

*Laws of His Majesty's Province of Upper Canada in North America*, passed in the year 1824.  
York: Charles Fothergill, 1824.

5 George IV – Chapter 35

**An Act to enable the Justices of the Peace of the District of Johnstown to Erect a New Gaol and Courthouse, or Repair the Old One, and to Erect New Bridges over Yonge and Irish Creeks. Passed Jan. 19th, 1824.**

Whereas it appears by the Petition of the Grand and Petit Jurors at the last Assizes holden in and for the District of Johnstown, that the Gaol of the said District is insufficient for the safe keeping of Prisoners, with a proper regard to their health and morals: And whereas it also appears by the Petitions of other inhabitants of the said District of Johnstown, that the Bridge across the Yonge Creek, in the Township of Yonge, and also the Bridge across Irish Creek, in the Township of Wolford, in the said District, are almost impassable, and that the Statute Labour is wholly insufficient to erect new, or repair the old ones, and that the funds raised by the present assessments of the said District are inadequate to the purposes aforesaid;— it is therefore expedient that a sum of money, sufficient to defray the expense of erecting a new, or the extension and repair of the present Gaol, and also the erecting of New Bridges across the said Creeks, be raised and levied by an additional rate upon the inhabitants of the said District:—

Be It Therefore 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 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 the Justices of the Peace for the District of Johnstown, in General Quarter Sessions assembled, in the month of February next, shall be authorised, and they are hereby authorised, by such means as to them shall seem most fitting and convenient, to procure different plans and elevations of a New Gaol and Courthouse, or for the extension and reparation of the old one; and also plans and elevations of Bridges to be built across the said Creeks, or either of them, to be laid before them for the purpose of selecting and determining upon one of the said plans and elevations for the said Gaol and Court-house, and for each of the said Bridges, which shall be approved of by the greater part of the said Justices then and there assembled as aforesaid.

II. And be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for any two or more of the said Justices, so assembled as aforesaid, in the name, and on the behalf of the inhabitants of the said District, to contract, and they are hereby enabled and authorised to contract with any person or persons who shall be willing to build the said Gaol and Court-house upon the ground allotted for that purpose in the Town of Brockville, or extend and repair the old one; or who shall be willing to build the said Bridges, or either of them, at any one of the places at which a bridge has heretofore been built, to be determined upon by the said Justices, so

assembled as aforesaid, according to the plans approved of, as aforesaid, for the said Gaol and Courthouse, and Bridges; and for that purpose the said plan and elevations shall remain, and continue in the office of the Clerk of the Peace of the said District for general inspection; and public notice shall be given in some Newspaper, circulated in the said District, to all persons willing to contract for the building of a New Gaol and Court-house, or for the extension and repair of the old one, and for building the said Bridges, to deliver in, within a certain limited time, written proposals, or offers, (sealed,) of the sum of money for which he or they will engage to build such Gaol and Court-house, or extend and repair the old one, or build the said Bridges, or either of them, conformably to certain articles and conditions to be agreed upon by the said Justices then present, as aforesaid; and that the said Justices shall, on a day for that purpose previously to be fixed, openly examine the said proposals, so delivered in as aforesaid, and shall be empowered, to contract with such person or persons as shall offer to undertake and perform the works, or either, of them, upon the most advantageous terms to the District:— Provided the person or persons making such proposals, shall give good and sufficient security for the due performance of their contract; and Provided also, that the said Bridge to be built across Yonge Creek, aforesaid, shall be built of Stone, or some other durable materials.

III. And be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Justices, in General Quarter Sessions assembled to levy, by assessment to be made on each and every inhabitant house-holder in the said District, in the same manner and form as by law any assessment may now or hereafter be levied for any public purpose in the said District, for not five successive years from and after the passing of this Act, an additional rate, not exceeding, one penny in the pound, to be applied for the purposes hereinbefore mentioned, and not otherwise.

IV. And be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Justices, assembled as aforesaid, in February next, by an order of Court, to authorise and direct the Treasurer of the said District to raise by loan from such person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, who may be willing to lend the same on the credit of the District, a sum, not exceeding Two Thousand, Five Hundred Pounds, to be applied for the purposes hereinbefore mentioned, and not otherwise.

V. And be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the money so borrowed under the authority of this Act, shall not bear greater interest than six per centum per annum, and that the Treasurer of the said District for the time being shall annually, until the loan so raised, with the interest accruing thereon, shall be paid and discharged, apply towards the payment of the same a sum not less than Five Hundred Pounds from and out of the rates and assessments coming into his hands under the authority of this Act.