

Statutes of Upper-Canada, Passed in the fourth session of the third provincial parliament (1803). From The Provincial Statutes of Upper-Canada: Revised, Corrected, and Republished (York, R. C. Horne, 1818.)

43 George III – Chapter 3

An Act to authorise the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person Administering the Government of this Province, to Licence Practitioners in the Law. (5th March, 1803.)

Whereas great inconvenience has arisen, and is now experienced by His Majesty's subjects in several parts of this Province, from a want of a sufficient number of persons duly authorized to practice the profession of the Law, and unless the number can be speedily increased, justice will in many places be with great difficulty administered; 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 from and after the passing of this Act, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person administering the government of this Province, to authorize by Licence under his hand and seal, such and so many of His Majesty's liege subjects, not exceeding six in the whole, as he from their probity, education and condition in life shall deem fit and proper to practice the profession of the Law in this Province; and that upon producing every such Licence to the Clerk of the Crown and Pleas in this Province, the name of such person so licenced shall be inscribed on the roll of Attornies of the Court of King's Bench, and each and every person whose name shall be so inscribed shall, after having been admitted a member of the Law Society in manner herein after mentioned, be authorized to practice the profession of the Law, as fully to all intents and purposes as any Barrister and Attorney now practices the same in this Province.

II. Provided always nevertheless, That before any person shall apply to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person administering the Government of this Province, for such licence as aforesaid, such person shall apply to the Judges of His Majesty's Court of King's Bench, and shall procure from that Court a certificate, under the hand of the Chief Justice, or in his absence, of the senior Puisne Judge of the said Court, that such Court is satisfied of the ability and fitness of the party so applying to be admitted to practice as a Barrister and Attorney in this Province.

III. Provided also, and be it further enacted That from and after the enrollment of any such person or persons under the authority of this Act, he shall offer himself to the Law Society of this Province, and shall offer to subscribe and conform to the existing rules and regulations of the said Society, and such Society is hereby required to admit him a member of the same.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Secretary of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person administering the Government of

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this Province to demand and receive the sum of two pounds, on the delivery of each and every such licence as aforesaid, and for the said Clerk of the Crown and Pleas to demand and receive the sum of thirteen shillings and four pence, for inscribing the name of each and every person so licenced upon the said roll.