

Laws of His Majesty's Province of Upper Canada in North America, passed in the year 1812.
York: John Cameron, 1812. (Session 1)

52 George III– Chapter 4 (Session 1)

An Act to prevent Damage to Travellers on the Highways in this Province. Passed the 6th March, 1812.

Whereas evil disposed persons travelling the highways in this Province with sleds or other carriages, frequently do injury to his Majesty's subjects whom they do meet on the Highways aforesaid, by not giving an equal half of the width of the road, or beaten track, or any part thereof, for the conveniency of passing each other; For remedy thereof, and to put an end to such evil practices, 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, intituled "*An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of his Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act for making more effectual provision for 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 be the duty of every person or persons travelling the highways with sleds or other carriages as aforesaid, when, and as often as they do meet each other, for each person or persons so meeting, to turnout to the right hand with their sleds or other carriages, and give one equal half of said road, highway, or beaten track, for the more easy passing each other, without doing damage to either party's team, sled, or other carriage as aforesaid.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any persons travelling as aforesaid, with sleds or other carriages, do meet each other on the roads, and shall refuse or neglect to give the one to the other the one half of the width of the road, highway, or beaten track as aforesaid, the party so refusing, shall forfeit and pay the sum of Ten Shillings with reasonable costs, to be recovered before any one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace within the District where such offence may be committed, on concession of the party so refusing or neglecting as aforesaid, or on the conviction thereof by the oath of any one credible witness, which oath the said Justice of the Peace is hereby authorized to administer, to be levied by distress and sale of the offender or offenders goods and chattels, and for want of sufficient distress to satisfy such fine and costs, it shall be the duty of such Justice before whom the cause may be tried, to commit such offender or offenders to the common Gaol of the District for any time not exceeding three days, unless such fine and costs shall be sooner by him or them paid.

III. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That from and after the first day of December, next ensuing, every person or persons travelling with sleighs on any road, highway, or beaten track in this Province, shall have affixed two or more bells to the harness thereof, and any person neglecting so to do, shall on conviction thereof,, by concession, or by the oath of one credible witness, before any of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace within the District where such offence may be committed, which oath the said Justice is hereby authorized to administer, shall forfeit and

pay the sum of Ten Shillings, to be levied by distress and sale of the offender or offenders goods and chattels.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all fines levied and collected under and by virtue of this Act, shall be transmitted to the Receiver General of this Province, on or before the first day in October, in each and every year, for the support of the Civil Government thereof, and the said Receiver General shall account to his Majesty his heirs and successors for the time being, in such manner and form as his Majesty, his heirs and successors may be pleased to direct.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all complaints to be made under and by virtue of this Act, shall be made within ten days after the offence has been committed, and not afterwards.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That this Act shall be, and continue to be in force for and during the term of four years, and from thence to the end of the then next ensuing Session of Parliament, and no longer.