

At the General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on the Eighteenth day of November, 1806, and continued by several prorogations to Thursday the Fourteenth day of February, 1811, in the Fifty-first 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. &c. being the Seventh Session of the Ninth General Assembly, convened in the said Province. From Henry H. Cogswell, The Statutes at Large passed in the General Assembly held in His Majesty's Province of Nova Scotia: from the Sixth Session of the Eighth General Assembly, to the Fifty-Sixth year of his Majesty's Reign. John Howe and Son, 1816.

51 George III – Chapter 9

An Act to establish Grammar Schools in several Counties and Districts of this Province.

Whereas, the education of youth is of the utmost importance to society; and public attention to that object hath produced beneficial effects:

I. Be it therefore enacted, by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, that the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief, for the time being, by and with the advice of his Majesty's council, shall, and is hereby impowered to, appoint, during pleasure, and to remove as he shall see fit, three or more fit and proper persons in the several counties and districts in the province, the county of Halifax and county of Hants excepted, as trustees and directors respectively, for the establishing grammar schools in each of the said counties and districts, except as aforesaid.

II. And be it further enacted, that the said trustees and directors of the said grammar schools, in each of the said counties and districts, except as aforesaid, or the major part of them, when duly summoned, shall form a board for adjusting the business of the said schools respectively, and are hereby impowered to procure proper places whereon to erect buildings suited for the said schools, in each county and district as aforesaid, and to accept and receive donations for the erection of such building, and for the endowment of such schools, and to purchase and hold lands and real estate, in trust for the use of such schools respectively, by the name and description aforesaid.

III. And be it further enacted, that the said trustees and directors, or the major part of them in each of the said counties and districts respectively, except as aforesaid, are hereby impowered to procure and retain a master, and ushers or tutors, for the said schools, duly qualified and licensed according to law, and to make and establish bye laws, ordinances and regulations, for the government of the said schools, and to enforce obedience to the same by moderate fines and expulsions, or other public censures, as they may judge proper, and shall fix and determine the rates of tuition in the said schools; provided always, that no such bye laws or regulations shall have any force or effect until they shall have received the approbation of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being.

IV. And be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, from time to time as he shall see fit, to appoint one or more proper person or persons to visit and examine into the state and condition of said schools, and to report to him upon the same; and in case it shall appear by such report that any abuses exist in the said schools, the said Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, shall have full power and authority to rectify the same, by suspending or removing the master, usher, or tutor of the said school, or by making more or additional bye laws and regulations for the government thereof, as the case may require.

V. And be it further enacted, that the scholars in the said schools shall be taught English grammar, the Latin and Greek languages, orthography, the use of the globes, and the practical branches of the mathematicks, or such other useful learning as may be judged necessary; and the said trustees and directors, respectively, shall be, and they are hereby authorised and empowered to nominate and send to the said schools, any number of boys, not exceeding eight, to any one school, to be taught gratis, by the master and usher of the said schools respectively, and such boys shall be instructed in all the branches of education taught at the said schools, respectively, or in such parts thereof as the said trustees and directors shall direct, in the same manner as any other scholars; and on the removal of any such boys from the said schools respectively, the trustees and directors shall and may appoint and send others in their stead, so as to keep up at all times the full number of eight free scholars, in each and every of the said schools respectively; and the masters and ushers of the said schools respectively shall be obliged to receive from time to time, and to instruct as aforesaid, and also to place indiscriminately in the several classes with the other scholars, the boys who shall be so sent by the said trustees and directors; provided always, that such boys shall be poor orphans, or children whose parents or guardians cannot afford to pay for their education, and that the number of them in any one school, shall not at any time exceed the said number of eight.

VI. And be it further enacted, that the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds, annually, be included in the estimate of the ordinary expenses of the province, for each of the following counties and districts: that is to say, the counties of Sydney, Cumberland, King's County, Queen's County, Lunenburg, Annapolis, and Shelburne, and the district of Colchester, district of Pictou, and district of Yarmouth; which said sum of one hundred and fifty pounds shall be granted annually, for the payment of the masters, tutors, and ushers thereof respectively, as the case may require, the same to be drawn on the certificate of such trustees and directors in favour of the person or persons intitled thereto.

VII. And be it further enacted, that as soon as the said trustees and directors in any of the said counties or districts, except as aforesaid, shall certify to the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, that such county or district hath provided a building suited to the said school, and that they, the said trustees and directors have provided a master capable to manage the said school, who hath for six months

conducted the said school under their rules and direction, made and given for his guidance in the management of the same; that it shall and may be lawful for the said Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief, to draw by warrant on the treasury, for one half of the sum of one hundred pounds, in favour of the master or teacher of the said school, and so from time to time, upon the like certificate, in half yearly payments as aforesaid, for the use of such school, and also for the further allowance of fifty pounds in favour of the assistant, when the number of scholars in such schools respectively shall exceed thirty. Provided always, that all sums of money which shall be borne upon the estimate as aforesaid, from year to year, for the use of such schools, and which shall not be drawn from the treasury of this province, pursuant to this act, shall revert to the general provincial fund to be appropriated by the legislature.

VIII. And be it further enacted, that this act shall be and continue in force seven years from the publication thereof, and from thence to the end of the next sessions of the general assembly.