

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 2

An Ordinance relating to the Assize of Bread, and for ascertaining the Standard of Weights and Measures in the Island of Cape Breton and Its Dependencies.

Be it Ordained and Ordered by the Lieutenant Governor and Council. That all Weights and Measures used in Cape Breton and Its Dependencies shall be according to the Standards of the Exchequer of England, and that the Clerk or Clerks of the Market for each Town shall procure a set of Weights and Measures according to such Standard which Weights shall remain with them as assay Weights and shall be marked with the Letters G.III.R. That every Inhabitant of each Town respectively making use of Weights and Measures in the Sale of any Commodity shall in One Week after public Notice given by such Clerk respectively being or cause to be brought their Weights and Measures to be Assized for each of which Assay he shall have Three pence for his trouble and the said Clerk shall cause such Weights and Measures to be branded and stamped with the initial Letters of the Town where such Assay shall be made - and whomever shall thence forward Sell or Vend any Commodity by Weights or Measures not so branded or marked, shall forfeit for every such offence Twenty Shillings on Conviction before any of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace to be levied by Warrant of Distress and Sale And the said Clerks shall and are hereby empowered to inspect all Weights and Measures and once in three months or oftener visit every Inhabitant selling Publicly by Weight and Measures and shall have full power and Authority to Seize all such not stamped or branded as aforesaid and may Assay and mark and Dispose of the same for their use as a Satisfaction for their trouble therein, and if any Person shall be Convicted of Selling by Weight and Measures less than the Standard hereby Established he shall forfeit the Sum of Ten Pounds to be recovered by Bill Plaint, or Information in any Court of Record. That every Baker shall and is hereby required to mark his Bread with the first Letter of his Christian and sir Name, and upon failure thereof the same shall be Seized and forfeited to the use of the Poor of the Town where such Offence is Committed.

Provided that Persons thinking themselves aggrieved by such Seizure may within twelve Hours after such Seizure made apply for redress to anyone of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace who is empowered to hear and Determine the same that if any Person making use of Weights and Measures or selling Bread shall refuse admittance to any of the said Clerks in the Discharge of their Duty, he shall for every Offence forfeit the Sum of Twenty Shillings to be recovered before any one Justice of the Peace – 33. Geo: 2. Ch. 6. Sec. 1. – It is Ordained - that no Provision or Goods of any kind shall be Sold in Cape Breton or Its Dependencies by Steelyards, except the Article of Hay, under the Penalty of Twenty Shillings to be recovered against the Seller, by any Justice of the Peace - Sect:11. The Clerks of the Market are hereby empowered to inspect all Beams and Scales and also Steelyards used for Weighing Hay, and also Weights and Measures once in three Months at least, not only those used by the Inhabitants selling Publicly, but also those used on board any Ships or Vessels laying at Wharves or at Anchor in the Harbor, and the same to Assay Stay and

dispose of as before directed, the Masters of Ships or Vessels refusing admittance of the said Clerks shall be liable to the same Penalties as any Inhabitant in the like Case.

6. Geo: 3 Ch 5. – The Clerks of the Market in the several Towns in the Province shall Visit the bake Houses and the Houses of all and every Person selling Bread at least one Day in every Week, and shall make a report of their Proceedings, in Virtue of this or any form or Act or Ordinance, once a Month to some of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace within their District, who shall Certify the same at the next General Sessions of the Peace, and if it shall appear that the said Clerks have neglected their Duty herein the said Justices shall and may Fine the said Clerks in a Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings.

That every Baker or Seller of Bread shall make his Bread commonly called white Bread of the Flour of Wheat only, and if he shall make, use of, or mix with the said Bread the Flour or Meal of any other kind of Grain or any other Ingredient whatever or shall make, use of or mix in the said Bread any decayed or damaged Flour and be duly Convicted thereof, he shall pay a Fine not exceeding ten Pounds and be further Corporally Punished as in Cases of Fraud at the Discretion of the Court before which he shall be Convicted - Provided nothing in this Ordinance shall extend to hinder any Baker or other Person from making Brown Bread, mixed with Rye or Indain Meal that is not damaged and sell the same as such.

That for the future all Fines & forfeitures incurred on the foregoing Ordinance that be applied one half to the Clerks of the Market or Informer and the other half to the Poor of the Town where the offence shall have been Committed.

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

Passed in Council
this 3d Feby 1787. }

(Signed) Alexr Haire
Geo: Rodgers.
Ranna Cossit
Geo: Moore. }