From: British North America Legislative Database; University of New Brunswick bnald.lib.unb.ca

Ordinances of the Lieutenant Governor and Council of His Majesty's Province of Cape Breton passed in the year 1785. National Archives of the United Kingdom CO 219/1.

25 George III – Chapter 5

An Ordinance for regulation the Courts of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace within the Island of Cape Breton and its Dependencies

Be it Ordained and Ordered by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor by and with the advice and consent of His Majesty's Council and by the authority of the same it is hereby ordained and ordered that from and after the proclamation of this Ordinance there shall be held by the Justices of the Peace of the several Districts in the Island and its Dependencies within and for their respective District four times in every Year a Court of General Quarters Session of the Peace that is to day at Sydney in and for the District of Sydney at Louisbourg within and for the District of Louisbourg and at Arishat [Arichat] in Conway Harbor within and for the District of Saint Peter's on the first Wednesday in December, March, June and September.

And be it further Ordained and Ordered by the authority aforesaid that the practice and proceedings in the said Courts shall be strictly conformable to the practice and Proceedings of the Courts of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace in the several Counties of England and according to the common Law of England so far as the same are applied to the circumstances of the Island and according to the Laws and Ordinances of this Island not being repugnant there unto.