

At the General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on Thursday the Sixth day of February, 1812, and continued by several Prorogations to Thursday the Ninth day of February, 1815, in the Fifty-fifth 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 Fifth Session of the Tenth 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.

55 George III – Chapter 19

An Act to facilitate the passage across the Harbour of Halifax.

Whereas the using one or more steam-boats, for the purpose of conveying passengers, horses, cattle and goods, across the harbour of Halifax, would greatly facilitate the communications of the settlements in the eastern parts of the province with the town of Halifax; and whereas Charles Morris, Michael Wallace, Lawrence Hartshorne, Thomas Boggs, and others, have proposed to raise, by private subscription, a sufficient sum of money for the purpose of procuring one or more steam-boats, to be employed in transporting and employing the said boats upon the said harbour, shall be secured to the said Charles Morris, Michael Wallace, Lawrence Hartshorne, Thomas Boggs, and others, for the term of twenty-five years:

I. Be it enacted, by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, that it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, by letters patent, under the great seal of this province, to incorporate the said Charles Morris, Michael Wallace, Lawrence Hartshorne, Thomas Boggs and others, and all and every other person or persons who, in their own right, or as executors, administrators or assigns, of the original proprietors, at any time or times hereafter, shall have, and be entitled to, any part, share or interest, in the said steam boat or boats, so long as they shall respectively have any such part, share or interest, therein, to be one body, politick and corporate, in deed and in name, by the name of the Halifax Steam Boat Company, and by that name to have a succession; and to sue and be sued; to continue for the term of twenty-five years; and to have a common seal; with power from time to time to elect and choose a president, and other officers, as shall be, by the said letters patent, directed.

II. And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that if the said Charles Morris, Michael Wallace, Lawrence Hartshorne, Thomas Boggs and others, shall, within three years from the time of passing this act, furnish one good and sufficient steam boat, capable of containing and carrying at one time twenty passengers, and six horses, oxen or cows, and shall use and employ the said boat at all convenient times for the purpose of transporting and carrying passengers, horses or cattle, across the said harbour of Halifax, it shall not be

lawful for any other person or persons to use or employ any steam boat in or upon the said Harbour, for the aforesaid purposes, during the aforesaid term of twenty-five years.

III. And be it further enacted, that the sole right of using steam-boats for the purposes aforesaid, hereby secured to the said Charles Morris, Michael Wallace, Lawrence Hartshorne, Thomas Boggs, and others, shall continue for the term of twenty-five years and no longer.

Provided always, that if the said Charles Morris, Michael Wallace, Lawrence Hartshorne, Thomas Boggs, and others, shall not procure, at least, one goods and sufficient steam-boat of the above description within the time before limited, or if they shall discontinue the use of the said boat, and not employ it for the beforementioned purposes for the space of three months, unless prevented by unavoidable accidents, that then the said sole right of using such boats upon the harbour of Halifax shall cease and determine. And provided always, that nothing herein contained shall prevent any person from keeping and using ferry boats, as now practiced.