

A Supplementary Act to an Act entituled, "An Act  
 " for quieting Possessions, enrolling Conveyances,  
 " and securing the Estates of Purchasers."

Preamble.

**W**HEREAS, by the Act of Assembly entituled, *An Act for quieting Possessions, enrolling Conveyances, and securing the Estates of Purchasers*, or by any other Law of this Province, there is not any express Provision made how, or in what Manner, the Acknowledgement of any *Feme Covert*, named as a Grantor, Bargainor, or Donor, in such Deed indented or mentioned in the said Act, for the conveying Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, which lay within this Province, wherein such *Feme Covert* hath the Estate of Inheritance, or taken only to use her of Dower, where she resides out of this Province, shall be taken: For Remedy whereof, and to direct the Method of taking the Acknowledgement of such *Feme Coverts* for the future, it is humbly prayed that it may be enacted.

*Feme Coverts may dispose of Lands &c. lying within this Province, though themselves be at the same time in any other Part of his Majesty's Dominions.*

*And be it Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietor, and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's President, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That* from and after the End of this Session of Assembly, where any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, lying and being within this Province, shall be conveyed by any Deed whatsoever, wherein any *Feme Covert* shall be named as a Bargainor or Vendor, for transferring her Estate of Inheritance in such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, as aforesaid, or wherein such *Feme Covert* may have Right or Claim of Dower, only where any such *Feme Covert* as aforesaid shall, at the Time of her executing such Deed, reside, and be out of this Province, in *Great-Britain, Ireland*, or within any Province or Colony within his Majesty's Dominions, it shall and may be lawful for any such *Feme Covert* to acknowledge such Deed, and be examined apart from, and out of the Hearing of her Husband, before the Mayor of some Corporation within *Great-Britain or Ireland*, or before one of the Justices of the Supreme or Provincial Court of such Province or Colony within his Majesty's Dominions, whether she doth make her Acknowledgement of the same willingly and freely, and without being induced thereto by Fears or Threats of, or ill Usage by her Husband, or Fear of his Displeasure; and the Mayor or Justice so taking such Acknowledgement as aforesaid, and certifying the said Examination and Acknowledgement, by an Indorsement upon such Deed or Writing, under his Hand and the Seal of such Corporation, where taken before a Mayor, or the Seal of the Province or Colony within his Majesty's Dominions where taken; and a Certificate of such private Examination and Acknowledgement, so as aforesaid to be taken and made, shall be adjudged and deemed good and available in Law to all Intents, Constructions, and Purposes whatsoever, to bar such *Feme Covert* of her Right of Inheritance or Dower, as the Case may be, to the said Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, according to the Purport of such Deed or Acknowledgement, as fully and effectually as if, at the Time of executing and acknowledging such Deed, she had been residing within this Province, and had here made such Acknowledgement agreeable to the Direction of the aforesaid Act, and no further or otherwise; any Law, Usage, or Custom, to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.