

At the General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on the Eighteenth day of November, 1806, in the Forty-seventh Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great-Britain, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. being the Firth Session of the Ninth General Assembly, convened in the said Province.

47 George III – Chapter 5

An Act for granting a Bounty on Dry Cod and Scale Fish, exported to his Majesty's Islands, Colonies, and Plantations in the West-Indies.

Be it enacted by the Lieutenant Governor, Council and Assembly, that every exporter of Fish to the West-Indies, shall be entitled to a bounty of one shilling and six-pence, on every quintal of dry cod and scale fish, caught and cured, by his Majesty's subjects, residing within this province, during the present year one thousand eight hundred and seven, and actually shipped on board of any ship or vessel, belonging wholly, or in part, to his Majesty's subjects residing within this province, for exportation, to any of his Majesty's islands, colonies, plantations, or possessions, in the West-Indies, before the 1st day of July, one thousand eight hundred and eight.

II. And be it further enacted, that to entitle himself to such bounty, the exporter shall produce to the collector of impost and excise, for the district within which such export shall have been made, certificates, on oath, from the persons from whom he purchases fish, that such fish was actually truly caught, and cured, by his Majesty's subjects, residing in this province; or, if cured without the limits of the same, that the same have been cured on their account; and such exporter, shall give bond to his Majesty, in double the value of the bounty to be claimed therefor, that the said fish shall be exported from this province, and landed (the danger of the enemy and seas excepted) in some of his Majesty's islands, colonies, plantations, or possessions in the West-Indies; said bond to be cancelled, on the return of a certificate, within nine months after the time of giving the same, under the hands and seals of the principal officers of the port or place at which such vessel shall sell or discharge her cargo, of the actual landing of such fish; or on proof being produced of the loss or capture of such vessel; and such exporter, shall also take and subscribe the following oath:--

"I, A. B., do swear, that I have shipped in the _____, C. D. master, bound for _____, _____ quintals of dry cod and scale fish, which I verily believe were caught and cured by his Majesty's subjects resident within this province, or cured on their account; and I swear that the same are truly intended for exportation to some of his Majesty's islands, colonies, plantations, or possessions, in the West-Indies, and that no part thereof, shall, with my knowledge or consent, be relanded. So help me God."

III. And be it further enacted, that the claimants of bounties under this act, shall be entitled to payment of such bounties in regular order of priority; and that the secretary of the province shall keep publickly posted up in his office a list of all claims for bounties under this

act, in which shall be inserted the names of the claimants, and of the vessel, and her master, in which the export of fish has been made, and the place to which such export has been made, with the amount of the bounty and the date of the claim; and it shall, and may be lawful, for the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief, to grant warrants on the treasury for the amount of such bounties. Provided, the whole amount to be drawn, does not exceed the sum of two thousand pounds, exclusive of any balance, which may remain in the treasury, of the sum of three thousand pounds, granted for the encouragement of the fisheries, in the last session.

IV. And be it further enacted, that it shall, and may be lawful, for all persons who shall be engaged in carrying on fisheries from any port or place in the province, to cure and dry their fish, on any ungranted or unoccupied beach or beaches, or other convenient places, on any of the shores of the province, and to erect thereon flakes, huts and sheds, or other necessary accommodation for that purpose, without being subject to any action or information, for intruding or trespassing, on such beaches, or unoccupied places. And that it shall not be lawful for persons claiming title, by grant, deed, license of occupation, or otherwise, to any such beaches, or other fit places for curing and drying fish, and not actually occupying or making use of the same, to prevent or hinder others from so doing; or to remove, pull down, or destroy, any flakes or other buildings, erected by such persons for the purpose of drying and curing of fish, during the time the same shall be actually used and employed for the purposes aforesaid.

Provided, that nothing herein contained, shall give, or be construed to give, any person or persons possession of such lands or beaches, or title to the same, against the owner of the same.