

under the great seal of the Province; who shall enter into recognizances to account to the Crown, and for the discharge of their trust, under such instructions as they may from time to time receive under his hand and seal at arms.

II. And that justice may be done to all parties intitled to deductions from the freight-money, or perhaps to a discharge of the whole, on account of the non-delivery of the effects, or damages sustained in the negligent carriage thereof, if any such circumstances there shall have been: Be it also enacted and ordained by the same authority, that the defendant in any action to be brought for such freight-money, on any book debt, promise or security, touching the same, shall, and may have the benefit of such or any other just and equitable matter of deduction or discharge for his defence; and in every action at law may plead the general issue and give the same in evidence; and by order of any of the Judges of the court where such suit may be instituted, shall have access in the manner therein directed, to all such books and entries as have been kept for the purposes aforesaid, and to copies of such of them as may be requested, under the penalty of thirty pounds for every refusal, paying therefor at the rate of six-pence for every hundred words, of which every such copy shall consist, to be recovered by action of debt with costs. But nothing herein contained shall be construed to make the trustees aforesaid, any or either of them, personally liable to suit or action for any such loss or damage out of their own estates.

III. And be it further enacted by the same authority, That the payment of any such sum for such freight-money to the said trustees, shall be a perfect and compleat bar against the demand thereof, by the person or persons to whom the same was originally made payable by promise, note, bond, or any other security; or by any others their legal representatives; as fully to all intents and purposes, as if such securities had been assigned or transferred to, or vested in the said trustees; or as if the person they represent never had any right or title to the same.

IV. And if any suit or action shall be brought against the said trustees under pretext thereof, they may plead the general issue, and give this Act in evidence for their indemnity and discharge, and upon judgment in their favour, shall recover treble costs. And this Act shall in all courts be deemed and adjudged to be a public Act.

DORCHESTER.

Enacted and Ordained by the authority aforesaid, and passed in council under the Great Seal of the Province, at the council-chamber in the castle of Saint Lewis, in the city of Quebec, the fourteenth day of April, in the twenty-eighth 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 eighty-eight.

By his Excellency's Command,

J. WILLIAMS, C. L. C.

C A P. III.

An ORDINANCE,

For promoting the Inland Navigation.

WHEREAS present circumstances do not require that the transport of merchandize and peltries over the upper lakes should be carried on solely by vessels belonging