

The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the fourth session of the seventh Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada. Quebec: P. E. Desbarats, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1813.

53 George III – Chapter 3

An Act to extend the Provisions of an act made and passed in the fifty-second year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act to facilitate the circulation of Army Bills," and to make further regulations respecting the same. (15th February, 1813.)

Whereas an act was made and passed in the fifty-second year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act to facilitate the circulation of Army Bills," And whereas it appears by the message of the Governor in Chief to the House of Assembly, of the eighth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, that the exigencies of the Public service have rendered it indispensably necessary for him, as Commander of the Forces to direct an issue of Army Bills to be made, to a greater amount than two hundred and fifty thousand Pounds provided for by the said act, and that the further exigencies of the Public service may render a further issue indispensably necessary; and whereas it is expedient to subject such Army Bills, as have been issued as well as such as may be hereafter issued, to the provisions, regulations, and enactments of the afore recited act, and to make further provisions and regulations respecting the same; Be it therefore 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, passed in the thirty-first year of His Majesty's Reign, 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 move 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 all Army Bills which have been so issued after the time at which the Army Bills then issued amounted to the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand Pounds, and each and every of them, and all such Army Bills as shall be issued during the next twelve months, from and after the passing of this act, shall be deemed and taken to be within the Purview of the act made and passed in the fifty-second year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act to facilitate the circulation of Army Bills," And that all the provisions, regulations and enactments in the said last mentioned act contained, and each and every of them, shall be applied and put in force in respect to all and every such Army Bills so issued, or that may hereafter be issued, as fully and effectually to all intents and purposes as if the same were severally and separately repeated and herein recited, and made part of this act under the restrictions herein after mentioned.

II. And it is hereby enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government for the time being, and each of them is hereby authorised and empowered from time to time, and at all times, to pay and allow, or caused to be paid and allowed, out of all and every and any the monies, Customs, Taxes and Revenues of this Province, and in preference to all other claims and demands whatsoever, all such interest at the rate of four pence per one hundred Pounds per diem, as shall arise and grow due soon all and every and any Army Bill or Bills, which have been issued, or which shall hereafter be issued.

III. Provided always and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the sum so to be paid out of and from the Customs, Taxes and Revenues aforesaid, for interest as aforesaid, shall not in the whole and together exceed the sum of fifteen thousand Pounds, currency, per annum.

IV. Provided also and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the amount of Army Bills in circulation as well those already issued as such as may be hereafter issued, shall not at any one period, exceed the sum of five hundred thousand Pounds, currency.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that interest upon such Army Bills as have been or shall hereafter be issued, shall run from the day of the date of such Bill or Bills, until the same shall be paid, and that the holder or holders of every such Bill or Bills shall be intitled to demand and receive payment of all such interest at stated periods, once in every six months, at the Army Bill Office in the City of Quebec, and further that Public notification shall be given in the Quebec Gazette immediately after the passing of this act, by order of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or the Person administering the Government for the time being, of the periods at which such payments shall be made.

VI. And whereas it is expedient in order that the Public confidence in such Army Bills may remain undiminished, that the holders thereof may be assured of the punctual payment of all interest that may become due and payable on Army Bills, and whereas the sum of fifteen thousand Pounds per annum herein before provided may not suffice for the full payment thereof on the whole amount of Bills so issued and to be issued, Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the provisions, regulations and enactments of the act herein before recited, intituled, "An Act to facilitate the circulation of Army Bills," shall not extend or be construed to extend to a greater amount of Army Bills in circulation at any one time, during the next twelve months after the passing of this act, than two hundred and fifty thousand Pounds, currency, unless Public notification shall be given in the Quebec Gazette within one month after the passing of this act by the commander of His Majesty's Forces in this Province for the time being, that all such interest as aforesaid, shall be paid at the Army Bill Office, at the like stated periods.

VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the five Commissioners heretofore appointed for the purpose of certifying the current rate of Exchange, at which Bills of Exchange on London were and are to be given in payment of Army Bills, and their successors or any three of them, shall continue to meet and certify under Oath the rate of Exchange in like manner, and that in due execution of their office, as aforesaid, they shall be guided by the fair current rate of Bills of Exchange on London at thirty days sight, and by all such other information as they may be able to procure, so as to enable them to do substantial justice to the holders of such Bills, and to the Government.

VIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be the duty of the officer or officers to whom it may appertain as having the direction of the Army Bill office, to lay before the said Commissioners immediately after the passing of this act, a correct account of the amount of all such Army Bills as shall then be in circulation, and at each second subsequent meeting of the said Commissioners, a true and correct account of all such Bills as shall have been issued and put in

circulation from the date of the last account rendered, in order that the same may be laid before the Legislature, at its next ensuing meeting.

IX. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all sheriffs and bailiffs who shall or may receive Army Bills upon execution, shall be accountable for the interest on all such Bills which by them or any of them shall be so received, for and during the time that such Bills may remain in their hands, to the persons interested therein, and to this end, the said Sheriffs and Bailiffs shall mention in their respective returns, whether they received the amount or any part of the amount of such executions in money or in such Bills, and also the day on which they received it.

X. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that no Public officer whatsoever shall profit by the interest on the Army Bills which may be placed in his hands as such Public officer, to be given in payment, and shall render an account of the said interest, annually, on the first day of November to the Receiver General to be employed according to the dispositions of the fourth section of the aforesaid act, passed in the fifty-second year of His Majesty's Reign.

XI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the interest for which the Receiver General and Collector and all Public officers are accountable to the Province, shall be employed and applied in the payment of the interest wherewith the Province is by this act charged.

XII. Provided always and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that nothing in this act contained, shall extend or be construed to extend to entitle any holder or holders of any such Army Bills, as aforesaid, as may at any time hereafter remain unpaid or unsatisfied (save and except the holder or holders of such Army Bills as were heretofore issued subsequent to the passing of the Act, to facilitate the circulation of Army Bills, and until the same exceeded in the whole the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand Pounds, and which now remain unpaid and unsatisfied) to receive out of or from any monies that then may be in the hands of the Receiver General of this Province, or from any Monies that may hereafter come into his hands arising out of any taxes, or duties heretofore imposed or that may hereafter be imposed, levied or raised by virtue of any act of the Provincial Legislature, or from the rents and revenues of His Majesty's Territorial Domains in this Province, or from any other monies in the hands of the Receiver General, payment of any such Army Bill or Bills, as aforesaid.

XIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that should the Governor in Chief, as Commander of the Forces deem it expedient, to cause the whole or any part of the Army Bills to be hereafter issued to be signed by any other person or persons, by and under his authority, public notification shall be given during one month in the Quebec Gazette of the name or names of such person or persons so authorised, and that all Army Bills signed by such person or persons shall be considered as forming part of the sum of five hundred thousand Pounds, at which the whole amount of Army Bills to be in circulation at the same period is herein before limited.

XIV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that of the sum of five hundred thousand Pounds, at which the amount of Army Bills to be in circulation at any one period is limited, such amount may be issued in Army Bills of One, Two, Eight, Ten, Twelve, Sixteen and Twenty Dollars each, as the Commander of the Forces may deem expedient and necessary, such Bills bearing no interest

and payable in cash on demand at the Army Bill Office. Provided always, that the amount of such Bills and of Bills of Four dollars each, shall not in the whole and together exceed the sum of fifty Thousand Pounds.

XV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful for the Governor in Chief as Commander of the Forces to establish such other office or offices at Montreal, or elsewhere in the Province as to him may seem expedient and necessary for the payment of all such Bills as have been or may hereafter be issued payable in cash on demand. Provided, that the whole expence thereby incurred, together with the expence of the office already established, do not in the whole exceed the sum of two thousand five hundred Pounds per annum, appropriated by the act herein before mentioned.