

*The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the first session of the twelfth Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada.* Quebec: P. E. Desbarats, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1825.

5 George IV – Chapter 7

**An Act to authorize an Enumeration and Return of the Population of the Province of Lower-Canada. (22d March, 1825.)**

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

Whereas it is necessary and expedient that an Enumeration and Return of the Population of this Province should forthwith be made, for the information of the Legislature thereof: May it therefore please your Majesty, that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province of Lower-Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great-Britain, intituled, "An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, 'An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec, in North America,' and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province;" And it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that it shall and may be lawful, from and after the passing of this Act, for the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, to nominate and appoint one or more fit and proper person or persons, resident within each County of this Province, to be Commissioners for the execution of this Act; and the said Commissioners shall be furnished, without delay, with a sufficient number of printed copies thereof, and of the Schedules thereunto annexed; and the said Commissioners shall, within the County for which they may be appointed respectively, make or cause to be made, in the manner herein-after directed, between the twentieth day of June and the twentieth day of September next ensuing the date of the passing of this Act, an actual and true Enumeration of the Population of this Province, according to the Schedules A and B hereunto annexed.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful for each and every of the Commissioner or Commissioners, so to be appointed as aforesaid, to require the assistance of, and employ, for the purpose of making the said Enumeration and Return, any Captain or Subaltern of Militia, or any Road Officer, within the limits of any Parish, extra-parochial place or Township, of any County for which such Commissioner or Commissioners respectively may be appointed; and it shall and may be lawful for such Commissioner or Commissioners, and the person or persons so assisting and employed by him or them, as aforesaid, within the limits assigned to them respectively, by going from house to house, to require of all manner of persons (those in actual service in His Majesty's Sea or Land Forces only excepted) true answer to make to each and every of the following questions, to wit: First, What is the name of the head of any family or Families in any house? Secondly, What is the whole number of inmates now in any family? Thirdly, What persons belonging to the family are now absent from the Province? Fourthly, What is the number of inmates of the family under six years of age; what is the number of inmates of the family of six years of age and under fourteen? Fifthly, What is the number of inmates of the family above fourteen years of age and under

eighteen years of age? Sixthly, What is the number of males, inmates of the family, eighteen years of age and not yet twenty-five years old, distinguishing those who are single from those who are married? Seventhly, What is the number of males, inmates of the family, twenty-five years of age and not yet forty years old, distinguishing those who are single from those who are married? Eighthly, What is the number of males, inmates of the family, who are forty and not yet sixty years of age, distinguishing those who are single from those who are married? Ninthly, What is the number of males, inmates of the family, who are sixty years of age and upwards, distinguishing those who are single from those who are married? Tenthly, What is the number of females, inmates of the family, who are under fourteen years of age? Eleventhly, What is the number of females, inmates of the family, who are fourteen years of age and not yet forty-five years old, distinguishing those who are single from those who are married? Twelfthly, What is the number of females, inmates of the family, who are forty-five years of age and upwards, distinguishing those who are single from those who are married? And all manner of persons who shall refuse to answer, or knowingly answer falsely, to any of the questions aforesaid, shall incur a forfeiture and penalty not exceeding five shillings, currency, for each and every offence, which forfeiture and penalty shall be sued for and recovered in a summary manner, before any one of the nearest Justices of the Peace, and shall be levied by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the offender, by virtue of a warrant under the hand and seal of the Justice of the Peace before whom such offender shall have been convicted.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the person or persons to be employed by the said Commissioner or Commissioners respectively, shall, within thirty days after the twentieth day of September next ensuing the passing of this Act, transmit the Enumeration and Return, certified by his or their hands, of the Parish, extra-parochial place or Township for which he or they may respectively have been empowered to act, to the said Commissioner or Commissioners; and the said person or persons so employed, and the said Commissioner or Commissioners who shall have personally made the Enumeration of any Parish, extra-parochial place or Township, shall respectively deposit a copy of such Enumeration and Return with the Rector, Curate or Minister of such Parish, extra-parochial place or Township, or in default of such Rector, Curate or Minister, with the senior Officer of Militia therein, with him or them, and their successors, respectively, to remain for the use and inspection of all and every person or persons concerned, and within ten days after the time so fixed for the transmission of the parochial, extra-parochial place or Township Returns as aforesaid, the said Commissioner or Commissioners for each County shall transmit a County Return in triplicate, in the form of the Schedule A, signed and certified by him or them, to the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or the Person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, one copy of which shall be by such Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, laid before each of the other Branches of the Legislature, within the first ten days of the ensuing Session, and the other be deposited in the archives of the Province.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the said Commissioner or Commissioners so appointed for each County, shall, on the receipt of the Returns as aforesaid, be entitled to and receive out of any unappropriated monies in the hands of His Majesty's Receiver-General of this Province, as a compensation for his or their services within their Counties respectively, after the following rates, to wit: for every inhabited house on the Return, in the Towns of Quebec, Montreal, and Three-Rivers [Trois-Rivières], and in Villages containing upwards of thirty houses, three-

