

At the General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on Thursday, First day of February, 1827, in the Eighth 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 First Session of the Thirteenth General Assembly, convened in the said Province.

8 George IV – Chapter 30

An Act for dividing the Parish of St. Paul, in the Township of Halifax.

Whereas the parish of St. Paul now comprehends a large extent of land, which has become very inconvenient on account of its great extent, and the increase of its inhabitants. And whereas, a number of the inhabitants of the said township have erected, built and finished, a church, which they have called or named St. George's Church, for the celebration of divine service according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England, in which a minister of the said church, regularly ordained and licensed now officiates; and at which a large congregation of the inhabitants of the said township regularly attend divine worship:

And whereas, the venerable Archdeacon Robert Willis, D. D. the present rector of the said parish of St. Paul, has voluntarily relinquished all claim he might have to any compensation on account of so considerable a diminution of his parishioners, and has, so far as he is interested in the premises, most willingly consented to the said division, as a measure advantageous to the inhabitants of the intended Parish of St. George:

I. Be it enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, that all the land, lying within the said township, and bounded as follows, that is to say: beginning at a point on the western shore of the harbour of Halifax, directly opposite to the centre and eastern end of the street or lane, called Jacob's street, which is the southern boundary line of the north suburbs of the town of Halifax, and running from said point westerly, along the centre line of said street to the end thereof; and from thence the same direct course, until it comes in a range with the centre of Upper Street, and on Brunswick Street, thence northerly along the centre line of Brunswick Street, until it comes to the centre of the eastern termination of the public street which leads along the north side line of the northern barrack square into the common, thence westerly along the centre line of said street, until it strikes the eastern line of said common, thence following the courses of said common line, northerly and westerly to the end thereof; and from thence to run westerly along the centre of the public road, leading in front of the buildings and premises of the late James Romans, until it meets the centre of the public road from Halifax to Brehm's Farm, until it strikes the centre line of said road northerly and westerly by Brehm's Farm, until it strikes the centre of the bridge over Smelt Brook, at the head of the north west arm, from thence to run west ten miles, thence north until it strikes the southern side line of Sackville parish, and the northern side line of Halifax Township, thence easterly along said line, to the shore of Bedford Bason [Bedford Basin], and to be bounded easterly and southerly by the shores of Bedford Bason, and the harbour of Halifax, to the place of beginning; all which described land shall hereafter be the

parish of the said church, now commonly known by the name of Saint George's Church; and all the lands lying within the limits before described, (except the glebe lands, and all other property belonging to the said church of Saint-Paul) shall hereafter be separated from the said parish of Saint-Paul, and be a parish, hereafter to be known and called the Parish of Saint-George.

II. And be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful, for the people residing within the said district, to meet for the choice of church warden and vestry men, and all other parish officers, which choice shall be made yearly, and at the same time and in the manner as is by law already prescribed, for the said parish of St. Paul, and all meetings, powers and proceedings, of the parishioners, church wardens, and vestry, and parish officers of the said new parish of St. George, shall be according to the rules and regulations set forth for the said Parish of St. Paul, in an act, entitled, "An Act in addition to an Act for the establishment of Religious Public Worship in this Province, and for suppressing of Popery;" and the minister or rector of the said parish of St. George, the parishioners, church wardens, vestry-men and parish officers, are hereby powered to act in the same manner, and with the same power, in all cases, as is prescribed in said act, and all other acts, made for the said parish of St. Paul, in addition to, alteration or amendment of, the same.

III. And be it further enacted, that the said church and building, so called St. George's church, with the lot of land on which the same now stands, and the burying-ground belonging to said church, with the buildings thereon, commonly called and known as the Dutch burying-ground, and the lot of land granted to said church, for the purpose of erecting thereon a parsonage house, with all the buildings thereon, and the lot of land, situate in the north suburbs, described Letter E number Three, measuring one hundred feet front, and two hundred and fifty feet deep, purchased for St. George's church in the year 1776, shall, after passing this act, vest in the church wardens and vestry of the parish of St. George, to be by them held in their corporate capacity forever hereafter in fee simple, for the use and benefit of the minister or rector and parishioners of said church, and for the support and maintenance of the church establishment of said parish, and for no other use, intent or purpose, whatsoever; any deeds, grants, trusts or conveyances, heretofore made, to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

IV. And be it further enacted, that the said church, and the lands thereunto belonging, as aforesaid, shall not be held liable to any mortgage, debt, charge or incumbrance, whatsoever, now existing, and the debts now due from the staid congregation, or which may hereafter become due, shall be liquidated, settled and paid, by the church wardens and vestry of said parish, out of the parish rates and assessments, or other income of said church, and on no account shall be made an incumbrance or charge on the real estate belonging to the same.

