

*Acts of the General Assembly of His Majesty's Province of New-Brunswick passed in the year 1786.* Saint John, NB: J. Ryan, 1786.

26 George III – Chapter 30

**An Act to prevent the Burning Woods, by carelessly or wantonly Firing the same**

I. Whereas the inhabitants of this province have frequently left fires burning which by communicating to the woods have done great damage not only to the proprietors of certain lands but also to the greater damage of the unlocated lands.

II. For prevention whereof, Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Assembly, That from and after the publication of this act any person or persons who shall be convicted by his or their own confession or by the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses before any one or more justice or justices of the peace of any county within this province of having kindled any fire in any woods, fields, or other open place, and who shall depart leaving the same burning, and shall not either extinguish the same by water, or otherwise secure it so that it may not communicate to any woods, under-woods or brush whereby damage may ensue either to any private property or to any unlocated lands in this province, shall for every such offence (although no damage ensued) forfeit and pay the sum of three pounds, one half to the use of the informer and the other half to the use of the poor of the town where such offence shall have been committed, as well as be subject to all damages sustained in consequence of such fire, to be recovered by action of debt in any court of this province where the same shall be cognizable, with costs of suit.