

Be it therefore Enacted, by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of Her Majesty's Governour, Council and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That all such Lands as have formerly been given to the Use of any Church or Chappel, and for which the Donors or Grantors thereof, in their Life time, have not made a Deed of Gift for the same, or otherwise refused so to do, and in Confidence of whose Promise, the Parishes have been at the Charge of Erecting and Building their Churches thereon, be and remain to the Use of the Parish forever, against all Claims and Pretensions of Claims made, or that hereafter shall be made, by such Donors or Grantors, or by his or their Heirs, Executors or Assigns, as firmly and absolutely, as if the same had been made over by Deed of Gift, Grant, or otherwise Inrolled and Recorded, as aforesaid.

And to the End it may be known what Lands have been so given to the Use of any Church or Chappel aforesaid, and made over and confirm'd By Deed of Gift or Grant, as aforesaid, the Grand-Jury in each respective County within this Province, next after the Publication of this Act, shall have in Charge to Enquire, by what Title such Lands whereupon the several Churches or Chappels aforesaid, within their respective Parishes, and in their Precincts, are held, and to render an Account thereof to the Court, who are hereby impowered, where any such Lands shall appear to be given, and not confirm'd, as aforesaid, in open Court to examine Witnesses *in Perpetuum rei Memoriam*, and the same cause to be Recorded in the County Records, which shall be deemed, adjudged and taken in all Courts of Record within this Province, as sufficient Proof of the Donation or Grant, as also of the Quantity of Acres given or granted, as aforesaid. And in Case it shall appear upon such Examination that Lands have been given for the Use of any Church, Chappel or Church-Yard, as aforesaid, but the Quantity thereof not mentioned by the Donors or Grantors thereof, as aforesaid, that then, and in every such case, the Vestry of the respective Parish where such Gift or Grant hath been made, and the Quantity not ascertained, as aforesaid, may demand and take of such Lands for the Use of the Church, and thereto adjacent, Two Acres, and no more, which they shall cause to be surveyed and staked out; and make Returns of Two Certificates thereof, One of which must be Recorded in the County-Court, and the other in the High Court of Chancery, there to be Registered *in Perpetuum rei Memoriam*, as aforesaid.

And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid, That where the Vestry of any Parish within this Province have, or shall think convenient to place either Church or Chappel of Ease within their respective Parishes, for the better Conveniency of their Parishioners, but the Owner or Owners of such Land chosen out and appointed by such Vestry, as aforesaid, for the Use of their Parish aforesaid, either refuse to make Sale thereof, or are unreasonable in his or their Demands for the same, or otherwise incapacitated by *Non-age, non sana Memoria*, or *beyond the Sea*, that then and in every such Case, the respective Vestries of the respective Parishes, shall apply themselves to the Commissioners of the County-Court whereto they belong; upon whose Application the said Commissioners shall forthwith grant their Warrants to the Sheriff of their County, thereby requiring him, at a certain Day and Time, to be

Titles of
Lands given
to Churches
confirm'd.

Grand-Juries
to inquire and
inform the
Courts, by
what Title
such Lands are
held.

Who may
examine in
perpetual
Memory con-
cerning such
Titles.

And ascertain
the Quantity.

And Purchase
Land for build-
ing Churches,
&c by Warrant
in Nature
of Ad quod
Damnum.

by