

The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the first session of the fourth Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada. Quebec: P. E. Desbarats, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1805.

45 George III – Chapter 6

An Act for applying the Sum of One Thousand Pounds, out of any unappropriated monies in the hands of his Majesty's Receiver General, towards the improvement of the inland navigation of this Province." (25th March, 1805.)

Most Gracious Sovereign,

Whereas the improvement of the inland navigation, would be of essential benefit to Upper and Lower Canada, by facilitating and increasing the commerce of both Provinces, and in consequence, the external navigation thereof would be extended, and whereas it is at present impossible from the nature of the rapids in the river Saint Lawrence, to calculate the expence which may be requisite for effectual improvement in that respect, but it being desirable and proper, that an experiment should be made upon the rapids, below La Chine, in order to ascertain the practicability of such improvement, and to furnish the means of making a calculation, or estimate of the probable general expence thereof; May it therefore please your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it 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 of 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 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 it shall and may be lawful, to and for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government of this Province, to nominate and appoint three Commissioners, by an Instrument under his Hand Seal at Arms, and to them or to any two of them, to issue by Warrant or Warrants under his Hand and Seal, directed to his Majesty's Receiver General of this Province, a sum or sums of money, not exceeding in the whole, one thousand Pounds, current money, out of any unappropriated monies which now are or hereafter may be in the hands of the said Receiver General, and which have been or shall be levied or collected under any Act or Acts of the Legislature thereof: and such sum or sums, so issued, shall be applied towards the purpose of clearing the channel of the rapids of the river Saint Lawrence, between La Chine and the City of Montreal: and otherwise towards improving the same, in such manner and by such means, as shall, by the said Commissioners or any two of them, be considered most proper and useful for effectuating the purposes abovesaid.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if there be not unappropriated monies in the hands of the said Receiver General, sufficient to cover the issue of the said sum of one Thousand Pounds, at such time or times as will admit of the same being applied

during the ensuing summer, to the purposes of this Act then and in such case, the said sum or any part thereof not so covered, shall and may be borrowed and issued from any monies appropriated by any Act or Acts of the Legislature of this Province, which have not been expended, or that shall not be wanted for expenditure, before the next Session of the said Legislature: and the sum so borrowed and issued, shall be replaced and repaid out of the first unappropriated monies which shall come into the hands of the said Receiver General, from any Duties levied or collected as aforesaid, before the next Session, or failing that, shall be, otherwise provided for, by a Law to that effect.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the said Commissioners, or any two of them, shall at the next Session of the Legislature, lay before the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government of this Province, the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly, a statement of the expenditure of the said one Thousand Pounds, or such part thereof, as shall be then expended; and an estimate amount which from their then experience and the information they may have collected, will, in their opinion, be necessary for the effectual improvement of the internal navigation of the rapids of the River Saint Lawrence, within this Province, as well in respect to the descent of scows and rafts, as the ascent of batteaux and other conveyances.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the due application of the monies aforesaid, pursuant to the directions of this Act, shall be accounted for to his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, through the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's, Treasury in such manner and form, as his Majesty shall direct.