

*Acts of the General Assembly of His Majesty's Province of New-Brunswick passed in the year 1816.* Fredericton, NB: George K. Lugin, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1816.

56 George III – Chapter 26

**An Act to encourage the Fisheries of this Province. Passed the 16th of March, 1816.**

Whereas it is deemed expedient to encourage the Cod Fisheries of this Province, by giving a Bounty to the owners of vessels, which shall be employed in the same, upon the Coasts thereof and of the neighbouring Provinces.

I. Be it therefore enacted by the Presided, Council and Assembly, That all vessels of thirty tons and upwards, registered in this Province, and wholly owned, by persons residing in the same, which shall be employed and engaged in the Cod Fisheries upon any part of the Coasts of this Province, or of the Province of Nova-Scotia, or of the Island of Cape Breton, or in any part of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, or upon the Labradore [Labrador] Coast, or in any Bay or Harbor, within any of the same places, or upon the Banks of Newfoundland, for the space of four complete Calendar months, between the first day of April and the first day of December, in any year during the continuance of this Act, or which shall be so employed for the space of three complete Calendar months between the days before specified, and which shall within that time make a complete fare of Cod or scale Fish, at and after the rate of ten quintals for each and every Ton of each and every such Vessel, shall be entitled to receive a bounty at and after the rate of twenty shillings per ton, according to the Registered Tonnage thereof, to be paid out of the Province Treasury to the owner, or owners of every such Vessel, by warrant of the Governor or Commander-in-Chief for the time being, to be issued by and with the advice of His Majesty's Council: Provided always, that the sum to be paid in any one year for such bounties shall not exceed the sum of three thousands pounds: Provided also, that all Vessels so to be employed in the Cod Fisheries as aforesaid, shall at the time of clearing out at the Custom-House, be fully provided with Salt, Stores and equipments necessary for carrying on the said Fisheries, that the Master and owner of such Vessel, shall declare it to be his or their intention to prosecute such Fisheries with effect.

II. And be it further enacted, That before any warrant shall issue for the bounty herein-before given, and granted proof shall be made to the satisfaction of the said Governor or Commander-in-Chief for the time being, and His Majesty's Council by affidavit of the Master or person acting as such, and the men or the major part of them belonging to the Vessel claiming such bounty made before one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, that the same Vessel has been actually employed and engaged in the said Fisheries for such length of time as to entitle her to the said bounty, under and by virtue of this Act, which affidavit shall see accompanied, by a certificate of such Justice, that he verily believes the facts stated in such affidavit are true: Provided always, that in cases where there shall be any reasonable ground to suspect fraud in any application for the said bounty, other proof may be required for the removal of such suspicion.

III. And be it further enacted, That if any person or persons shall be guilty of false swearing in any affidavit so made before any one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace as aforesaid, such person

or persons so offending, shall upon conviction thereof before the Supreme Court or any Court of *Oyer and Terminer* or Goal Delivery, be liable to suffer the pains and penalties by Law inflicted for wilful and corrupt perjury.

IV. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be in force for two years and until the end of the then next Session of the General Assembly.