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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 6

An Ordinance to prevent Trespasses upon Crown Lands in Cape Breton.

Whereas Sundry evil minded Persons have presumed not only to take Possession of ungranted Lands in the Island of Cape Breton and Its Dependencies, but also without leave from Government to encourage ignorant Persons to settle on such Lands without obtaining any Grant thereof - which Practices are highly Offensive to the honor and Dignity of the Crown.

Be it therefore 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 any Persons Convicted of either Possessing themselves of any ungranted Lands in this Government, or that shall presume to place thereon any Inhabitants or occupy such Lands in any manner whatever without leave in writing first obtained for that purpose from the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Commander in Chief for the Time being may and shall be prosecuted for the same by Bail, Plaint, or Information in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record in this Government and upon due Conviction thereof by the Oath of one Credible Witness shall be adjudged to forfeit and Pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds.

Approved Ordained and Ordered accordingly in Council the 16th Day of February 1787. in the 27th Year of His Majesty's Reign.

J. F. W. DesBarres

Passed in Council the 16th Feby 1787.

(Signed) Alexr Haire.

Geo: Rodgers Ranna Cossit

Geo: Moore.