

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 Third Day of March, Anno Domini 1796, in the Thirty-Sixth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George The Third of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, being the Fourth 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.

36 George III – Chapter 9

An Act to enable the Inhabitants of the several Towns in this Province, to raise Monies for the Sinking of Wells, supplying the same with Pumps, and for keeping them in repair.

Whereas the wells and pumps, made and erected in the public streets and lanes of the several towns in this province, are generally in great want of repair, and there being no law to compel the inhabitants of the said towns to bear their equal proportions of putting and keeping the said pumps and wells in repair; 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 inhabitants of the said towns, at their town meetings, to vote such sum or sums of money as they shall think necessary for sinking wells, and for repairing, and keeping in repair, such pumps as are now erected, and furnishing with pumps, and keeping in repair, such wells as are now made, or hereafter may be made, in the streets, and lanes, of the said towns, by the authority of this act; which said sum and sums of money, to be raised for the purposes aforesaid, shall be assessed and collected in the same manner, and at the same time, as monies are raised and collected for the support and maintenance of the poor, and by the same assessors and collectors, under the same penalties and forfeitures for neglect or refusal: and the said monies shall be paid into the hands of the firewards of the respective towns, who shall apply the same for the purposes aforesaid, and, at the expiration of their year of office, shall render to the justices aforesaid, at their general session then next ensuing, an account of the expenditure of the sums so by them received, and shall pay over to their respective successors, within ten days after they shall have been appointed, the balance, if any, which shall remain in their hands. Provided, that if any person shall think himself over-rated, he may appeal for redress to the next general sessions of the peace of the county or district; and the justices thereof are hereby required, and empowered, to examine, 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.

II. And be it further enacted, that in case the inhabitants of any of the said towns shall neglect, or refuse, to vote such sum or sums of money, as may be necessary as aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful for the justices of the peace, on complaint of any three of the inhabitants of the said towns, to amerce such towns in such sum as shall appear to them to be necessary for the purposes aforesaid: which amercement shall be assessed, collected and

paid, in the same manner as monies voted by the inhabitants of the towns as herein before directed to be assessed, collected and paid.

III. And be it further enacted, that, from and after the publication hereof, whoever shall be found guilty of wilfully injuring, or destroying, any pump or well, made and erected in any of the public streets or lanes of the said towns, shall, on conviction thereof, before any two of His Majesty's justices of the peace, forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding five pounds, nor less than forty shillings: the one half thereof to be given to the prosecutor, and the other half to be paid to the said firewards of the town wherein such offence shall be committed, for the purpose of repairing said pumps and wells within such town; and in case the party so convicted shall be unable to pay the fine imposed, it shall and may be lawful for such justices to commit the offender to the house of correction, there to be put to hard labour for a space not exceeding ten days, nor less than five days.

IV. And be it further enacted, that this act shall continue, and be in force, until the first day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, and no longer.