

Acts of the General Assembly of His Majesty's Province of New-Brunswick passed in the year 1824. Fredericton, NB: George K. Lugin, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1824.

5 George IV – Chapter 9

An Act for the safe keeping of Lunatics whom it may be dangerous to permit to be at large within the Province. Passed 11th March, 1824.

Whereas there are sometimes Persons, who by Lunacy or otherwise, are furiously mad, or so far disordered in their senses that they may be dangerous to be permitted to go abroad—

I. Be it therefore enacted by the President, Council, and Assembly, That from and after the passing of this Act, it shall and may be lawful for two or more Justices of the Peace, where such Lunatic or mad Person shall be found, by warrant under their hands and seals, directed to any one or more Constables within the County, to cause such Person to be apprehended, and kept safely locked up in some secure place within the County where said Town or Parish shall lie, as such Justices shall, under their hands and seals, direct and appoint, and (if such Justices find it necessary) to be there chained, and the reasonable charges of removing, and of keeping, maintaining, and curing such Person, during such restraint; which shall be during such time only as such Lunacy or madness shall continue, shall be satisfied and paid (such charges being first proved upon oath) by order of two or more Justices, of the Peace, directing the Overseers of the Poor, where any goods, chattels, lands or tenements, of such Person shall be, to seize and sell so much of the goods and chattels; or receive so much of the annual rents of the land and tenements, as is necessary to pay the same, and to account for what is so seized, sold or received, to the next General Sessions; but if such Person hath not an estate to pay and satisfy the same, over and above what shall be sufficient to maintain his or her family, then such charges shall be satisfied and paid by the Town or Parish where such Person was found, by order of two Justices of the Peace, directed to the Overseers of the Poor for that purpose. Provided, that any Person aggrieved by any Act of such justices, out of such Sessions, may appeal to the next General Sessions, giving reasonable notice, whose order therein shall be final.

II. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to abridge the Prerogative of His Majesty, or of the Chancellor, concerning such Lunatics, or to restrain or prevent any friend or relation of such Lunatics, from taking them under their own care or protection.