

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

8 Victoria – Chapter 44

**An Act to prevent persons riding or driving at a fast rate over Bridges of more than a certain length in Upper Canada. (29th March, 1845.)**

Whereas it is expedient that some Legislative enactment should be made to prevent persons driving at a fast rate over Bridges of a certain extent in that part of this Province formerly constituting the Province of Upper Canada: 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, 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 from and after the passing of this Act, if any person or persons shall drive or ride at a bister rate than a walk over any public Bridge or Bridges, exceeding thirty feet in length, in that part of this Province formerly constituting the Province of Upper Canada, each and every person so offending, upon proof of such offence before any Justice of the Peace for the District in which such Bridge may be situate, either by confession of the party, or by the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, and on conviction thereof, shall be liable to a fine of not less than five shillings, nor more than twenty shillings, to be paid forthwith, and in default of payment, to be levied by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the party so offending, by a Warrant under the hand and seal of the said Justice, and the overplus, after deducting the penalty and the charge of such sale, shall be returned, on demand, to the owner or owners of such goods and chattels; and in case sufficient distress cannot be found, or the offender be not resident in the District, it shall be lawful for such Justice, by Warrant under his hand and seal, to cause such offender or offenders to be committed to the Common Gaol of the District for a period not exceeding two days, unless such penalties and forfeitures, and all reasonable charges and costs relating to the same, shall be sooner paid and satisfied.

II. And be it enacted, That all penalties imposed, and monies collected, under and by virtue of this Act, shall be paid by the Justice of the Peace collecting the same, into the hands of the Treasurer of the District in which the same shall be collected, and shall become and form part of the general funds of the District.

III. And be it enacted, That it shall be incumbent upon those -who have the superintendence and management of each respective Bridge to which this Act applies, to cause to be legibly printed, and put up at each end of such Bridge, a notice in the following form:

"Any person or persons riding or driving on or over this Bridge at a faster rate than a walk, will be subject to a line, on conviction thereof, as provided by law."

IV. And be it enacted, That any person or persons obstructing, defacing, destroying, or in any way interfering with such notice, shall, upon conviction thereof, be liable to a fine of not less than five shillings, nor more than forty shillings, to be recovered in the same manner as other penalties imposed by this Act.