

Bills, orders, notes, &c. protested within the Province.

Subject to 6 per cent interest till paid.

If drawn on distant parts of the Province.

Subject to 4 per cent damages besides interest.

III. All Bills, Orders, or Mandates drawn, after the publication hereof, by persons residing in this Province, on persons living in the same, and notes of hand given in the Province; if protested for non-payment, shall be subject to six per cent per annum, interest, from the date of the protest to the time of payment; excepting only that such Bills, Orders or Mandates, when drawn in or upon any place beyond the Long Sault on the Ottawa River, or beyond Oswegatché, in the upper parts of the Province, or in or upon any place below Cape Cat on the south side, and the seven Islands on the north side of the River Saint Lawrence, shall be subject, when protested, to four per cent damages, besides the said interest of six per cent per annum.

Expence of noting, &c. to be allowed.

IV. In all the said cases of protest, the expence of noting and protesting the Bill, and the postages thereby incurred, shall be allowed and paid to the holder, over and above the said interest and damages.

Rate of interest fixed at 6 per cent.

V. From and after the publication of this ordinance it shall not be lawful, upon any contract, to take, directly or indirectly, for loan of any monies, wares, merchandize, or other commodities whatsoever, above the value of six pounds, for the forbearance of one hundred pounds for a year, and so, after that rate, for a greater or lesser sum or value, or for a longer or shorter time; and the said rate of interest shall be allowed and recovered, in all cases where it is the agreement of the parties that interest shall be paid; and all bonds, contracts and assurances whatsoever, whereupon or whereby a greater interest shall be reserved and taken, shall be utterly void; and every person who shall either directly or indirectly, take, accept, and receive a higher rate of interest, shall forfeit and lose, for every such offence, treble the value of the monies, wares, merchandize and other things lent or bargained for; to be recovered by action of debt in any of the Courts of Common Pleas in this Province; a moiety of which forfeiture shall be to His Majesty, and the other moiety to him or them that will sue for the same.

Penalty on persons taking a greater interest.

GUY CARLETON.

Ordained and enacted by the authority aforesaid, and passed in Council under the Great Seal of the Province, at the Council Chamber in the Castle of St. Lewis, in the City of Quebec, the fourth day of March, in the seventeenth year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Third, by the grace of God, of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, and in the year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven.

By His Excellency's Command,

J. WILLIAMS, C. L. C.