And whereas, it will be attended with present difficulty and inconvenience, if the inhabitants of the new parish, who hold pews in the church of Saint Paul, should be obliged to contribute and pay for the support of the said new church, of Saint George.

V. Be it further enacted, that for and during the space of twenty years, to be computed from the first day of January last past, the person or persons hereinafter named, that is to say – David Shaw Clarke, William Wilward, Ann Creighton, Elizabeth Masse, Elizabeth Herd, Ann Hughes, Mary Wood, John A. Veith, Walter C. Wilkie, Elizabeth Tucker, James Collupy, John W. Madden, Daniel Norwood, William Fennerty, Robert Whiston, Frederick Major, William Wells, Mary-Ann Burroughs, John Douglas, A. F. Jones, George Dammerum, Joseph Winniett, Adam Grieve, Thomas Maynard, Henry Linart, being inhabitants of the new parish of Saint George, each of whom now holds a pew, or part or share of a pew, in the said church of Saint-Paul, shall not be taxed, or held liable to pay any rate or assessment, for the support of the said church of Saint George; and the said persons so named, and their families, although they do not dwell within the parish, shall nevertheless, be assessed and pay towards the support of the said church of Saint Paul, during the same period of twenty years, the same as heretofore, in case they severally continue so long to hold a pew or part of a pew, in the said church of Saint Paul. And so in like manner, all persons hereinafter named, that is to say – Andrew Smith and brothers, John Tryder, Richard John Uniacke, Junior, Beamish Murdoch, Anthony H. Holland, Philip Holland, Mrs. Thomas Smith, Mrs Roxby, Nicolas Le Cain, Mrs. D. Clarke, Rebecca Miller, George Jost, Andrew Bauers, Thomas Bauers, George Thresher, Frederick Rhalves, William Carritt, Mrs. — Moshier, Henry Lockyer, Edward Knickle, Henry Gruber, James Walsh, Henry Spike, Mrs. — Harvey, Joseph Marchington, George Hughes, James Carter, Robert Grover, John Sheffer, and Daniel Sheffer, William Muncey, John Room, Mrs. — Evans, James Stratton, Henry Brehm, Mrs. — Walker, George Hoskins, Clement H. Belcher, Thomas M’Kie, Edward Longard, George Harverstock, Andrew Fulmer, who now hold pews, or parts of pews, in the said church of Saint George, and who are inhabitants within that part of the township of Halifax, which still remains as the Parish of Saint Paul; such persons, if they continue during the said period of twenty years, by themselves or families aforesaid, to hold pews or parts of pews, in the said church of Saint George, shall not be taxed, or held liable to pay any rate or assessment for the support of Saint Paul’s Church, but shall, notwithstanding they are inhabitants of the said parish of Saint Paul, be assessed, and pay for the support of the said church of Saint George, in the same manner and form as they would be liable, in case they actually were inhabitants of the said new Parish of Saint George.

VI. and be it further enacted, that whenever a vacancy shall take place in the office of rector of the said parish, the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being, having first received the representations of the congregation on the subject of their interests, and being made acquainted with their wishes and inclinations, shall name to the said congregation the person intended to be presented to the rectory of the said parish; and it shall be lawful for the said Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander in Chief, within fourteen days after such nomination, if he shall think fit to present the person so named to the rectory of the said parish, or otherwise to nominate and present some other fit and proper person as rector of the same; and to cause the person so presented, to be instituted and inducted, as the rector of said parish; any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

And whereas, the debts now due from the said church of Saint George, amounting to seven hundred pounds, which, together with the expence of rebuilding the parsonage-house, has put it out of the power of the congregation for the present, to make any permanent allowance to their minister:

VII. Be it therefore enacted, that from and after the expiration of ten years from the passing of this act, or sooner if the said debt shall be paid and discharged before the said ten years, the church wardens and vestry of the said parish, shall yearly and every year pay to the rector or minister of the said parish, one half part of all rents arising from the pews of said church, and also such further part of the said rents as the parishioners shall think proper to vote at any parish meeting.