

Acts of the General Assembly of His Majesty's Province of New-Brunswick passed in the year 1823. Fredericton, NB: George K. Lugin, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1823.

4 George IV – Chapter 25

An Act for the encouragement of Parish Schools in this Province. Passed the 27th March, 1823.

Whereas the education of Youth is of the utmost importance, and public attention to that object, in affording them easy means of acquiring useful knowledge, has been found to be attended with the most beneficial effects in Society—

I. Be it enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council, and Assembly. That the Justices of the General Sessions of the Peace for the several and respective Counties in this Province, shall and may at the time of making the annual appointment of Town or Parish Officers, have power and authority to nominate and appoint three fit persons to be Trustees of and for Schools in the several Towns and Parishes within their respective Counties, who shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of their duty, and be in every respect subject to the same rules and regulations, penalties and forfeitures, as any other Town or Parish Officers are subject to by virtue of an Act made and passed in the twenty-sixth year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the Third, intituled "An Act for the appointment of Town or Parish Officers in the several Counties of this Province," and of another Act made and passed in the third year of His present Majesty's Reign intituled "An Act in addition to an Act intituled 'An Act for the appointment of Town of Parish Officers in the several Counties of this Province.'"

II. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Trustees to agree from time to time with proper persons being duly licenced as by His Majesty's Royal Instructions is directed, to keep such School or Schools in their respective Towns or Parishes, and to fix the salary to be allowed to each and every such School-Master, to be paid out of the money to be subscribed as hereinafter mentioned, and out of the money which may be received from the Treasury of the Province, under the provisions, of this Act; and the said Trustees are hereby respectively required to use their best endeavors to cause the Youth of their respective Towns or Parishes, regularly to attend said Schools, and to visit and inspect the same twice in each and every year during the continuance of this Act, and to inquire into the discipline and regulations thereof, and of the proficiency of the Scholars.

III. And be it further enacted, That the Justices of the General Sessions of the Peace of the several and respective Counties in this Province, shall, and they are hereby required once in each and every year, to certify in writing to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being, the number of School-Houses built or provided, for the exclusive use and purpose of Schools in the several Parishes in their respective Counties, the names of the Masters employed to teach in the same, and the sum of money subscribed by the Inhabitants for the support of each School, upon which certificate there shall be allowed for the further support of such Schools, a sum of money at and after the rate of Twenty Pounds per annum, for each and every School mentioned in the same certificate, the same to be drawn from the Treasury of the

Province, by warrant from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being, by and with the advice of His Majesty's Council, in favour of the Trustees of Schools of the several Parishes in the respective Counties in this Province, and by the said Trustees to be applied in support of the Schools so mentioned as aforesaid in the said certificate, according to the true intent and meaning of this Act. Provided nevertheless, that no one School in any Town or Parish, shall receive in any one year, a larger sum than Twenty Pounds out of the Treasury of the Province. And provided also, that no School shall be entitled to the said allowance of Twenty Pounds, unless the Inhabitants of the Town or Parish in which such School shall be established, shall have raised, subscribed, and paid the sum of Twenty Pounds in further support thereof. And provided also, that no larger sum than One Hundred Pounds shall be paid out of the Treasury of this Province, to the Schools in any one Town or Parish, in any one year.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the certificate mentioned in the next preceding Section, shall be in the form following, to wit:

At a Court of General Sessions of the Peace, held at the Court-House in in and for the County of _____ on the _____ day of _____ one thousand eight hundred and _____ Present,

Esquires, Justices

The Court of General Sessions of the Peace, in and for the County of do hereby certify to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor or the Commander in Chief for the time being, that in the Parish of _____ in the said County of _____ the following Schools have been established, viz---

In District number one, a School-House has been built, or provided (as the case may be), for the exclusive use and purpose of a School; that a competent Person, duly licenced, (as by His Majesty's Royal Instructions is directed) has been employed as a Teacher in the same, from the _____ day of _____ to the _____ day of _____ then next following, and that the sum of _____ Pounds, has been subscribed and paid by the Inhabitants of the said District, agreeably to the provisions of the Act of Assembly, for the encouragement of Parish Schools in this Province, for the support of the said School during the said period.

In District number two, [here insert the same particulars that are required for number one, and so on for all the other Districts in the same Parish.]

The Court of General Sessions, therefore, humbly pray, that your Excellency will be pleased to direct, that a warrant issue for the sum of _____ in favour of the Trustee of Schools for the Parish of [and so on for the Trustees of the several Parishes included in the certificate] agreeably to the provisions of the said Act.

A. B. Clerk.

V. And be it further enacted, That the Trustees in the several Towns or Parishes, shall if they think fit retain out of the money so to be raised in their respective Towns or Parishes as aforesaid, and to be drawn from the Treasury of the Province as aforesaid a sum not exceeding Twenty Shillings for each and every School in their several Towns or Parishes, to be by them laid out and expended in purchasing stationary, books, or other suitable rewards, to be by them distributed to those of the Scholars who shall excel in each of the several branches of Orthogoraphy, Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic, at the examination, of such Schools. Provided nevertheless, that no reward shall be distributed to any Scholar who cannot repeat by heart, the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments.

VI. And be it further enacted, That the said Trustees so as aforesaid to be appointed in the several Towns or Parishes, shall annually account to, and with the Court of General Sessions of the Peace, in each County respectively, for all monies by them received, disbursed, and distributed, to and for the use of their respective Schools, and shall be subject to such rules and orders as the said Court shall from time to time make, touching the Funds of the said several Schools, or the application thereof.

VII. And, be it further enacted, That this Act shall be and remain in force for four years, And from thence to the end of the then next Session of the General Assembly.