

An Ordinance for the more 79
Effectually preventing Damages
by Unseasonably burning or setting
fire to the Woods Under Brush
&c. &c.

Whereas much Damage to the
Timber in this Island and its Dependencies as
Well as to the Houses, Hay, Fences and other
Property of Individuals have Arisen in Consequence
of the Woods being set fire to. at improper seasons
of the Year. And Whereas, in the present
situation of this Infant Settlement it appears
necessary that such Regulations should be made
as will be most Convenient and Expedient for
Clearing of Land, with the least Risk in the Spreading
of Fire in the Woods Marsh Lands, Houses, and
Habitations of the Settlers.

Be it therefore Ordained, and Ordered
By His Honor Lieutenant General Despard
President of His Majesty's Council for the
said Island, And by and with the Consent and
Authority of the said Council. It is Ordained
and Ordered, That the Justices in their general
Sessions of the Peace, which shall next happen
after the Publication here of in the Respective
Districts in this Island and its Dependencies
shall give it in Charge to the grand Juries
then and there Summoned to settle and Establish
such

Rules and Regulations within their Districts
Respectively as to them may appear most
Expedient and Effectual to be observed and followed
by the several Inhabitants within the said Districts
for preventing Damage by setting fire to and burning
the Woods Under Brush and Marsh Lands at
unseasonable times with as little Prejudice as
possible to the Clearing of Lands in the different
Settlements in this Island and its Dependencies.

And such Rules and Regulations so settled
and established by the said Grand Juries and
Approved of by the said Justices in their respective
Sessions shall be and are hereby Declared to be
Established Rules and Regulations to be observed
and followed by the Inhabitants in the respective
Districts for and during Twelve Months thereafter
And until other Regulations shall in like manner
be made to supersede them.

And We it also Ordained, and Ordered
by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Justices
in their respective Sessions as aforesaid, shall
be and are hereby Impowered to select and
Adopt such part or parts of the Regulations
proposed by the Grand Juries, as to them shall
seem most fit Expedient, and Effectual to the
purposes intended. And shall settle and appoint
such Pains and Penalties to be inflicted upon
such Person or Persons who shall neglect or
refuse to observe and abide by the Rules
and Regulations so settled and established

as

Afore said as to them shall Appear Just and Equitable.

Provided Always that such Pains and Penalties shall not Exceed the sum of Five Pound for any one Offence, nor more than Three Months Imprisonment, And that the Prosecution for any Offence Against this Ordinance shall be Commenced and Prosecuted by Information before the next Supreme Court or General Sessions of the Peace. Which ever next shall happen ensuing the Commission of the Offence.

And Be it further Ordained and Ordered by the Authority Afore said, That every Fine Imposed in Consequence of any Prosecution for Breaches of this Ordinance shall be Appropriate to the general Improvement of the Roads and Highways in this Island and its Dependences.

John Despard Lieutenant General

Passed in Council
the 2d day of June
One Thousand Eight
Hundred and Six -

Commander in Cape Breton