

*At the General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on the Twentieth day of March, 1793, and continued by several Prorogations to the Twelfth Day of March, Anno Domini 1795, in the Thirty-Fifth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George The Third of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, being the Third Session of the Seventh 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.*

35 George III – Chapter 2

**An Act to enable the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, to appoint persons to solemnize Marriages, in places wherein no established Clergyman resides.**

Whereas great inconveniences have arisen, and do still exist, in many parts of this Province, for want of persons being legally authorized to solemnize marriages, for remedy whereof:

- I. Be it enacted, by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, that from and after the publication hereof, it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, to appoint such fit and proper persons as he shall think necessary, within any of the townships or districts in this province, wherein no regular or licensed clergyman doth reside, to solemnize marriages within such townships or district, between parties, both of whom shall have resided, one month at least, within such township or district, by licence or otherwise as required by the laws of this Province, and all marriages so solemnized shall be as good and valid in law, as if the same had been solemnized by any regular licenced clergyman; any law, usage or custom, to the contrary notwithstanding.
- II. And be it further enacted, that each and every person, solemnizing marriages as aforesaid, by virtue of this Act, shall, within thirty days after the solemnization as aforesaid, file with the Clerk of the Peace, for the county wherein such marriage is solemnized, a certificate thereof, under pain of forfeiting the sum of ten pounds for each and every offence.
- III. And be it further enacted, that the clerks of the peace in their respective counties shall record within three days, each and every such certificate so affiled, under pain of forfeiting the sum of five pounds, for each and every neglect, which fine of ten pounds, and five pounds, shall be recovered by bill, plaint or information, in any of His Majesty's courts of record within the province, the one half to be applied to the use of the poor of the township, wherein such offence shall be committed, and the remainder given to the person prosecuting therefor.
- IV. And be it further enacted, that such record shall be deemed, and taken, to be legal evidence of such marriage, in all courts of law and equity within this province.