

*The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the first session of the Third Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada.* Quebec: P. E. Desbarats, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1801.

41 George III – Chapter 9

**An Act for discontinuing the Judgment which has been required by Law to be given against Women convicted of certain Crimes, and substituting another Judgment in lieu thereof. (8th April, 1801)**

Whereas it is expedient, that the Judgment which has been required by Law, to be given and awarded against any Woman or Women, in the cases of High Treason or of Petit Treason, should be no longer continued, Be it there ore enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province 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 at an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, An Act for 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," and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that from and after the passing of this Act. The Judgment to be given and awarded, against any Woman or Women, convicted of the Crime of High Treason or of the Crime of Petit Treason, or of abetting, procuring or counselling any Petit Treason, shall not be, that such Woman or Women, shall severally be drawn to the place of Execution, and be there burned to death, but that such Woman or Women, being so convicted, as aforesaid, shall be, severally, drawn to the place of Execution, and be there hanged by the neck, until the or they be severally dead; any Law or Usage to the contrary thereof, in any wise, notwithstanding.

II. And he it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any Woman or Women shall be convicted of the Crime of Petit Treason or of abetting, procuring or counselling any Petit Treason, then and in every such case, such Woman or Women, shall be subject and liable to such further pains and Penalties, as are particularly specified and declared, with respect to persons convicted of Wilful Murder in an Act passed in the twenty fifth year of the Reign of King George the Second, intituled, "An Act for the better preventing the Horrid Crime of Murder." And the Court before whom any such Woman or Women, shall be convicted, shall pass sentence at such time and give such Orders, with respect to the time of Execution, the disposal of the convicts body after Execution, and all such other matters or things as are directed to be given by the said Act, with respect to persons convicted of Wilful Murder.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that whenever any Woman or Women, shall be convicted of the Crime of High Treason or of the Crime of Petit treason, or of abetting, procuring or counselling any Petit Treason, and Judgment shall be given thereon, according to the Direction of this Act, then and in every such case, such Woman or Women, being so attainted of such Crimes respectively, shall be subject and liable to such and the like

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Forfeitures and corruption of Blood, as they severally would have been, in case they had been severally attainted of the like Crimes, before the passing of this Act.