

Acts of the General Assembly of His Majesty's Province of New-Brunswick passed in the year 1807. Saint John, NB: John Ryan, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1807.

47 George III – Chapter 1

An Act for the more effectual Punishment of such Persons as shall seduce Soldiers to desert, Passed the 5th of March, 1807.

Whereas the Laws now in force in this Province now in force in this Province for the punishment of such evil disposed-persons as seduce Soldiers to desert, have been found ineffectual,

I. Be it therefore enacted by the President, Council, and Assembly, That if any person or persons whosoever (other than such as are or shall be enlisted as Soldiers, as Soldiers, against whom sufficient remedy is already provided by law) shall by words or other means, or act whatever; directly or indirectly persuade or procure any Soldier or Soldiers in the service of His Majesty, his heirs, or successors, to desert or leave such service, or shall go about and endeavour, in manner aforesaid, to persuade, prevail on, or procure such Soldier or Soldiers to desert or leave such service as aforesaid, and be thereof convicted before any two Justices of the Peace for the County, City or place where the offence shall be committed, either upon the confession of the party, or proof by one or more credible witness or witnesses upon oath every such person so offending and convicted, shall for every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of Twenty Pounds, to be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods, by warrant under the hand and seal of such Justice, and when so levied to be paid, one moiety to the Informer, and the other moiety to the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish where the offence shall be committed; and the overplus (if any) after the costs and charges of such conviction and distress and sale are deducted, to be returned to the owner or owners; and in case such distress shall not be found, and such penalty and forfeiture, and the said costs and charges shall not be forthwith paid, it shall and may be lawful for such Justices and they are hereby authorized, and required, by warrant under their hands and seals, to commit such offender or offenders to the common Gaol or House of Correction of the County or place where the offence shall be committed, for any time not exceeding Six calendar months, no less than sixty days, unless, the said penalty and forfeiture, and costs and charges, shall reflectively be sooner paid and satisfied.

II. Provided Always, and Be it further enacted, That no such prosecution or information shall be brought or carried on, by virtue of this act, unless the same be commenced within Six months after the offence committed.

III. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be and remain in force during the present War and no longer.