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 34

An Act in amendment of an Act, passed in the thirty-fifth year of His late Majesty's reign, entitled, "An Act to prevent the Harbouring Deserters from His Majesty's Army, and the sale of Arms, Accoutrements and Clothing, belonging to His Majesty."

Whereas in and by the said act it is enacted, that if any offender under the said act shall not have sufficient goods and chattles whereon distress may be made to the value of the penalties recovered against him, or shall not pay such penalties within four days after conviction, then and in such case the justices before whom the said conviction is had, may, by warrant under their hands and seals, commit such offender to the common jail, there to remain for the space of three months, or cause such offender to be publicly whipped. And whereas, offenders under said act after conviction, and before the expiration of the said four days, have absconded, and evaded the punishment imposed by the said act:

Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, that, from and after the publication of this act, it shall and may be lawful for the said justices, before whom any conviction shall be had against any offender under the said act, to commit such offender to the common jail, after conviction and before the expiration of the said four days, unless such offender shall enter into recognizances, with two sureties, for his personal appearance before the said justices, at the expiration of the said four days, mentioned in the said act.