

*Laws of Her Majesty's Province of Newfoundland, passed in the year 1852.*

15 Victoria – Chapter 8

**An Act for the Encouragement of Communication by Steam between certain Ports and St. John's.  
(Passed 14th June, 1852.)**

Whereas it is expedient to encourage Communication by Steam between Great Britain or Ireland, the United States of America, and the Port of Saint John's in this Colony:

Be it therefore enacted, By the Governor, Council and Assembly, in Legislative Session convened, that it shall be lawful for the Governor or Administrator of the Government, in Council, to appoint Six Persons, who shall be selected in equal numbers from among the Members of Her Majesty's Council and of the House of Assembly in this Colony, as Commissioners, to be called "The Newfoundland Steamship Commissioners," for the purpose of effectually carrying out the provisions of this Act: Provided always, that should any of the said Commissioners die, or be absent from the Colony for Six Months, or cease to be a Member of Her Majesty's Council or of the House of Assembly aforesaid, the place of any such Person shall be supplied by another who shall be a Member of the same Branch of the Legislature as the Person causing the vacancy aforesaid.

II. And be it enacted, That the said Commissioners shall be and they are hereby authorized to negotiate and contract with the "New York and Galway Steamship Company," or any other Company or Person or Persons who may be willing to run First Class Steamers of not less than Fifteen Hundred Tons register measurement, and of proportionate power, between New York or Boston, or any Port in British North America, and any Port in Great Britain or Ireland, calling at the Port of St. John's in this Colony once a Fortnight, both on Homeward and Outward bound Voyages, and upon such other terms and conditions as may be agreed upon: Provided that the said Commissioners shall first open negotiations with the said New York and Galway Steamship Company, and give a preference of the Contract to the said Company, and shall not Contract with any other Company or Person or Persons until at least Two Months after the passing of this Act.

III. And be it enacted, That there be granted to Her Majesty Her Heirs and Successors the sum of Two Thousand and Five Hundred Pounds Annually, to be paid by Warrant of the Governor or Administrator of the Government upon the Colonial Treasurer, in favor of the said New York and Galway Steamship Company, or any other Company or Person or Persons who shall Contract with the said Commissioners for the purposes aforesaid; the said Sum to be paid at the expiration of each Year from the commencement of the service, upon the certificate of the said Commissioners that the same has been faithfully performed.

IV. And be it enacted, That this Act shall continue in force for the period of Five Years, and no longer.