

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 Thirteenth day of February, 1817, in the Fifty-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. &c. being the Seventh Session of the Tenth General Assembly, convened in the said Province.

57 George III – Chapter 2

An Act in amendment of an Act, passed I the twenty-eighth year of His Majesty's reign, entitled, An Act to prevent the circulation on base and counterfeit Half-pence, and other Cooper Coin, and to establish the current value of English Crowns, Half Crowns and Shillings, in this Province.

Whereas, notwithstanding the provisions contained in said recited Act, many ignorant and evil disposed persons still continue to import and circulate as half-pence, large quantities of base copper coin: and current in Great-Britain and Ireland, cannot be obtained in this province, whereby the trade of the same suffers great injury and inconvenience: for remedy whereof:

I. Be it enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, that immediate measures shall be taken to obtain a quantity of good and proper copper half-pence, sufficient for the trade and circulation of this province, and calculated not to be under the weight of five penny weight and twelve grains for each half-penny: for which purpose one or more fit and proper persons, not exceeding three shall be nominated and appointed by the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of His Majesty's Council for the time being, to act as commissioner or commissioners in this behalf; and it shall be lawful for such commissioner or commissioners, when so appointed, to cause a quantity of copper, such is generally used for the copper coin issued from the mint, to be coined and stamped in England; each piece of copper, when so coined and stamped off, to be of the weight of five penny weight twelve grains, at least; and the device of the die to be used, in stamping and coining such copper, shall be taken from the Great Seal appointed by His Majesty for the use of this province—the arms of the United Kingdom to be on the one side and the provincial badge of distinction, by royal authority appointed, for the reverse of said great seal, to be on the other side of such copper coin, with such suitable legend or inscription as the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, with the advice of His Majesty's Council, shall appoint and direct.

II. And be it further enacted, that the copper half-pence, so to be provided and imported, shall be of a value not exceeding two thousand pounds of the provincial currency: and the said commissioner or commissioners shall cause the same, when so imported, to be deposited in the treasury of this province, and shall take care that the die or stamp used for such coinage, shall be deposited in such place and in such manner for safe keeping in

England, as the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief, for the time being, by and with the advice of His Majesty's Council, shall appoint and direct.

III. And be it further enacted, that as soon as conveniently may be after such half-pence shall have been so lodged in the provincial treasury, it shall be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief, by and with the advice of His Majesty's Council, by proclamation, to order such half-pence to be issued and circulated from the treasury, and also to appoint a time when all other kind of copper, coined or uncoined, except the copper coin issued under the authority of this Act, and those enumerated and made lawful in the Act of which this is an amendment, and such as shall be issued by royal authority for the use of the United Kingdom of Great-Britain and Ireland since the first day of January one thousand eight hundred, shall cease to be used, and shall no longer be tendered or received as half-pence in this province, under the penalty of incurring the forfeiture and fine imposed by the act of which this is an amendment.

IV. And be it further enacted, that any person convicted of counterfeiting or impairing any of said copper coin, or of uttering any counterfeited or impaired copper coin, knowing the same to be so counterfeited or impaired, shall suffer the same fines and penalties which any person or persons convicted of counterfeiting or impairing any foreign coins current in this province, are liable to suffer by the laws or statutes of the province in such case made and provided.