

*Laws of Her Majesty's Province of Newfoundland*, passed in the year 1861.

24 & 25 Victoria – Chapter 2 (Session 3)

**An Act to Provide for the Organization of a Volunteer force for the Protection of Newfoundland.  
(Passed 25th June, 1861.)**

Whereas it has been considered necessary that the Military and Naval Resources of the British Empire should be ascertained and organized, to preserve its Integrity and protect its Commerce against Foreign Aggression at Home and Abroad, and, in the event of Emergencies arising requiring their Services, to aid the Civil Power in the preservation of the Public Peace and the Tranquillity and Happiness of their Homes: And Whereas many Individuals in this Colony have come forward to enrol themselves as Volunteers for the Defence of their Country, and as it is necessary to provide them with the Means of acquiring such Discipline and Training as will render them an Effective Force:

Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council, and Assembly, as follows:

- I. The Governor and Commander-in-Chief may, during the continuation of this Act, draw from the Receiver General of this Province a sum not exceeding One Hundred and Fifty Pounds Sterling, and may expend the same in the payment of Drill Sergeants who have been trained in the British Army; of Ammunition for Practice and Drill; the Storage and Preservation of the Arms furnished by Her Majesty's Government; and generally in such other Services as may from time to time appear to him to be necessary for the efficient Organization and Maintenance of such Volunteer Force,
- II. The Commander-in-Chief may combine the Volunteer Companies so raised, or may organize and drill them as a separate and distinct Force, in Companies, Regiments or Brigades.
- III. Accounts with Vouchers for the Expenditure authorized by this Act shall be rendered Quarterly to the Colonial Secretary, certified by the Captains or Officers commanding the Companies, and laid before the House of Assembly.
- IV. Every Person who shall be enrolled in any Volunteer Company shall take the Oath of Allegiance to Her Majesty, which Oath any commissioned Officer, or other Person duly authorized by the Governor, may administer.
- V. This Act shall continue in force for One Year, and from thence to the end of the then next Session of the General Assembly.