territories; permission to Roman Catholics to enjoy the free exercise of their religion, and to their clergy to receive from the parishes their accustomed dues and rights; the restoration of the old French laws in matters relative to property and civil rights (except in the case of royal land grants); and the appointment of a council who, in conjunction with the British governor, should manage the affairs of the province (but they were not allowed to levy taxes, save for purely local expenditures). Numerous and violent controversies have arisen among historical writers regarding the purpose, nature, and effects of the Quebec Act. For various aspects of the discussion, see Garneau's Canada, t. ii., pp. 417-442; Sulte's Canada. Fran., t. vii., pp. 126, 129; Kingsford's Canada, vol. v., pp. 220-246; Hart's Quebec Act (Montreal, 1891); and Coffin's "Province of Quebec and the Early American Revolution," in Univ. Wis. Bulletins, Econ. Polit. Sci. and Hist. Ser., vol. i., no. 3, pp. 275-562.

The reference in our text to the provisions of the Act regarding religious houses, is to the opening sentence of Art. viii.: "That all his Majesty's Canadian subjects within the Province of Quebec, the Religious Orders and Communities only excepted, may also hold and enjoy their Property and Possessions, together with all Customs and Usages relative thereto, and all other Civil Rights, in as large, ample, and beneficial Manner, as if the said Proclamation, Commissions, Ordinances, and other Acts and Instruments, had not been made, and as may consist with their allegiance to his Majesty, and subjection to the Crown and Parliament of Great Britain."

21 (p. 93).—A reference to Jacques François Cugnet (son of François Joseph Cugnet, the noted lawyer; vol. lxix., note 18); he was French secretary to the governor, and legal adviser to the crown.

22 (p. 93).—Shortly after the conquest, Lord Amherst obtained from George III. a promise that the estates of the Canadian Jesuits should be given to him as a reward for his military services—a promise, however, which remained in abeyance until after the close of the American Revolution. About 1786, Amherst petitioned the crown for its fulfillment; but the royal council ordered (Aug. 18 of that year) that a commission be appointed at Quebec to investigate the extent, value, and condition of the Jesuits' estates, and the tenures on which they had been held. Minutes of the proceedings of this commission, and their final report, may be found in Rapport... de l'Éducation, 1824, pp. 59–162.

The commission failed to agree in their findings—the division apparently ranging the French and the English members upon opposite sides; the main object of their inquiries had been to ascertain whether the estates were, by right of conquest, vested in the crown. In 1799, Amherst secured a grant of the property from the