

The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the second session of the ninth Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada. Quebec: P. E. Desbarats, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1818.

58 George III – Chapter 6

An Act for the encouragement of Agriculture in this Province. (1st April, 1818.)

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

Whereas the welfare and prosperity of this Province depend upon its Agriculture, for the encouragement and improvement whereof Your Majesty hath ever evinced the most paternal solicitude—Wherefore, we, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subject, the Commons of Lower-Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, taking also into our consideration the Speech delivered to us from the throne, at the opening of the present Session of the Legislature, most humbly beseech 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 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, to advance out of the unappropriated monies which at present are, or which hereafter may come into the hands of the Receiver General of the Province, a sum of money not exceeding two thousand pounds, current money of this, to any Agricultural Society or Societies which already is, or are, or that may hereafter be formed in the several Districts of Quebec, Montreal, and Three-Rivers [Trois-Rivières], under the sanction of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or person administering government of this Province for the time being, to be employed by the said Societies, for the promotion and encouragement of Agriculture; and out of the said sum of two thousand pound, that of eight hundred shall be employed for the aforesaid purposes in the District of Quebec; that of four hundred pounds shall be employed for the same purposes in the District of Three-Rivers [Trois-Rivières]; and that of eight hundred pounds shall be employed for the like purposes in the District of Montreal.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and in may be lawful to and for the said Agricultural Society or Societies, by advertisement in the newspapers of Quebec, Montreal, and Three-Rivers, and by such other notification as the said Societies may respectively think proper, to offer rewards or premiums of the production of any specimen of superior excellence of any species of grain, pulse, or other useful vegetables, the growth of this Province; for the invention, production, or extension of the use of any implement or implements, utensil or utensils of Agriculture, or of tillage fit for abridging labor, or capable of procuring any other important advantage for the introduction of any improved method or practice of culture or husbandry, or for the attainment of any other object whatsoever, whereof the promotion or encouragement is within the scope of the institution of the said

Society or Societies; and that the rewards or premiums which the said or Societies may have offered shall be publicly distributed or paid in several counties of the said Districts at the places which shall have been indicated by the notifications. And provided always, that no single premium shall exceed in amount the sum of twenty pounds, current money of this Province.

III. And whereas the breeding of good and strong horses, and of good and strong neat cattle, and the improvement of the breed of sheep, and hogs would produce great benefit to the Inhabitants, and to the Province; Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that any person or persons, being a subject or subjects of His Majesty residing within this Province, who, upon a day to be fixed by any such Society or Societies as aforesaid, once in every year (public notification therefore being made in manner above-mentioned, and at the places indicated by the said notifications) shall produce at such place or places the best stallion, mare or gelding, of the age and height to be fixed by the respective Societies as aforesaid, such stallion, mare or gelding being of the genuine Canadian breed, shall be entitled to a premium or reward, not exceeding twenty pounds, current monies of this Province. And any person or persons who shall produce the best bull, cow or heifer, of the age and breed to be so fixed, shall be entitled to a premium or reward not exceeding twenty pounds, currency. And to the person or persons who shall produce the best ram, ewe or wether, of the age and breed to be so fixed and notified, shall be entitled to a premium or reward not exceeding five pounds, currency. And to the person or persons who shall produce the best hog, male or female, of the age and breed to be fixed and notified as aforesaid, shall be entitled to a premium or reward not exceeding five pounds, currency. Which said several sums or, premiums shall be paid out of the monies by this Act appropriated, on the fact being established by inspection and report of persons appointed by the said Society or Societies.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that each of the said Societies of Agriculture respectively, shall report the application of the said sums of money to the three branches of the Legislature within the first ten days of the next Session, with their remarks and observations upon the state of Agriculture, and upon what may remain to be done for the advancement thereof.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the due application of all monies expended in virtue 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.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a Public Act, and as such shall be noticed by all the judges, Justices of the Peace, and other persons whomsoever, without specially pleading the same.