

An Act more effectually to prevent the Desertion of Seamen.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide more effectually for the prevention of the desertion of Seamen at the Port of Quebec : 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 any person who shall directly or indirectly persuade, procure, aid or solicit any Seaman or Apprentice to desert or leave his Ship, shall incur a penalty of not more than Ten Pounds nor less than Five Pounds currency, for every Seaman or Apprentice who shall desert or whom he shall persuade, procure, aid or solicit to desert.

II. Any person who shall knowingly harbour or secrete any Seaman or Apprentice who shall have deserted from his Ship, shall for every such offence incur a penalty not exceeding Ten Pounds nor less than Two Pounds currency.

III. Any person found loitering near any Vessel in a Boat or other Water Craft, and not giving a satisfactory account of the business he may have there, or who shall take or receive any clothing or other articles from on board any Vessel without the permission of the Master or person in charge thereof, shall incur a penalty not exceeding Five Pounds and not less than Two Pounds currency, and shall be imprisoned during a period not exceeding three months nor less than one month.

IV. The Inspector and Superintendent of Police may order any Boat or other Water Craft in or on which any such person or clothing or other articles mentioned in the next preceding section, and unlawfully taken from any Vessel, shall be found or may have been conveyed, to be detained until the full payment of the fine which such person shall be condemned to pay, and in case such fine shall not be paid before the expiration of the term of imprisonment to which such person shall have been condemned, such Boat so detained, shall be sold by Public Auction, and the proceeds of the sale thereof shall be appropriated to the payment of such fine.