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Laws of His Majesty's Province of Upper-Canada in North America. West Niagara: Titus G. Simons, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1797.

37 George III - Chapter 10

An Act for the Regulation of Ferries.

Whereas it is necessary for the convenience of his Majesty's subjects that ferries should be put under proper regulations within this province, Be it enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the legislative council and assembly of the province of Upper-Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of, and under the authority of an act passed in the parliament of Great-Britain, entitled "An act to repeal certain parts of an act passed in the fourteenth year of his Majesty's reign, entitled "An act for making more effectual provision or the government of the province of Quebec in North America, and to make further provision for the government of the said province," and by the authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this act, it shall and may be lawful for his Majesty's justices of the peace, in and for the several districts of this province, in their general quartersessions assembled, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, from time to time, to make and ordain such rules and regulations as to them, or to the greater part of them, may appear necessary and proper to be observed and followed at such ferries by the person or persons attending the same, or having the charge thereof; and also to establish and assess such rates and fees as the person or persons attending such ferry or ferries shall and may demand and receive for the passage of persons, cattle, carriages, or wares thereat; a lift or table of which rules and regulations, rates and fees shall be set up in some conspicuous place at every such ferry or ferries for public inspection; and any person attending, or having charge of a ferry, who shall be convicted before any one justice of the peace, of demanding or receiving any higher or greater rate or fee than such as shall be so established, assessed and allowed, or of any breach of any such rules and regulations so made and ordained as aforesaid, shall for every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of twenty shillings, to be recovered before any one justice of the peace, and levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels; one half of which penalty shall be paid to the informer or informers, and the other half to the treasurer of the district wherein the same may arise, to be applied to the public use of the district.