

The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the fourth session of the fourteenth Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada. Quebec: John Carleton Fisher & William Kemble, Law Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1834.

4 William IV – Chapter 10

An Act to authorize the appointment of Commissioners for obtaining the necessary information preparatory to the introduction of the Penitentiary System of Prison Discipline into this Province. (18th March, 1834.)

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN.

Whereas it is expedient to establish the Penitentiary System of Prison Discipline in this Province, and to erect a Penitentiary therein, and to that end to obtain such information, plans, and estimates, as may enable the Legislature to make effectual provision for the accomplishment of the objects aforesaid, in such manner as may best promote the public good:—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 be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or person administering the Government, to appoint two persons to be Commissioners for carrying this Act into effect, and whose duty it shall be to proceed to the United States of America, to visit the principal Penitentiary Prisons therein, to ascertain the several Systems of Discipline adopted in such Prisons, and the regulations made for the internal Government and management thereof; to procure such plans, estimates, publications, documents, and information as they shall consider best adapted to promote the object of their mission, and to enable the Legislature thereafter to make effectual provision for the establishment of the Penitentiary System of Prison Discipline in this Province, in such manner as may best promote the public good.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that, it shall be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor,, or person administering the Government by Warrant under his hand, and out of any unappropriated moneys in the hands of the Receiver General, to advance and pay to the said Commissioners, such sum, not exceeding in the whole the sum of three hundred pounds currency, as maybe required to pay the necessary expenses to be incurred by them, in performing the duties assigned them by this Act, and in procuring the plans, estimates, publications, Documents, and information which, they are hereby required to procure.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the said Commissioners shall, within fifteen days after the opening of the next Session of the Provincial Legislature, lay before each of the branches thereof, a detailed account of their proceedings, under the authority of this Act, and of the information by them obtained, and their opinions as to the conclusions to be drawn from the same; and the plans, estimates, publications, and Documents procured by such Commissioners, shall be deposited in the office of the Provincial Secretary, and shall be public property and at the disposal of the Provincial Legislature.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the due application of the moneys appropriated by this Act, 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 direct; and that a detailed account of the expenditure of all such moneys, shall be laid before the several branches of the Provincial Legislature, within the first fifteen days of the next Session thereof.