

No. 27.

3rd Session, 6th Parliament, 23 Victoria, 1860.

BILL.

An Act to regulate the erection of Houses
and other Buildings.

Received and read, first time, Wednesday,
7th March, 1860.

Second reading, Wednesday, 14th March,
1860.

Mr. DUNBAR ROSS.

QUEBEC:

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An Act to regulate the erection of Houses and other Buildings.

10 **WHEREAS** the practice of erecting buildings so deficient in solidity Preamble.
 as to render them insecure and dangerous to life, is greatly on
 the increase, and it becomes necessary to impose a check thereon for
 the protection of the public; Therefore, Her Majesty, &c., enacts as
 follows:—

15 I. On and after the day upon which this Act shall come into force, it Inspectors of
buildings to be
appointed.
 shall be lawful for the Governor in Council to appoint an Inspector of
 buildings, for the purposes of this Act, in and for such Districts, Coun-
 ties, Cities, Towns, and other localities in the Province as may by him
 be deemed expedient.

20 II. It shall not be lawful for any person, or persons, or body corpo- Plans of all
buildings, &c.,
to be submit-
ted to him be-
fore erection.
 rate, after the day aforesaid, to commence the erection of any house, or
 edifice, or building whatever, public or private, of more than two stories
 high, without having previously submitted to the Inspector to be
 appointed under this Act, a full and complete plan of the building to be
 25 erected, specifying its height, breadth, and thickness of all its walls,
 external and internal, and every other particular necessary to enable
 such Inspector to determine and certify that such building will be suf-
 ficiently solid to render it secure and durable, and capable of sustaining
 in all and any of its apartments or divisions, any weight or pressure to
 30 which it may be reasonably expected to be subjected.

III. It shall be the duty of the Inspector minutely to examine every Inspector may
grant a certi-
ficate, if he
finds the plan
unobjection-
able.
 such plan delivered to him, and the place where such building is intended
 to be erected, in strict compliance with the intent and meaning of this
 35 Act, and thereupon to grant a certificate to the owner to that effect, and
 that he finds such plan unobjectionable, or that he has found the same
 insufficient for reasons to be therein stated. Every such plan found
 sufficient shall be sealed up by the Inspector, endorsed with the name
 of the owner and a short description of the building under the signature
 of the Inspector, and then deposited with the Clerk or Secretary of the
 40 Municipality or Corporation within the limits of which such building
 is to be erected, there to remain until such time as its production and
 opening may be ordered by competent authority.

IV. It shall be competent to any person producing such plan, at any Plans of any
alteration of
the original
design to be
also submit-
ted.
 45 time after the deposit thereof, as aforesaid, or before or during the
 progress of the erection of such building, to submit to the Inspector any
 other or further plan or plans containing alterations of the preceeding
 plan, or additions thereto, with respect to all which other and further
 plans, the same formalities as to examination, certificate and deposit shall
 be observed as in the case of the first plan.

50 V. Any person fraudulently procuring any such certificate, or in any Penalty on
fraudulently
 way evading the provisions of this Act, and any Inspector guilty of

procuring certificate, or evading the provisions of this Act.

fraud and culpable negligence, or other misconduct in relation to the granting or issuing of any such certificate, or in any matter or thing connected with any such plan, or the erection or proposed erection of any such building, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and liable to be punished by fine or imprisonment, or both, in the discretion of any Court of competent jurisdiction.

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Fee to Inspector

VI. Every Inspector, upon making and granting any certificate, as aforesaid, shall be entitled to receive from the party producing the plan, a fee of dollars, and in default of payment within fifteen days after the delivery thereof, may bring his action for the recovery of the same, in any Court of adequate jurisdiction, where the party to whom such certificate has been granted shall be held if so required in writing, to produce the same, otherwise to suffer judgment in default of so doing.

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Inspector to make an annual return to the Provincial Secretary.

VII. Every such Inspector shall be held to make a return of all certificates granted by him, and all monies received by him, to the Secretary of the Province, on the first day of January in each year, under a penalty of pounds, to be recovered summarily before any Justice of the Peace at the suit of Her Majesty, and in every such case the burden of proof shall be upon the defendant, in default of which he may be convicted in such penalty, together with costs.

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