

within this Province, where any Husband or Father shall absent from, and forsake his Wife and Children, or any Widow shall absent from, and forsake her Children, and leave them a public Charge; to apply to two Justices of the Peace, and by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of the said two Justices, to take and seize the Goods and Chattels, and let out and receive the annual Rents and Profits of the Lands and Tenements of such Husband, Father, or Mother so absconding as aforesaid, for and towards the maintaining, bringing up, and providing for such Wife, Child, or Children so left as aforesaid, and so soon as the said Seizure shall be allowed of, and confirmed by the Justices in their *General* or *Quarter Sessions* of the Peace, it shall and may be lawful for the said Overseers, or any two of them from Time to Time, and as the Case may require, to sell and dispose of so much and so many of the said Goods and Chattels at Public Sale, to the highest Bidder, and to apply the Money arising thereby towards the Maintenance of such poor Family so left as aforesaid.

Lands, Tenements and Effects of Parents or Husbands leaving their Children or Wives, liable to be taken for their Maintenance.

Overseers of the Poor to apply to 2 Justices.

Seizure to be allowed by Sessions.

Overseers then to sell and dispose of Goods and Chattels for that Purpose.

VII. *And be it further Enacted*, That in case of the Death of the Parents of any Child or Children, who have gained a Settlement in any Township as aforesaid, all and every such Child or Children, shall be supported by such Town or Township wherein the Parents so gained a Settlement.

Children of Parents deceased, who have gained a Settlement, to be supported.

VIII. *And be it Enacted*, That if any Town or Township, or Person or Persons whatsoever, shall think themselves aggrieved by any Proceedings had in Virtue of this Act, such Town or Township, Person or Persons, may appeal for Redress to the next *General* or *Quarter Sessions* of the Peace held for the County wherein such Town or Township shall be, or wherein such Person or Persons shall reside; and the Justices thereof are hereby required and empowered to hear and determine all and every such Appeal or Complaint, and to give Redress as they in their Judgment shall think equitable, and such their Order and Judgment shall be final and bind all Parties.

Townships or Persons aggrieved may appeal to the Sessions.

C A P. II.

An Act in further Amendment of and Addition to an Act made in the third Year of His present Majesty's Reign, intituled *An Act to enable the several Townships within this Province to maintain their Poor.*

3 Geo. 3. cap. 7.



HERE AS the restraining the Inhabitants of the several Townships in this Province, to meet only once a Year in order to make Provision for their Poor, is found very inconvenient; Be it Enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly, That

Preamble.

Inhabitants to hold two Meetings, if necessary, every Year, on 1st Monday of *April*, & 1st Monday in *November*. If Business not completed on those Days, to adjourn to one other Day.

That from and after the Publication of this Act, it shall and may be lawful for the said Inhabitants to hold two Meetings annually, if necessary, to make Provision for their Poor, and that the Time for holding the said Meetings shall be on the first Monday in *April*, and on the first Monday in *November*, and in case the Business to be transacted at the said Meetings cannot be completed on the said Days, it shall and may be lawful for the Chairman, with the Consent of the Majority of the Freeholders then present, to adjourn the same to the Day following, or to one other Day; any Law, Usage, or Custom to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

If Money voted for Poor at first Meeting is not sufficient, the Freeholders may vote a further Sum.

II. *And be it also Enacted*, That if the Money voted for the Support of the Poor for the current Year should not be sufficient for that Purpose, the said Freeholders in such their next Meeting shall be, and they are hereby impowered to vote such further Sums as shall be thought necessary to make good such Deficiency.

Overseers to account to Sessions.

III. *And be it further Enacted*, That the Overseers of the Poor shall for the future account on Oath, if required, before the *General Sessions* of the Peace held next after the Expiration of their Office, for all Monies raised and disbursed by them for the Support of the Poor.

Assessment in all Townships (*Halifax* excepted) by five Freeholders.