penance, currency; in the Country Parishes or Townships, six-pence, currency. And the said Commissioner or Commissioners shall allow and pay, out of the monies so received by him or them, to the Captain, Subaltern of Militia, or Road Officer, who shall have assisted such Commissioner or Commissioners in personally making the Enumeration as aforesaid, for each inhabited house at the Enumeration of which such Captain, Subaltern or Road Officer may have assisted, one third of the rates received by such Commissioner or Commissioners respectively; and to any Captain, Subaltern of Militia or Road Officer, who may, unassisted by such Commissioner or Commissioners, have made and certified the Enumeration and Return of any Parish, extra-parochial place or Township, at the rate of two-thirds of the rate received by the said Commissioner or Commissioners respectively. Provided always, that such Captain or Subaltern of Militia, or Road Officer, shall first have been furnished by the said Commissioner or Commissioners, with a copy of this Act, the Schedule thereunto annexed, and a Certificate in the form of the Schedule C, distinctly marking the limits for which such Captain or Subaltern, or Road Officer is to make such Enumeration or Return, unassisted by such Commissioner or Commissioners.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that any Commissioner or Commissioners appointed as aforesaid, or any Captain, Subaltern of, Militia or Road Officer by such Commissioner or Commissioners employed, who, shall, in so far as they or any of them respectively may be concerned, refuse or neglect to make or cause to be made the Enumeration required by this Act, or shall negligently, wilfully or knowingly make a false Enumeration and Return, shall incur a forfeiture and penalty of twenty-five pounds, current money of this Province, over and above the forfeiture of the amount of any compensation which he or they may have received or otherwise be entitled to by virtue of this Act; and the said Commissioner or Commissioners, or such other person as the, Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, may appoint, shall forthwith proceed to make or cause to be made a true Enumeration and Return, as herein-before provided.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the Commissioners who shall be appointed by virtue of this Act, shall, at least fifteen days previous to their proceeding to the Enumeration as by this Act is directed, cause this Act to be publicly read immediately after Divine Service, in the forenoon of two Sundays or Holydays, at the Church-door of the Parish or Township in which such Enumeration as aforesaid is to be made; and in case there should be no Church in such Parish or Township, then the said Commissioners shall notify, by writing affixed and posted up at the most public places in such Parish, extra-parochial place or Township, as aforesaid, that they will, at a time to be by them in such notice fixed and mentioned, after the expiration of fifteen days' notice as aforesaid, proceed to take the Enumeration as by this Act is directed.

VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid., that the fines and forfeitures incurred under this Act, shall, except as otherwise it is herein-before provided, be recovered by Action in the Court of King's Bench for the District in which the offence shall have been committed, by any person suing for the same; and one half of every such fine or penalty shall be paid to the Receiver-General, for the public uses of the Province, and for the support of the Government thereof, and shall, as well as the monies which may be expended and paid by virtue of this Act, be accounted for to His Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, through the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury for the time being, in

such manner and form as His Majesty, his Heirs and Successors shall direct, and the other half to the Informer suing for the same, with the costs incurred in the prosecution thereof. Provided always, that if any Suit or Action be brought against any person or persons for any penalty by this Act imposed, such Suit or Action shall be commenced within six months next after the offence committed, and not afterwards.

SCHEDULE A.

Population Return for a City, Division of a City and Borough sending Members to Assembly,  
Village containing upwards of thirty inhabited Houses, Parish, Extra-Parochial place or  
Township.

Population Return,		Settled in		GENERAL REMARKS.
		FEMALES.		
		Fourty-five & upwards.		Married.
				Single.
		Fourteen & not Forty-Five		Married.
				Single.
		Under 14 Years of age.		
		MALES.		
		Sixty and Upwards		Married.
				Single.
		Forty & not sixty		Married.
				Single.
		Twenty-five & not forty.		Married.
				Single.
		Eighteen & not twenty-five.		Married.
				Single.
Number of the Family of more than fourteen years and under eighteen years of age.				
Number of the Family of six and under fourteen years of age.				
Number of the Family under six years of age.				
Number of belonging to each family, absent from the Province.				
Total of Inmates in each Family.				
Name of Heads of Families.				

Certified to be a true Enumeration and Return made by (me or us, as the case may be) conformably to the act for making an Enumeration and Return of the Population of this Province, having previously deposited a copy of the said Enumeration and Return with \_\_\_\_\_ in the said City, Borough, Village, Parish or Township (as the case may be) in the hands of \_\_\_\_\_

Dated at \_\_\_\_\_ 182\_\_\_\_\_

Signature { \_\_\_\_\_ } insert quality

SCHEDULE B.

POPULATION RETURN OF A COUNTY

settled in \_\_\_\_\_

POPULATION RETURN of the County of \_\_\_\_\_

General Remarks and Names of the person or persons who personally made the Enumeration and return of each place and with whom in each place a copy of such Return is deposited.		
FEMALES	Forty-five & upwards.	Married.
		Single.
	Fourteen & not forty-five	Married.
		Single.
Under fourteen years of age.		
MALES	Sixty and upwards.	Married.
		Single.
	Forty & not sixty.	Married.
		Single.
	Twenty-five & not forty.	Married.
	Single.	
	Eighteen & not twenty-five.	Married.
		Single.
Number of the Family above fourteen years and under eighteen years of age.		
Number of Inmates in the Family above six years of age and under fourteen years of age.		
Number of Inmates in the family under six years of age.		
Number belonging to each Family absent from the Province.		
Total number of Inmates in each Family.		
Names of Parishes or Places in the County.		

Dated at \_\_\_\_\_ 182\_\_\_\_\_

Signature { \_\_\_\_\_ } Commissioner

Certified to be a true Return conformably to the Enumeration and Returns made by the persons whose names are therein mentioned, by virtue of an Act for making an Enumeration and Return of the Population of this Province.

SCHEDULE C

FORM OF CERTIFICATE to be given to persons empowered by the Commission to make the Enumeration of any specified limits within their Counties.

To all persons whom it may concern, I or We (as the case may be) do hereby certify that (I or We) have appointed (insert the name and quality, and place of residence) to make an Enumeration of the

Population of (set forth the place, and describe its limits by known and well-defined boundaries) and true Return thereof to make to (Me or Us, as the case may be,) conformably to an Act passed in the last Session of the Provincial Parliament, intituled, "An Act to authorize an Enumeration and Return of the Population of the Province of Lower-Canada," of which Act and Schedules thereunto annexed, (I or We) have furnished (him or them) with copies, for the information and guidance of all manner of persons therein concerned.

Dated at \_\_\_\_\_ 182\_\_\_\_\_

Signature { \_\_\_\_\_ } Commissioner.