

Laws of His Majesty's Province of Upper Canada, passed in the year 1826. York: Robert Stanton, 1826.

7 George IV – Chapter 14

An Act to provide for the Erection of a Gaol and Court House in the District of London, and to authorize the imposing an additional rate for that purpose. (Passed 30th January, 1826.)

Whereas the Gaol and Court House of the District of London have been recently destroyed by fire, and it is expedient to provide for the accommodation of the several Courts of Justice, and for the safe custody of Prisoners by the erection of buildings in a situation more convenient for the inhabitants of the said District: 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 Upper 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 by the authority of the same, That so soon as conveniently may be, after the passing of this Act, a Town shall be surveyed and laid out, under the direction of the Surveyor General, within the reservation heretofore made for the site of a Town, in the Townships of London and Westminster, in the County of Middlesex, in the said District of London, and a Plan thereof shall be furnished by the said Surveyor General to the Commissioners hereinafter named, and that in the said Plan or Survey, a tract or space, of not less than Four Acres, shall be designated as reserved for the purposes of a Gaol and Court House within the said Town Plot.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Honorable Thomas Talbot, Mahlon Burwell, James Hamilton, Charles Ingersol and John Matthews, of Lobo, Esquires, shall be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners for the purpose of erecting, upon such reserved tract as aforesaid; a Good and Sufficient Gaol and Court House, of Brick or Stone, for the purposes of the said District, either in One or in Separate Buildings, as shall to them appear most expedient, and for Contracting for superintending and paying for the building and completion of the same.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in order to provide funds for the erection of the said buildings, it shall and may be lawful for the Justices of the Peace of the said District, in General Quarter Sessions assembled, and they are hereby required to levy, by Assessment, to be made on each and every inhabitant house-holder in the said District, in the same manner and form as by Law any Assessment may now or hereafter be levied for any Public purpose in the said District, an Additional Rate of One-third of a Penny in the Pound, until the sum hereinafter authorized to be borrowed for defraying the expense of Erecting the said Gaol and Court House and all interest thereon shall be fully discharged.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Commissioners shall have power to raise, by Loan, at a rate of interest not greater than six per cent, from such Person or Persons, Bodies, Politic or Corporate, as may be willing to lend the same, on the Credit of the District, a sum not

exceeding Four Thousand Pounds, to be applied for the purposes herein before mentioned, and not otherwise, and that the bond or agreement, under the hand and seal of the President of the said Board of Commissioners, to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned and expressed, to be given for the repayment of such Loan under the authority of this Act, shall constitute a debt and charge binding upon the Treasury of the said District, but not upon such President in his individual and personal capacity, and that the Treasurer of the said District, for the time being, shall annually, until the Loan so raised, with the interest accruing thereon, shall be paid and discharged, apply towards the payment of the same not less than Three Hundred and Fifty Pounds from and out of the Rates and Assessments of the said District.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Commissioners, or a majority of them, shall meet at the Village of Saint Thomas, in the County of Middlesex, on the first Monday in the month of March, next, and shall then select a President and Vice President, one or other of whom shall preside at every meeting of such Commissioners at which any resolution shall be passed, or matter agreed upon, and that no act shall be binding which is not assented to by a majority of the said five Commissioners, including the President or Vice President.