

CAP. XLV.

An Act to amend "An Act to afford relief to a certain Religious Congregation, at Montreal, denominated Presbyterians, and for other purposes."

[Assented to 23rd December, 1871.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS the religious congregation or society, styling themselves Presbyterians, and usually known as the American Presbyterian Church of Montreal, was empowered, under the provision of the act of the legislature of Canada, first William the fourth, chapter fifty-six, to have a register of baptisms, burials, and marriages kept by the minister of the said congregation, and have prayed for certain amendments to the said act, and other relief hereinafter mentioned, and it is expedient to grant the same; Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows:

Minister to have power to keep register of baptisms, burials and marriages.

1. The minister of the said religious congregation or society, duly settled and installed over said religious congregation or society, having taken the oath of allegiance, and doing clerical duty as such minister, shall have full power and authority to keep, in the manner required by law, a register of baptisms, burials and marriages, and to grant authentic extracts or copies of such registers, and the sixth section of the said first William the fourth, chapter fifty-six, and any other act or law restricting or limiting the power and capacity of the minister of the said congregation, in respect of such register, is hereby repealed.

Registration in Superior Court valid, and 27 and 28 Vic., cap. 163, sec. 23 amended.

2. The registration which, by the trustees of the said religious society, incorporated under the act of the late province of Canada, twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth Victoria, chapter one hundred and sixty-three, caused to be made in the office of the prothonotary of the superior court at Montreal, is declared to be valid and effectual to all intents and purposes, notwithstanding that such registration was, by the twenty-third section of the said last mentioned act, directed to be made in the office of the prothonotary of the court of Queen's bench therein referred to; and the said twenty-third section of the said act is hereby amended by striking out the words "court of Queen's bench" therein, and inserting in place thereof the words "the superior court;" provided, nevertheless, that this section shall not affect suits actually pending before any court nor unsettled open successions.

Proviso.

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