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At the General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on Thursday, the Thirteenth Day of February, 1823, in the Fourth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Fourth, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith &c. &c. being the Third Session of the Twelfth General Assembly, convened in the said Province.

4 George IV – Chapter 5

An Act for the further preservation of Buoys, Beacons, or Sea Marks, set or placed by authority, in any Harbour, River, Creek or Bay, within this Province.

Whereas, much injury arises from masters of vessels, mariners and fishermen, fastening their vessels or boats to His Majesty's harbour moorings, or to the buoys, beacons or sea marks, placed in the harbour of Halifax, or the entrance thereof, for the use of the royal navy, and for the general safety and security of navigation:

I. Be it enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, that if any merchant ship, vessel or boat, of any description, shall hereafter be stopped at, and fastened to, any of His Majesty's harbour moorings, or to any buoys, or beacons, or sea marks, set and placed by the authority of His Majesty's government, within the harbour of Halifax, or the entrance thereof, for the use of His Majesty's ships, or for the general safety and direction of ships and vessels, navigating and sailing within the same, the master, owner or owners, person or persons on board, and navigating, such merchant ship, vessel or boat, shall forfeit and pay a penalty, or sum of money, not exceeding ten pounds: to be recovered, with costs of suit, by bill, plaint or information, in any of His Majesty's courts of record within the province, by any person or persons who will prosecute and sue for the same: one half of which penalty to go to the informer, and the other half to the king.