

C A P. II.

AN ACT, intituled, an Act for appointing Commissioners to superintend and direct the Maintenance and Support of certain Poor Persons known by the general Appellation of Transient Poor.

HEREAS the Maintenance and Support of certain Poor Persons known by the general Appellation of Transient Poor, are found extremely burthensome and expensive to this Province, and tend greatly to the Encouragement of Idleness and Vice.

I. Be it therefore Enacted, by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council, and House of Assembly, That from and after the First of May next ensuing, no Poor Person whatever shall be received into the Work-House or Poor-House in Halifax, or any other Place in this Province under the Designation of Transient Poor or Persons to be maintained from the Province Treasury, but each Town shall maintain their own Poor, agreeable to an Act passed in the Tenth Year of his present Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act for the Settlement of the Poor in the several Townships within this Province."

From the 1st May no Transient Person to be admitted into the Poor House.

And whereas it is necessary to provide a Maintenance for such Poor as heretofore have been deemed and received as Provincial or transient Poor, that their Maintenance and Support should be under the Direction and Controul of certain Commissioners hereafter to be appointed by his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief for the Time being.

II. Be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioner on such Appointment as aforesaid, and full Power and Authority is hereby given to the said Commissioners to take under their Care and Direction such Poor Persons as are at present maintained out of the public Revenue of this Province, and that the said Commissioners on being appointed as aforesaid, shall faithfully examine and inspect the various Discriptions of Poor Persons in the Town of Halifax, and on such Examination and Inspection to receive and take under their Care and Direction such Poor Persons now maintained as Transient Poor as to them the said Commissioners may appear to be without any legal Settlement in any particular Town within this Province, and that the said Commissioners shall and may either continue the said Poor in the Poor-House in Halifax or place them out to board collectively or seperately in any Part of the Province, or take such other Ways and Means for the Maintenance and Support of such Poor as to the said Commissioners shall seem proper, and least expensive to the Public.

Commissioners to be appointed by the Governor, to take charge of the Transient Poor.

III. And

Commissioners authorized to bind out Minors Boys until 21, Girls 18, and to pay a certain Sum of Money with them.

III. *And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid,* That it shall and may be lawful for the Commissioners aforesaid, by Indenture or otherwise to apprentice, or bind out to such Person or Persons as in their Discretion shall seem proper, all, or any of such Minor or Minors as now are included among the Transient Poor at present supported out of the Revenue of this Province, *that is to say,* Males until they shall respectively arrive at the Age of Twenty one Years, and the Females until they shall respectively attain to the Age of Eighteen Years, and the said Commissioners are hereby further authorized and empowered to make and enter into Indentures or Agreements under Seal with any Person or Persons for the Purposes aforesaid, and pay to such Person or Persons such Sum or Sums of Money, as to the said Commissioners shall appear a reasonable Consideration for the taking and bringing up such Minors or Apprentices in manner aforesaid.

Commissioners to apply to the Governor for Warrant or Warrants on the Treasury not exceeding £.500. for the Transient Poor, but should a necessity require it not exceed £.250. more first producing to the Governor proper Vouchers for such Expenditure.

IV. *And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid,* That from and after the Publication of this Act, it shall and may be lawful for his Excellency the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or Commander in Chief for the Time being, to draw by Warrant on the Treasury of this Province, from Time to Time for such Sum or Sums of Money as may be necessary for the Maintenance and Support of the said Poor, and for the apprenticing or binding out such Minor or Minors in Manner and Form as is herein before mentioned and directed, *That is to say,* that his Excellency the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Commander in Chief, shall on Application of the Commissioners aforesaid, draw by Warrant on the Treasury any Sum or Sums of Money not exceeding the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds for the Purposes aforesaid, and whenever, and so often as a further or other Sum or Sums of Money may be necessary for the Purposes aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful for his Excellency the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Commander in Chief, from Time to Time to issue other Warrants for the Purposes aforesaid, for any Sum or Sums of Money, not exceeding at any one Time, the Sum of two Hundred and Fifty Pounds on Application of the Commissioners aforesaid, they having first exhibited to his Excellency the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being, a true and just Account with proper Vouchers of the Expenditure and Application of the Monies by them before so had and received for the Purposes aforesaid.

On the Demise of any one Commissioner the Lieutenant Governor to appoint others.

V. *And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid,* That whenever, and so often as the Trust or Office of the Commissioner or Commissioners shall become vacant from Death or otherwise, that then and in such Case it shall and may be lawful for his Excellency the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Commander in Chief, to
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nominate and appoint other proper Person or Persons Commissioners aforesaid for the Purposes aforesaid.

VI. *And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Sum of Thirty Pounds be allowed annually, and payed to the Commissioners aforesaid out of the Treasury by Warrant from his Excellency the Governour, Lieutenant Governour or Commander in Chief for the Time being, for the Payment of a Clerk, and defraying the Expences of Stationary and Postage of Letters.*

The Commissioners allowed a Clerk at £30. per Annum.

VII. *And be it further Enacted, That every Matter, Clause and Thing herein contained shall be continued in Force until the First Day of July, which will be in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety One, and no longer, any Law or Statute to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.*

To Continue in force until 1st July 1791,

C A P. III.

AN ACT for reviving, continuing and amending the several Acts for suppressing unlicensed Houses, and for granting to his Majesty a Duty on Persons hereafter to be licensed; as also for compelling Persons retailing Gunpowder within the Peninsula of *Halifax*, to take out a Licence for retailing the same.

W H E R E A S it is expedient that the said before recited Acts which expired on the 31st Day of March last, should be revived, and that some Alteration in the Duty on licensed Houses as well as in the Manner of granting Licences throughout the Province should be made.

I. Be it therefore Enacted, by the Lieutenant Governour, Council and Assembly, That from and after the Publication hereof, whoever shall have or take a Tavern Licence, or Shop Licence to retail Rum, Brandy, Wine, Ale, Cyder, or other strong Liquors within the Province, such Person or Persons shall pay for the same, according to the following Rates, that is to say, all and every Person or Persons having or taking either a Shop or Tavern Licence within the Peninsula of *Halifax*, shall pay for a Licence of either kind, the full Sum of four Pounds yearly; and any Person or Persons having or taking a Shop Licence or Tavern Licence in any other Part of the Province (the said Peninsula of *Halifax* excepted) shall pay for either the one or the other of such Licences the full Sum of Fifty Shillings yearly;

All Persons To pay £.4. per Annum for a Shop or Tavern Licence and 50s. in all other parts of the Province.

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