

*The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the second session of the twelfth Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada.* Quebec: P. E. Desbarats, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1826.

6 George IV – Chapter 8

**An Act for ascertaining the annual increase of the Population of the Province. (29th March, 1826.)**

Whereas a Census of the Population of the Province has been made in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five, pursuant to an Act of the Legislature passed in the fifth year of His Majesty's Reign, Chapter seven; and whereas it is expedient annually to ascertain the progressive annual increase of the population of this Province; Be it therefore 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 the 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 hereafter be the duty of the Clerks of the several Civil Courts of King's Bench or Provincial Courts in this Province, annually to prepare and digest from the Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, deposited in their respective Offices in virtue of an Act of the thirty-fifth year of the Reign of His Majesty George the Third, chapter four, a triplicate statement and return of the number of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, that have taken place during the preceding year in their respective Districts, distinguishing the number of males baptized and buried from that of females, and classing them by Parishes or Seigniories and Townships, or reputed Townships, or Settlements not comprehended in any Parish, Seigniorie [Seigneurie] or Township, and by Counties, agreeably to the form prescribed for that purpose in the Appendix to this Act number one; which triplicate statement and returns, the said Clerks shall respectively within fifteen days after the time by Law appointed for delivering the Registers aforesaid into their respective offices, lay before the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or Person administering the Government of the Province for the time being, and before the other two branches of the Legislature if the same be in session, if not, then within the first six days after the meeting of the ensuing session thereof.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that for this service the Clerks of each of the said Courts shall be entitled to, and have a compensation not exceeding the following rate, that is to say; for examining the Registers in order to prepare the Statement and Returns aforesaid, five shillings per Register, and for the draft and copy of the said general statement and return of the District, according to the aforesaid form prescribed in the Appendix Number one, accompanied by and including the Parochial, Township, Settlement and County returns, forty shillings currency; and for each additional copy of such general statement, and return of the District, accompanied by and including the

said Parochial Township and County returns, twenty shillings currency, which compensation shall be paid from and out of any unappropriated monies of the Province, under a Warrant or Warrants to that effect by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government of the Province for the time being, directed to the Receiver General of the Province.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be the duty of the Collector of His Majesty's Customs at the Port of Quebec, and in his absence of the person for the time being at the head of the department, annually, in the course of the month of December, to transmit to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government of the Province for the time being, a return in the form prescribed for that purpose in the Appendix to this Act Number two, of the number of Emigrants having arrived during the preceding summer at Quebec from the United Kingdom or elsewhere, distinguishing males from females, and the number of each destined for Upper-Canada, and of those intending to remain in this Province, copies of which return shall by the said Collector or Person as aforesaid, in like manner as here-in above prescribed, be laid before the two Branches of the Legislature.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that every Master or other person having the charge or command of any ship or vessel arriving at the Port of Quebec or other Port in this Province, shall under the penalty of ten pounds sterling, in case of neglect or default to comply herewith, within twenty-four hours after his arrival, deliver to the Collector or other officer for the time being at the head of his department, a return of the aforesaid form prescribed for the purpose in the Appendix to this Act, Number three, of the number of emigrants on board his ship or vessel, distinguishing males from females, and the number of each destined for Upper-Canada or elsewhere, and those intending to remain in this Province, and it shall be the duty of the Harbour Master or his assistant and when there is no Harbour Master, then the Custom House Officer first boarding any such ship or vessel arriving at Quebec or other Port in this Province, to deliver to the Master or other person in charge thereof, a printed form of the said return and on which form shall also be printed, for the information of such Master or other person in charge as aforesaid, this and the next preceding clause of this Act, to the end that he may be the better acquainted with his duty according to the requirements of this Act, which forms shall for this purpose be delivered by the Trinity House to the said Harbour Master or other Custom House Officer boarding vessels as aforesaid.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the penalties by this Act imposed, shall be sued for at any time within three months next after the commission of the offence and not afterwards, before any two Justices of the Peace in a summary manner, and shall be levied by seizure and sale of the goods and chattels of the offender, in virtue of a warrant to that effect.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the penalties by this Act imposed and levied, shall he and the same are hereby granted to His Majesty, His Heirs and

Successors, for the public uses of the Province and the support of the Government thereof, and that the due application of the monies arising from such penalties shall 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 be pleased to direct.

#### APPENDIX NUMBER ONE.

##### *General Statement and Return of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials in the District of*

Year.	Counties.	Parishes, Seigniories, Townships, or Cities.	Baptisms.		Marriages	Burials.		Increase of population, as- certained by the difference between Bap- tisms and Bu-rials	Total per Counties. — Increase of Population.	Remarks.
182	Cornwallis.	Sainte Anne, Riviere Ouelle	Males.	Females		Males.	Females			
			60	75	30	55	65	15		
	Devon.	Saint Roch, Saint Jean.	50	52	20	40	45	17	32	
			86	82	60	67	64	37	66	
			45	39	26	25	30	29		
			Total..		241	248	136	187	204	98

#### APPENDIX NUMBER TWO.

*Return of Emigrants from the United Kingdom, and elsewhere, arrived at Quebec, for the year*  
*one thousand eight hundred and (if at any other part or place,*  
*separate returns to be made accordingly.)*

From whence-	Emigrants intending to settle in Lower-Canada.		Emigrants intending to proceed to Upper-Canada.		Emigrants intending to proceed to Nova-Scotia, (or elsewhere.)		Total.		Remarks.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
For instance:									
From England,	250	275	500	550	100	110	850	935	
From Ireland,	350	375	800	850	150	175	1300	1400	
From Scotland,	150	175	300	350	10	15	460	540	
From Jersey,	15	18	15	18	—	—	30	36	
From Foreign Countries.	10	15	10	15	1	6	21	36	
	775	855	1625	1783	261	306	2661	2947	

#### APPENDIX

**APPENDIX NUMBER THREE.**

*Return of Emigrants from the United Kingdom, and elsewhere, arrived at Quebec, per the Ship  
Whereof is Mater, in the year one  
thousand eight hundred and*

From whence.	Emigrants intend- ing to settle in Lower-Canada.		Emigrants intend- ing to proceed to Upper-Canada.		Emigrants intend- ing to proceed to Nova-Scotia (or elsewhere.)		Total.		Remarks.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
<b>For instance:</b>									
From England	25	30	25	30	10	5	60	65	
From Ireland	30	25	35	15	6	4	74	44	
From Scotland	15	18	15	18	—	—	30	36	
From Jersey	10	15	10	15	1	6	21	36	
From Foreign Countries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	80	88	85	78	17	15	182	181	