

At the General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on the Sixth Day of June, 1770, in the Tenth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Third, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. and there continued by several Prorogations until the Eleventh Day of June, Anno Domini 1782, in the Twenty-Second Year of His said Majesty's Reign; being the Fifteenth Session of the Fifth General Assembly convened in the said Province. From Richard John Uniacke, The Statutes at Large passed in the General Assembly held in His Majesty's Province of Nova Scotia: A complete index and abridgement of the whole. John Howe and Son, 1805.

22 George III – Chapter 1

An Act to restrain Hawkers, Pedlars, and Petty Chapmen, not duly licensed to Trade, travelling to and fro through the Country.

Whereas many inconveniences arise by hawkers, pedlars [peddler], and petty chapmen, passing to and fro through the country to vend goods and merchandize, that it is a detriment to trade, and an encouragement to many idle persons, to avoid being employed in useful trades or husbandry; for remedy whereof:

I. Be it enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, that from and after the publication of this act, no hawker, pedlar, or petty chapman, or other trading person or persons going from town to town, or other mens' houses, and travelling either on foot or with horse, horses or otherwise, carrying to sell or exposing to sale in any house, or in any town or village, whereof such person or persons is not an inhabitant, except in any public fair or market, any wares, goods or merchandize, without previously giving bond, and taking out a licence, if at Halifax from the clerk of the licences, and if in any other county or district in the province, from the clerk of the peace, by consent of at least three justices of the peace for such county or district, in the same manner as bonds are taken, and licences for retailing liquors are granted, for which licence there shall be paid half yearly as follows: for every licence to a hawker, pedlar, or petty chapman, travelling on foot without horse or other beast of burthen, three pounds, for every licence to such hawker, pedlar, or petty chapman, travelling with one horse, or other beast of burthen, six pounds; and for every horse, or other beast of burthen, exceeding one, two pounds; and the number of horses or other beasts of burthen, when any, to be expressly specified in the licence.

II. And be it also enacted, that no person or persons shall expose to sale in any house, or in any town or village, whereof such person or persons is not an inhabitant, except in any public fair or market, any wares, goods or merchandize, without having obtained a licence as aforesaid, on pain of forfeiting all such goods, wares or merchandize, by him or them exposed to sale.

III. And be it enacted, that the whole of the monies arising from the duty or rate to be paid by every hawker, pedlar, and petty chapman, as aforesaid, together with two thirds of the fines and forfeitures incurred by offenders against this act, shall be appropriated for the

making, opening and repairing, the public road and bridges, through the province, under the direction of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief of the province, and the other third of the fines and forfeitures aforesaid, to him or them who shall inform against, and prosecute such offender or offenders for the same, and be recovered by bill, plaint or information, in any of His Majesty's courts of record in the province.

IV. And all His Majesty's justices, sheriffs, under-sheriffs, and constables are hereby strictly enjoined and required, to exert their utmost power to see that this law be duly put in execution.

V. Provided always, that nothing in this act shall extend, or be construed to extend, to prohibit any person selling fish, fruits or victuals, nor to hinder any makers of goods or their children, apprentices or servants, from carrying or selling the goods of their own making; nor any tinkers, coopers, glaziers, plumbers, harness menders, or other persons, usually trading, in mending kettles, tubs, household goods, or harness, from going about and carrying materials for mending the same.