

IV. *And be it further enacted*, That the said Commissioners, or the major part of them, with the approbation of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, may and shall determine upon, and purchase, such and so many lots of ground in the town of Halifax, contiguous to the said lot of ground lately purchased for the range of public buildings, as may be sufficient and suitable whereon to erect a house for the accommodation of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being. *Provided always*, That the purchase money of such lots do not exceed the sum of one thousand five hundred pounds. *And provided also*, That the whole expence of building, and fully completing the said Government-House within, and without, with all the suitable conveniences, shall not exceed the further sum of five thousand four hundred pounds.

Purchase of lot of ground, whereon to erect the government house of the Province of Nova-Scotia.

V. *And be it further enacted*, That so soon as the said Government House shall be erected, and completed, fit for the residence of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief, and he shall have removed thither, the house and lot of ground now used and appropriated as the Government-House, shall be used and appropriated for the sitting of the General Assembly and the Courts of Justice, and such Public Offices as it will accommodate, or which may be built, or provided, on the said lot of ground.

Old government house to be appropriated to the sittings of the General Assembly, Courts, &c.

## CAP. X.

An ACT to compel the attendance of the Justices of the Peace at the several General and Quarter Sessions of the Peace, for the respective Counties of this Province.

**W**HEREAS great inconveniences have been experienced for the want of a regular attendance of the Magistrates at the several Courts of General and Quarter Sessions of the Peace throughout the Province, and whereas it is highly expedient that a sufficient number of Justices should attend at said Courts, to transact the public business of the several Counties, and to regulate the important concerns which are by law entrusted, and made subject, to their controul and jurisdiction:

Preamble.

I. *Be it therefore enacted*, by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, That, from and after the publication hereof, the Clerks of the Peace for the several Counties of this Province, shall, at every Court of General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the respective Counties, and on every day of the meeting of said Court, enter into a book, to be prepared for that purpose, the names of every Justice of the Peace who shall attend at such Court, and assist in the business which shall then be brought before the said Court, and if any such Justice of the Peace shall leave the said Court before the business of the day shall be completed, or without obtaining the consent of the major part of the Magistrates then sitting in said Court, his name shall not be entered in the said book for that day, but shall be omitted as though he had totally absented himself from such meeting.

Clerks of the Peace, at every Court of Sessions, to note in a book, the attendance of Justices at such Court.

Justices leaving the Court before the business is completed to be entered as absent.

II. *And be it further enacted*, That the Clerks of the Peace, for the several Counties where the Supreme Court usually sits, shall, on the first day of the sitting of the said Supreme Court, in the respective counties, next after any General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace for such county, return into the said court, under his hand, a list of all such magistrates, as have wholly neglected to attend at such preceding Sessions, and the several Clerks of the Peace for the counties, or districts, where the said Supreme Court does not ordinarily sit, shall, within six months after any General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace, for such county or district, make a list in manner afore said, of all Magistrates who shall have neglected to attend at such Sessions as afore said, and return such list into the said Supreme Court at Halifax; and if any

The names of Justices neglecting to attend Court of Session, to be returned to the Supreme Court, by Clerk of the Peace.

The names of Justices neglecting of duty, to be returned to the Governor, & removed from office.

Clerk to forfeit st. for neglect thereof.

Justices to be summoned to attend the Supreme Court.

Magistrate whose name shall be included in any such lists, shall not give to the said Court a reasonable excuse for his non-attendance at the said Sessions, the said Supreme Court shall, and is hereby required to make a return under the hand of the Chief Justice, or the presiding Judge of such Supreme Court, to the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, of the names of such Justices of the Peace as have neglected, without sufficient reason, to attend at such General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace, and every such Justice, whose name shall be so returned by the Supreme Court to the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, for neglect as aforesaid, shall, *ipso facto*, forfeit his office of Justice of the Peace, as fully as if he had been discharged therefrom by express Writ under the Great Seal of the Province. And if any Clerk of the Peace shall neglect to make such return to the said Supreme Court as aforesaid, he shall forfeit and pay for every such neglect, a fine of five pounds, to be recovered before any two Justices of the Peace, by him or them who will sue for the same, one half of which penalty shall be paid to the prosecutor for his use, and the other half to the Overseers of the Poor, for the use of the poor of the town or place where such Clerk shall be resident.

III. *And be it further enacted*, That the Sheriffs of the several Counties or Districts of this Province, shall, hereafter, at least fourteen days before the sitting of the Supreme Court within such County or District, summon all and every the Justice and Justices of the Peace within their respective bailiwicks, to attend at said Supreme Court on the first day of the sitting of said Court: and the several Justices of the Peace are hereby required to pay due obedience to such summons, and to attend at said Supreme Court from day to day, during the term, or until the Justices of said Supreme Court shall discharge them from further attendance. *Provided*, nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to the Members of His Majesty's Council, the Justices of the several Courts of Common Pleas, or to such persons as are Justices throughout the Province.

This Act passed, with a suspending clause, until His Majesty's pleasure was known, which has not yet been signifi-

### CAP. XI.

An ACT in amendment of an Act, made in the Third year of His Majesty's reign, entitled, An Act for the relief of Insolvent Debtors.

### CAP. XII.

An ACT for applying certain monies, therein mentioned, for the service of the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine; and for appropriating such part of the Supplies, granted in this session of the General Assembly, as are not already appropriated by the Laws or Acts of the Province.

Executed.