

*The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the first session of the eighth Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada.* Quebec: P. E. Desbarats, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1815.

55 George III – Chapter 6

**An Act to encourage and diffuse the practice of Vaccine Inoculation. (25th March, 1815.)**

Whereas the practice of Vaccine Inoculation has not hitherto obtained in this Province a sufficiently extensive diffusion, and that it would be necessary to provide means for giving a greater extent thereto: 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 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 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 for the time being, out of the unappropriated Monies in the hands of the Receiver General, to apply the sum of One Thousand pounds, currency, in the manner herein-after prescribed to defray the expenses necessary for diffusing the practice of Vaccine Inoculation, which sum shall be distributed in the several parts of the Province as follows, that is to say, in the District of Quebec, Three Hundred pounds; in the District of Montreal, Four Hundred pounds; in the District of Three Rivers [Trois-Rivières], One Hundred pounds; and in the District of Gaspé, One Hundred pounds.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that from and after the passing of this Act, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, to apply the said sums in each of the Districts aforesaid to the payment of one or more Physicians or Surgeons in each of the said Districts, charged with the duty of visiting such District during the next summer, and of performing Vaccine Inoculation in the several Parishes or Townships as herein-after provided, upon every person or persons offered or presenting themselves for that purpose, without being entitled to any fee, emolument or any consideration whatever, for effecting the same.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that each of the said Physicians or Surgeons nominated and appointed by the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or Person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, before making his visit in the Districts of Quebec, Montreal and Three Rivers, shall give notice by an Advertisement in the English and French languages, of the times and places, when and where he will make such visit, fifteen days at the lead before he shall perform the same, which advertisement for the District of Quebec and Three Rivers shall be given in the Quebec Gazette, and for the District of Montreal, in the Montreal Gazette, and shall indicate the place at which he will reside, and the time during which he will remain, to perform the Vaccine Inoculation as aforesaid, and the duration of his stay shall not be less than one week for every three Parishes or Townships.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the Physicians or Surgeons so appointed to perform Inoculation as aforesaid, shall at all times keep a correct register of all the persons whom they shall have inoculated, their ages, sexes, their civilian names and surnames, the names of the Parishes, Seigneurie, or Townships to which they may belong; they shall also report what Endemic disease prevail in the several parts of the Province which they may visit, or which Registers and Reports, three copies signed by the said Physicians or Surgeons respectively, shall be transmitted before the first day of December next to the Office of the Secretary of the Province, in order to their being submitted to the consideration of the Legislature, if then in Session, or if not, at the then next Session thereof.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or Person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, to apply the sum of One hundred pounds, currency, to the drawing up, or compiling and printing by such person or persons as it shall please the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or Person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, for that purpose to appoint, a set or collection of instructions on the subject of the advantages which may result from the practice of Vaccine Inoculation, and the method of treatment proper to be observed in consequence of which let or collection of instructions, copies shall be forwarded with all possible despatch to the Members of the Legislative Bodies and Executive Councils to the Justices of His Majesty's Courts, to the justices of the Peace, Rectors, Curates and Ministers of the several Religious Persuasions, and to the Seigneurs, Captains, and all other Officers of Militia, above that Rank.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that a number of extra copies of this Act, shall be printed as soon as possible to be transmitted with the copies of the Instructions herein before mentioned to the Persons who by this Act are entitled to receive the same.

VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the due application of all monies expended in conformity with 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 for the time being, in such manner and form as His Majesty, his Heirs and Successors shall direct.