IV. And Whereas the appointing twelve Assessors for assessing the Sums voted for the Support of the Poor, is in many respects found inconvenient: *Be it Enacted*, That for the future the said Assessments shall be made in the several Townships (*Halifax* excepted) by five Freeholders, and no more; any Law, Usage, or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

In Case of Refusal of Freeholders to meet, & provide for Poor, the Justices in their General Sessions to amerce the Township.

V. *And be it also Enacted*, That in case of the Neglect or Refusal of the Freeholders of any Township to meet and make Provision for their Poor, as is directed in and by this Act, the Justices of the Peace, in the *General Sessions* held for the County wherein such Township shall be, shall on the Application of the Overseers of the Poor, amerce such Township in such a Sum as shall appear to them to be necessary for the Purposes aforesaid, and shall appoint five Freeholders for assessing the same in the several Townships, (*Halifax* excepted) and the Sum so amerced shall be levied, paid, and applied for the Support of the Poor of such Township; and if the said Assessors so appointed shall refuse or neglect to serve in the said Office, they shall be subject to a Fine of Forty Shillings each, for the Use of the Poor, which shall, on Failure of Payment, be levied by a Warrant of Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Person or Persons so refusing or neglecting, and others shall be appointed in their stead.

Assessors refusing or neglecting to serve, to pay 40s.

and others appointed.

VI. And Whereas in and by an Act made in the Eighth Year of His present Majesty's Reign, intituled *An Act in further Addition*

to, and Amendment of an Act made in the Third Year of His present Majesty's Reign, intituled *An Act to enable the Inhabitants of the several Townships within this Province to maintain their Poor*. The Fine imposed on the Overseers of the Poor for neglecting to issue their Precepts to the Constables of the several Townships, requiring them to notify the Inhabitants to meet on the Day appointed by the said Act, and make Provision for the Support of the Poor, is directed to be paid to the Treasurer of the Province; *Be it Enacted*, That the said Fine shall for the future be paid to the Treasurer of the County, for the Use of the Poor of the Township for which such Overseers so neglecting shall be appointed, and that the said Precept shall have respect to the Days appointed by this Act.

Fine on the Overseers of the Poor for neglecting to issue Precept for Meeting of the Inhabitants, to be paid to the County Treasurer.

Precept for notifying the Inhabitants to be agreeable to this Act.

VII. *And be it also Enacted*, That the Overseers of the Poor in every Township, shall enter their Proceedings in a Book to be kept for that Purpose, and at the Expiration of their Office, they shall deliver the same to their Successors.

Overseers of the Poor to enter their Proceedings in a Book.

C A P. III.

An Act to enable the several Counties within this Province to raise Money for Payment of their Representatives.

~~WHEREAS~~ *HEREAS* it is necessary that Provision should be made for defraying the Expence of the Attendance of the Representatives in General Assembly; *Be it Enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly*, That there shall be paid out of the Monies assessed, levied, and raised, in Manner as is hereinafter directed, to such of the Representatives as shall think proper to apply for the same, at the Rate of Five Shillings per Day for each Day during their Attendance in *General Assembly*, and for the Time necessarily expended in the journeying to and from thence.

Preamble:

Such Representatives as apply for the same to have 5s. per Day during their Attendance, and coming and going.

II. *And be it also Enacted*, That the Grand Juries at the Courts of *General Sessions of the Peace* held for the several Counties in this Province, next after each Session of the *General Assembly*, shall make Presentment upon the Application of the Representatives serving for such County and the Townships within the same, or any of them (except such Townships as shall have Power to hold a *Special Sessions of the Peace*) of all such Sum and Sums of Money as shall appear to be due to such Representatives so applying, for so many Days at the Rate aforesaid, as shall be certified by the Speaker of the *House of Assembly*, to be due to them for their Services in *General Assembly*, and the said Sums shall be raised, levied, and paid in Manner and Form, as is directed in and by an Act made in the Fifth Year of His present Majesty's Reign, intituled *An Act*

Manner of raising, levying, & collecting Money for that Purpose.

3. Geo. 3. cap. 6.