

At the General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on Thursday, the Eighth day of January, 1824, 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 Fourth Session of the Twelfth General Assembly, convened in the said Province.

4 George IV – Chapter 1

An Act in amendment of an Act, made and passed in the fourth year of His present Majesty's reign, entitled, "An Act to regulate the Jurisdiction of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas within the County of Cape-Breton, and to fix and establish the Time and Places for holding of the said Inferior Court and General Sessions of the Peace in and for the said County."

Whereas great inconvenience has been felt owing to the law as it now stands authorising but one grand jury to be summoned for the northern and southern districts of Sydney and Arichat:

I. Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, that the sheriff of the said county do hereafter summon twenty-four persons, residing in each of the said districts before named, to attend the supreme court and sessions of the peace, which persons, so summoned, shall be respectively qualified to serve as grand jurors, as the law directs, and shall be liable to all fines and penalties for non-attendance, which the law at present imposes.

II. And be it further enacted, that the inferior court of common pleas and general sessions of the peace, shall be held at Sydney on the first Tuesday of April in each and every year, and the court of common pleas and sessions of the peace, shall be held at Arichat on the first Tuesday of May in each and every year. And the said court of common pleas and sessions of the third district, to be appointed, shall be held at such place as shall be appointed for that purpose, on the second Tuesday of May in each year.

And whereas, much inconvenience will be experienced in the new district, to be established within the county of Cape-Breton, in consequence of there being no arrangement made for the summoning grand and petit jurors: for remedy whereof:

III. Be it enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, that it shall and may be lawful for the chief-justice of the inferior court of common pleas for the said county of Cape-Breton, or first justice of the court of sessions in and for the said county, to direct and issue a precept to the sheriff of the said county of Cape-Breton, commanding him to summon twenty-four persons, residing in said district, to attend the said inferior court and the general sessions of the peace at the sitting of the said courts, in the said new district, to serve as grand jurors, and twenty-four persons to attend the said courts as petit-jurors, which persons, so to be summoned, shall be respectively qualified to serve as grand and

petit jurors in said district. And the said persons, so summoned, shall be bound to attend the said courts, and to perform the duties of grand and petit jurors thereat; and shall be liable to all the fines and penalties for non-attendance, to which grand and petit jurors are liable.

IV. And be it further enacted, that the said grand and petit jurors shall be drawn, summoned and returned, in the said new district, and the constables, and all other district officers appointed in the same, in such manner as such officers are summoned and appointed within the other districts in the province, and be subject to the same rules and restrictions.

V. And be it further enacted, that all writs, issued from the said court, before the passing of this act, and made returnable to the terms as heretofore enacted, and all recognizances entered into, or bail pieces taken in civil suits, shall be of the same force and effect as if this law had not been made.

VI. And be it further enacted, that the monies which may be necessary to be raised to defray county charges arising in the said county of Cape-Breton, shall be presented by the Grand Juries in the respective districts, and assessed, levied, raised and applied, therein, to the use of such respective district, in the same manner as monies are raised and applied in other counties.