

1. All and every person and persons who is, are or shall be within Prison in this Province at, upon, or after the day of the passing of this Act, by warrant of commitment signed by any two Justices of the Peace, or under capture or arrest made with or without Warrant, by any of the officers, non-commissioned officers or men of Her Majesty's Regular, Militia or Volunteer Militia Forces, or by any of the officers, warrant officers or men of Her Majesty's Navy, and charged;

With being or continuing in arms against Her Majesty within this Province;

Or with any act of hostility therein;

Or with having entered this Province with design or intent to levy war against Her Majesty, or to commit any felony therein;

Or with levying war against Her Majesty in company with any of the subjects or citizens of any Foreign State or Country then at peace with Her Majesty;

Or with entering this Province in company with any such subjects or citizens with intent to levy war on Her Majesty, or to commit any act of Felony therein;

Or with joining himself to any person or persons whatsoever, with the design or intent to aid and assist him or them whether subjects or aliens, who have entered or may enter this Province with design or intent to levy war on Her Majesty, or to commit any felony within the same;

Or charged with High Treason or treasonable practices, or suspicion of High Treason, or treasonable practices;

May be detained in safe custody without Bail or mainprize until the eight day of June, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, and no Judge or Justice of the Peace shall bail or try any such person or persons so committed, captured or arrested without order from Her Majesty's Executive Council, until the eighth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, any Law or Statute to the contrary notwithstanding; provided, that if within fourteen days after the date of any warrant of commitment, the same or a copy thereof certified by the party in whose custody such person is detained, be not countersigned by a clerk of the Executive Council, then any person or persons detained in custody under any such warrant of commitment, for any of the causes aforesaid by virtue of this Act, may apply to be and may be admitted to bail.

2. In cases where any person or persons have been, before the passing of this Act, or shall be during the time this Act shall continue in force arrested, committed or detained in custody by force of a warrant of commitment of any two Justices of the Peace for any of the causes in the preceding section mentioned, it shall and may be lawful for any person or persons to whom such warrant or warrants have been or shall be directed to detain such person or persons so arrested or committed,

in his or their custody, in any place whatever within this Province, and such person or persons to whom such warrant or warrants have been or shall be directed, shall be deemed and taken to be to all intents and purposes lawfully authorized to detain in safe custody, and to be the lawful Gaolers and Keepers of such persons so arrested, committed or detained, and such place or places, where such person or persons so arrested, committed or detained, are or shall be detained in custody, shall be deemed and taken to all intents and purposes to be lawful prisons and goals for the detention and safe custody of such person and persons respectively; and it shall and may be lawful to and for Her Majesty's Executive Council, by warrant signed by a clerk of the said Executive Council, to change the person or persons by whom and the place in which such person or persons so arrested, committed or detained, shall be detained in safe custody.

3. The Governor may, by proclamation, as and so often as he may see fit, suspend the operation of this Act, or within the period aforesaid, again declare the same to be in full force and effect, and, upon any such Proclamation, this Act shall be suspended or of full force and effect as the case may be.

4. This act may be altered, amended or repealed during the present session of parliament.

SELECTIONS.

THE TRIAL OF THE PIX.

The trial of the pix at the Exchequer (says Mr. Lawson*) is very ancient and curious, and though carried on in an open court is yet little known. The practice of summoning the court is as follows:—Upon a memorial being presented by the Master of the Mint praying for a trial of the pix, the Chancellor of the Exchequer moves His Majesty in council for that purpose. A summons is then issued to certain members of the Privy Council to meet at the office of the Receiver of the Fees in his Majesty's Exchequer at 11 o'clock in the forenoon of a certain day. A precept is likewise directed by the Lord High Chancellor to the warden of the Goldsmith's Company, requiring them to nominate and set down the names of a competent number of sufficient and able freemen of their company, skilful to judge of and present the defaults of the coins, if any should be found, to be of the jury to attend at the same time and place. This number is usually twenty-five, of which the Assay Master is always one. When the court is formed the clerk of the Goldsmith's Company returns the precept, together with the list of names; the jury is called over, and twelve persons are sworn. The following is the form of the oath as administered to a jury in March, 1847:—You shall well and truly, after your knowledge and discretion, make the assays of those

*Lawson's History of Banking. Effingham Wilson.