognized as members of the Congregational Union of Canada incorporated by statute of Canada, 9-10 Edward VII, chapter 86, or by the executive committee thereof (of which recognition the certificate of the General Secretary of the said Congregational Union shall be sufficient evidence), shall have and possess the right to keep registers of civil status to the full extent and in the manner provided by the Civil Code and the Code of Civil Procedure; and each and all of them are hereby confirmed in the said rights. Registers of  
civil status.

**2.** Without derogation to any of their rights and acts previous hereto but confirming the same, each and all of the ministers of the said denomination, duly recognized as such by the said Congregational Union of Canada, or by the executive committee thereof, or specially authorized by the said Union or its executive committee, shall have the right to act as public functionaries keeping registers of civil status, under the conditions of law, together with all the rights connected therewith, and all other duties and ceremonies of such public functionaries in charge of registers of civil status, in the manner and to the full extent provided by the Civil Code and the Code of Civil Procedure. Rights of  
ministers.

**3.** The act 4 William IV, chapter 19, entitled: "An Act 4 Wm. IV, for the Relief of the Congregational Societies in this Province" is hereby repealed as regards the said Congregational Denomination, but only insofar as the provisions thereof may be incompatible with those of the present act. c. 19, re-  
pealed,  
where in-  
compatible.

**4.** This act shall come into force on the day of its sanction. Coming into  
force.

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