

*Laws of His Majesty's Province of Newfoundland, passed in the year 1836.*

6 William IV – Chapter 4

**An Act for ascertaining the Census of this Colony and other Statistical Information. (6th May, 1836.)**

Whereas it is expedient that provision should be made for obtaining, at stated periods, a correct Census of the Population of this Island and other Statistical Information and Returns: — Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council and Assembly of Newfoundland, and by the authority of the same, that there shall be made and given to the Governor, or Person Administering the Government of this Colony for the time being, on or before the first Monday in December in this present year, and on or before the first Monday in December in every Ten Years from and after the same, by the Persons to be appointed for that purpose, full Returns of the Census of the Population of this Island, together with distinct Statements of the quantity of Land under cultivation, and the number of Horses, Neat Cattle, Sheep and Hogs, and other Statistics within the same, which Census shall commence to be taken throughout the said Colony on the first Monday in May next, and on the first Monday in May in every Year in which the id Returns shall be hereafter required to be made, or as soon after the said days as may be.

II. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, or other Administrator of the Government for the time being, from time to time to appoint such and so many fit and proper Persons as he may deem requisite, to ascertain and make Return of the number of Persons residing within the said Colony, and to obtain and make Return of such other Statistical Information as may be required: Provided always, that the whole Expense of Payment to such Persons and of carrying this Act into effect, shall not for the Returns of any One Year exceed the sum of Five Hundred Pounds.

III. And be it further enacted, That the Persons so to be appointed to make such Returns as aforesaid, shall, in the manner of making such Returns and in the form and substance thereof, and in all things appertaining to this Act, conform himself and themselves to the Schedule hereto annexed; and in default thereof, such Person or Persons respectively shall forfeit all claim to remuneration for the services by him or them performed.

IV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Persons so appointed, and they are hereby required to visit every House within the District or Districts for which they shall have been respectively appointed, and to require of all Persons such Information as may be necessary for filling up accurately the several Columns in their Returns, according to the Form or Schedule aforementioned, and to enter, in the day time, in and upon any Lands or Tenements within their respective Districts as often as may be necessary for the purpose of enabling them to carry into effect the provisions of this Act.

V. And be it further enacted, That from and out of such Monies as shall from time to time be in the hands of the Treasurer of this Colony and not appropriated, there shall be granted and paid to His Majesty, his Heirs or Successors, a sum of Money not exceeding Five Hundred Pounds, to be drawn by Warrant of His Excellency the Governor, and to be appropriated in payment of the Expenses which

may be incurred in this present Year in pursuance and fulfilment of this Act—which said sum of Five Hundred Pounds shall be distributed and applied towards the taking of the Census and Returns in the several Districts of the Island in the following manner, that is to say—for the District of Saint John’s Fifty Pounds—for the District of Conception Bay Sixty Pounds—for the District of Trinity Bay, Fifty Pounds—for the District of Bonavista Bay, Fifty-five Pounds—for the District of Ferryland, Thirty Pounds—for the District of Saint Mary’s and Placentia, Fifty Pounds—for the District of Burin, Twenty-five Pounds—for the District of Fortune Bay and to Cape Ray, Ninety Pounds—for the District of Fogo and Twillingate and to Cape John, Sixty Pounds— and for Contingencies, Thirty Pounds.

VI. And be it further enacted, That each of the Persons who shall be appointed to take a Census and make Returns as aforesaid, shall be duly sworn to the true and faithful performance of his duty, and shall produce Certificates from two or more Magistrates of the District for which he may be appointed, of the correctness, to the best of their knowledge, of all such Returns, and shall be bound to answer on Oath, to such Magistrates, all questions they may put to him, touching and concerning the Returns aforesaid.

VII. And be it further enacted, That every Adult Member of any Family who shall refuse to answer, or shall knowingly answer falsely to any question put for the purpose of obtaining the information aforesaid, by the Person so appointed to obtain the same as aforesaid, shall incur a penalty of Twenty Shillings for each and every offence, which shall be recoverable before any of His Majesty’s Justices of the Peace, on the Oath of one or more credible Witness or Witnesses; and in default of payment thereof, when directed by the said Justice, the same to be recovered by Warrant of Distress and Sale of the Offender’s Goods and Chattels, and in case no Goods and Chattels shall be found whereon to levy, then the said Justice shall commit the said Delinquent to the nearest Gaol, there to remain for a time not exceeding Ten Days.

Schedule

Census and Return for the District of \_\_\_\_\_ Extending from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Number and Denomination of Churches and Ministers.	Miscellaneous	
Roman Catholics.		
Protestant Dissenters.		
Protestant Episcopalians.		
Female Pupils.		
Male Pupils.		
Schools.		
Sheep.		
Hogs.		
Neat Cattle.		

Number of Fishing Boats.	Under 15 qts.	
	From 15 to 30 qts.	
	Upwards of 30 qts.	
Heads of Families who are Servants.		
Number of Acres in possession.		
Number of Acres under cultivation.		
Bushels of Potatoes yearly:		
Bushels of Oats or other Grain.		
Tons of Hay.		
Number of Horses.		

Names of Heads of Families.	Occupation.	Number of Dwelling Houses.	Family.						Number of Servants.	
			Males.			Females.			Males	Females.
			Under 14 years.	14 to 60 years.	Upwards of 60.	Under 14 years.	14 to 60 years.	Upwards of 60.		