

Laws of Her Majesty's Province of Newfoundland, passed in the year 1851.

14 Victoria – Chapter 11

An Act to improve the Copper Currency of this Island. (Passed 31st May, 1851.)

Whereas large quantities of Spurious Copper Coins have been imported into and are now in circulation within this Colony, to the great injury of Merchants and others; and it is expedient to make provision for a good and sufficient Copper Coinage within the said Colony and its Dependencies:

Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council and Assembly of Newfoundland, in Legislative Session convened, and by the authority of the same, that it shall be lawful for the Governor, or Administrator of the Government for the time being, by and with the advice of the Council, to procure such quantities of Copper Tokens, representing Pennies and Half-Pennies, Currency, as may be purchased and imported for the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds.

II. And be it further enacted, That the Governor, or Administrator of the Government for the time being, by and with the advice aforesaid, shall determine what intrinsic value of Copper shall be contained in the Penny and Half Penny Tokens, so to be imported: Provided, that such Copper Tokens shall be a Legal Tender to the amount of One Shilling, and no more.

III. And be it further enacted, That such Copper Tokens shall be stamped upon both sides with such suitable Devices and Legends as may be prescribed by the Governor, or Administrator of the Government, by and with the advice aforesaid.

IV. And be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any Person or Persons whomsoever, except under the authority of this Act, to Import into this Colony any Tokens to be circulated therein as Money, and representing, or intending to represent, the value of any Copper Money.

V. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for any Officer of Her Majesty's Customs to Seize and Secure any Tokens which may hereafter be imported into this Colony for circulation and use as Copper Money, or as representing, or intending to represent, the value of any Copper Money, without the authority aforesaid, and contrary to the provisions of this Act; and all such Tokens shall, upon Oath, in Writing, of the fact of such Seizure, being made before any Justice of the Peace, be by him declared to be forfeited, and shall be delivered by such Officer to such Justice of the Peace to be by him destroyed, or appropriated to the use of the Colony, as the Governor, or Administrator of the Government, may direct.

VI. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall not have any force or effect until Her Majesty's pleasure thereon shall have been first signified.