

C A P . L V .

An act to authorize the Ministers of the Church calling themselves the "Catholic Apostolic Church," in the province of Quebec, to solemnize matrimony, and to keep registers of baptisms, marriages and burials.

[Assented to, 24th February, 1868.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS the minister and members of the congregation of christians in the township of Hull, in connection with the church calling themselves the "Catholic Apostolic Church," have by their petition to the legislature prayed that the ministers of the said church may be authorized to keep in due form of law, registers of all baptisms, marriages and burials, which may be performed by them in the province of Quebec, and it is expedient to grant the prayer of the said petitioners: Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows:

Ministers of said church may keep registers as other ministers are authorized to.

1. It shall and may be lawful for any regularly ordained minister for the time being of any congregation of the said "Catholic Apostolic Church," in the province of Quebec, to have and keep registers of baptisms, marriages and burials, subject always to the penalties of law in this behalf provided, according to the laws in force in the said province; and the said registers, the necessary formalities as by law already provided in relation to registers of like nature, being observed, shall to all intents and purposes have the same effect in law as if the same had been kept by any minister or clergyman in the province of Quebec, now authorized to keep registers, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

They shall take the oath of allegiance.

2. Provided that no such minister shall be entitled to the benefits hereby granted, unless he shall have taken the oath of allegiance before one of her majesty's justices of the peace, in the district in which he shall reside, which said oath any such justice is authorized and required to administer, and the same to certify in duplicate under his signature, whereof one copy shall be fyled in the office of the registrar of the district, the cost of which fyling shall not exceed one dollar, and the other copy shall remain in the possession of the said minister; nor unless such minister shall, at the time of taking such oath, produce to the justice the certificate of his ordination, or a legally attested copy thereof; and provided also, that the registers which shall be so kept, and the several entries therein, according to the laws in force in this province, as well as authentic copies of such entries, shall to all intents and purposes, be good and available in law, as if the said registers had been kept pursuant to any act, statute or law in force in this province, in relation to registers of baptisms, marriages and deaths.

The registers must be kept according to law.

3. The duplicate of the registers to be kept by any such minister, shall be the property of the congregation; and whenever the connection between such minister and the said congregation shall cease, such registers shall be deposited with the deacons thereof, to be kept by the successor of such minister, for the use of the said congregation.

The duplicate registers shall belong to the congregation.

4. The said ministers shall in all respects comply with and be governed by the acts, statutes and laws in force in this province, 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 recovered, paid, applied and accounted for.

Ministers bound to conform to the law in force, and subject to its penalties.

5. This act shall be held to apply to the registers of baptisms, marriages and burials heretofore kept by the minister in charge for the time being of the congregation of the said church in the township of Hull, so soon as the same shall have been fyled and kept in accordance with the formalities provided by the laws in force in this province, in relation to registers of like nature.

Act to apply to registers already kept at Hull.

C A P . L V I .

An act to authorize the Sisters of Charity of the General Hospital of Montreal, to acquire property to a certain value, and to dispose of the same.

[Assented to, 24th February, 1868.]

WHEREAS the reverend sister superior and other members of the community of the Sisters of Charity of the General Hospital of Montreal, known as the *Grey Nuns*, have by their petition prayed that an act may be passed to authorize them to acquire and dispose of property to a certain value, over and above what they now possess, and, by reason of the great usefulness of their institution, it is expedient to grant their prayer: Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows:

Preamble.

1. The said community, in their corporate capacity aforesaid, may from time to time, acquire, by gift, will or other title, property of any nature whatever within this province, and may hold and enjoy the same according to the regulations and customs of their establishment; provided the annual value or income thereof does not exceed the sum of eight thousand pounds, currency, over and above the annual value of all property legally possessed by them at the time of the passing of this act.

Community may acquire additional property to the annual value of £8,000.