

CAP. III.

An Act relating to Steam Navigation in this Island.

[Passed April 17, 1863.]

BE it enacted by the Lieutenant Governor, Council and Assembly, as follows:

Restriction on
sea boats or
steam vessels
proceeding to
sea without life
preservers and
suitable boats.

Number of life
preservers and
boats required.

Capacity of
boats.

Construction
of life preserv-
ers.

River steam-
ers, number of
life preservers
required.

Lock-up safety
valve, where
required.

I. From and after the passing of this Act, no sea boat or vessel propelled by steam shall depart from any port or place within this Island, with passengers, without having on board, or attached to such boat or vessel, such number of life preservers and good, suitable and sufficient boats, in good condition, properly equipped, as hereinafter prescribed: for every steamer of the registered tonnage of two hundred tons and upwards, not less than one life preserver for every five tons the said steamer may admeasure, and not less than three good boats; of the registered tonnage of less than two hundred tons, the same number of life preservers as above, in proportion to the tonnage; and also, not less than two good boats, every of such boats to be provided with not less than six oars and other necessary tackle, and every such boat to be of sufficient capacity to carry not less than twelve adult persons, exclusive of the crews, and shall be of a length of keel not less than seventeen feet; also, one good and sufficient life-boat, made of metal, fireproof, or of wood, with air-tight, metallic compartments at the ends and sides, according to the direction of the inspector to be appointed as hereinafter prescribed, and also, capable of sustaining inside and outside, thirty persons, and with life-lines attached to the gunwale at suitable distances, and every of the aforesaid life-preservers shall be made of suitable materials or floats well adapted to that purpose, and such life-preservers or floats shall always be kept in convenient and accessible places in such vessel, and in readiness for the use of passengers.

II. Steamers for river or inland navigation of the registered tonnage of one hundred tons and upwards, shall be provided with not less than ten life-preservers, and of less than one hundred tons registered tonnage, with not less than five life-preservers, the whole to be made of suitable material and approved of by the inspector.

III. Every steamboat plying on the rivers, bays and harbors within this Island, shall have a lock-up safety escape valve, or some other description of safety valve, subject to the approval of the steamboat inspector to be appointed under this Act, and it shall be the duty of the said inspector to establish the pressure, lock-up the same (if a lock-up safety