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 1787. National Archives of the United Kingdom CO 219/1.

27 George III – Chapter 1

An Ordinance against Persons Publishing Libels in the Island of Cape Breton and It's Dependencies.

Disallowed by His Majesty in Council 13th Augt 1790

Be it Ordained and Ordered by 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 if any Person or Persons above the Age of fourteen Years, shall be Convicted by Confession or by the Oath of one Credible Witness in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record, of making or Publishing a Lye, Libel or Scandalous report lending to the Defamation and Damage of any Person, or shall with intent to abuse and deceive others invent or spread any false News, such Offenders shall and may be Punished at the Discretion of such Court and any Party grieved by such Offences shall and may have his Action of Damages aforesaid against such Offender or Offenders.

Approved Ordained and Ordered accordingly in Council this 3rd Day of February 1787. in the 27th Year of His Majesty's Reign. J. F. W. DesBarres

Passed in Council 3d day of Feby 1787.