

*Acts of the General Assembly of His Majesty's Province of Lower Canada passed in the year 1792.* Quebec: William Vondenvelden, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1792.

33 George III – Chapter 2

**An Act to permit the importation of Wampum, from the Neighbouring States by the Inland communication of Lake Champlain, and the River Richelieu or Sorel.**

Whereas the Article of Wampum, in the form of Beeds, Moons or shells and hair pipes, is indispensably necessary in the Indian Trade carried on from this Province to the western Country, and Whereas the said Articles of Wampum in the form of Beeds, Moons or Shells not being the product or manufactory of any part of the British Dominions, can only be had from the neighbouring States of which it is the product. Be it therefore enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Legislative Council and the Assembly of Lower Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great Britain intituled "*An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth Year of His Majesty's Reign*" intituled "*An Act making more effectual Provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec in North America and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province.*" That from and after the publication of this Act, it shall be lawful to his Majesty's Subjects to import from the Neighbouring States by the Inland communication of Lake Champlain and the River Richelieu or Sorel, the article of Wampum, in the form of Beeds, Moons or Shells and Hair pipes of such nature and kind as are used in the Indian trade to the Western Country.

II. And in order to guard against the clandestine importation of such articles of Merchandise as are by Law prohibited, which articles might be packed with Wampum. Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that every person importing Wampum by the said communication, shall make entry thereof at his Majesty's Custom House at the Port of St. John's, and any Wampum coming by the said communication, which shall be brought past or beyond the said Port without such entry being made, the said Wampum shall be forfeited, and it shall be lawful to and for the Custom House Officer or Officers at St. John's, to inspect and examine all packages said to contain Wampum, and should there be found therein any prohibited Goods, Wares or Merchandise, the whole of the Wampum so packed, shall be forfeited in like manner as prohibited Goods, Wares or Merchandise.

III. And it is hereby also enacted by the same authority, that it shall be the duty of the Officers of the Customs to execute this Act, in the manner of executing any of the Statutes made for the regulation of plantation Trade, and they shall be entitled to all such aid and assistance therein, as they are entitled to and may demand, under all or any of the Statutes aforesaid, and the forfeitures by this Act inflicted, shall and may be recovered and divided in the same manner and form, and by the same Rules and regulations in all respects as other forfeitures for offences against the Law, relating to the Customs and trade of His Majesty's Colonies in America, shall or may by any Act or Acts of Parliament be sued for, prosecuted, recovered and divided. And the fines, forfeitures, and penalties hereby granted and reserved for the Crown, are to be for the Public uses

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of this Province, and for the support of the Government thereof, and shall be accounted for to the Crown through the Commissioners of the Royal Treasury for the time being, as the Crown shall direct.