

Provincial Statutes of Canada, passed in the year 1845. Montreal: Stewart Derbishire & George Desbarats, 1845.

8 Victoria – Chapter 12

An Act for the relief of Shipwrecked and destitute Mariners, in certain cases therein mentioned. (10th February, 1845.)

Whereas shipwrecked and other destitute as well as sick Mariners, belonging to merchant ships or vessels from the United Kingdom, resorting during the season of navigation to Quebec, and the seaports in Canada, are oftentimes forced by adverse circumstances to winter at Quebec, where not finding employment, and from the want of an asylum for the temporary reception of shipwrecked and destitute Mariners, they frequently become, during the winter season, and until they can find employ on the return of spring, burthensome to the public, subsisting upon such voluntary alms as the charitable and humane can afford them; And whereas it is but just to authorize the appropriation in such cases of a small proportion of the funds received from the tonnage duties collected under the Act of the Legislature of Lower Canada hereinafter mentioned, towards the relief of such shipwrecked and destitute Mariners, either by enabling them to find their way to the nearest seaport in order to obtain employ, or to subsist until the return of the season of navigation, and the arrival of ships from sea: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and intituled, "An Act to re-unite the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada and for the Government of Canada," and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that it shall be lawful hereafter for the Governor, or person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, whenever he shall deem it necessary, to appropriate from the funds arising from the duties imposed by the Act of the Legislature of Lower Canada, passed in the sixth year of the Reign of His late Majesty, King William the Fourth, intituled, "An Act to provide for the medical treatment of sick Mariners," a sum not to exceed in the course of any one winter one hundred and fifty pounds, currency, towards the temporary relief, in such manner as he shall deem advisable, of shipwrecked or destitute Mariners from beyond the seas, and who from misfortune or other unavoidable cause, not originating in desertion from their employ, or from their own misconduct, shall have been detained in Quebec, or other seaport or place in Lower Canada during the winter, and who can neither procure by labour the means of a subsistence until the return of the season of navigation, nor of proceeding to the nearest seaport where employ may be found; and that the due application of all such monies so from time to time appropriated, pursuant to this Act, from the said fund, shall be accounted for as the other monies paid therefrom are, by any law in force with respect thereto, to be accounted for.