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# RULES

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AND

# ORDERS

OF THE

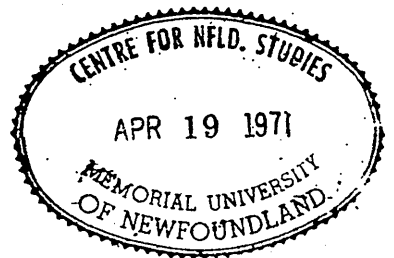
## House of Assembly

OF

## NEWFOUNDLAND.

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St. John's,



JOHN GEEA, PRINTER TO THE HON. THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

1835.

# RULES AND ORDERS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

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1.—THAT Six Members, including the Speaker, shall form a Quorum.

2.—That when the House adjourns, the Members shall keep their seats until the Speaker leaves the Chair.

3.—That whenever an adjournment takes place for want of a quorum, the hour at which such adjournment is made, and the names of the Members present, shall be inserted in the Journals ; but no adjournment for want of a quorum shall take place until the lapse of thirty minutes after the hour at which the House was appointed to meet.

4.—That every day, immediately after the Speaker shall have taken the Chair, the minutes of the preceding day shall be read by the Clerk, to the end that any mistake therein may be corrected by the House.

5.—That during the reading of the minutes the doors shall be closed.

6.—That the Speaker shall preserve order and decorum, and decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the House.

7.—That the Speaker shall take the Chair when the Black Rod is at the door.

8.—That the Speaker shall not take part in any debate, or vote, unless the House shall be equally divided, in which case he may give his reasons for so voting, standing uncovered.

9.—That when the Speaker is called upon to decide a point of order or practice, he shall state the rule applicable to the case.

10.—That every Member, previous to his speaking to any question or motion, shall rise from his seat uncovered, and address himself to the Speaker.

11.—That when two or more Members rise at once, the Speaker shall name the Member who is first up, subject to appeal to the House.

12.—That every Member who shall be present when a question is put, shall vote thereon, unless the House shall excuse him, or unless he be personally interested in the question, provided such interest is resolvable into a personal pecuniary profit, or such as is peculiar to the Member, and not in common with the interest of the subject at large, in which case he shall not vote.

13.—When the Speaker is putting a question no Member shall walk out, or across the House, nor when a Member is speaking, shall any other Members hold discourse which may interrupt him, nor pass between him and the Chair.

14.—That a Member called to order shall sit down, unless permitted to explain, and all debate on the question of order, shall take place before the decision of the Speaker.

15.—That no Member shall speak beside the question in debate.

16.—That any Member may of right require the question, or motion, in discussion, to be read for his information, at any time during

the debate, but not so as to interrupt a Member speaking.

17.—That no Member, other than the one proposing a question or motion (who shall be permitted a reply) shall speak more than once on the same, without leave of the House, except in explanation of a material part of his speech, which may have been misconceived, but then he is not to introduce new matter.

18.—That any Member may at any time desire the House to be cleared of strangers, and the Speaker shall immediately give directions to the Serjeant-at-Arms to do so without debate.

19.—That all Messages from this House to the Legislative Council be sent by two Members, to be named by the Speaker, accompanied by the Serjeant-at-Arms.

20.—That when the House shall judge it necessary to request a conference with the Legislative Council, the reasons to be given by this House, upon the subject of the conference, shall be prepared and agreed to by the House, before the Messengers shall be appointed to make the said request.

21.—That the Rules of the House shall be observed in Committee of the whole, so far as they may be applicable, except the Rule limiting the times of speaking.

22.—That in forming a Committee of the whole House, before leaving the Chair, the Speaker shall appoint a Chairman to preside, subject to appeal to the House.

23.—That every Member who shall introduce a Bill, Petition, or motion upon any subject which may be referred to a Committee, shall be one of the Committee without being named by the House, except in cases of controverted Elections.

24.—That of the number of Members appointed to compose a Committee, such number thereof shall be equal to a majority of the whole number chosen shall be a quorum competent to proceed to business.

25.—That in a Committee of the whole House, a motion that the Chairman leave the Chair, shall always be in order, and take precedence of every motion, and that when the motion is made on account of any question of order or privilege arising, the Speaker shall resume the Chair without discussion or vote of the committee.

26.—That in a committee of the whole House, all motions relating to the matter under consideration shall be put in the order in which they are proposed.

27.—That the Yeas and Nays shall be taken and entered on the minutes at the request of any one Member.

28.—That one day's notice shall be given of all motions for introducing new matter, other than matters of privilege and bringing up petitions.

29.—That a motion to adjourn shall always be in order.

30.—That after a motion is read by the Speaker, it shall be deemed to be in the possession of the House, but may be withdrawn at any time before decision or amendment, with permission of the House.

31.—That a motion for commitment, until it is decided, shall preclude all amendment of the main question.

32.—That if any motion be made for any public aid, subsidy, duty or charge upon the people, the consideration and debate thereon shall not presently be entered upon, but adjourned till such further day as the House shall think fit to

appoint, and shall be referred to a committee of the whole House, and their opinion reported before any resolution or vote of the House do pass thereupon.

33.—That it is the right of every Member of this House to bring in a bill and pray that it may be read.

34.—Bills are seldom opposed at the first reading; but are generally committed, upon motion, at the second reading, at which time the principle is usually debated.

35.—That no arguments against the principle of a bill shall be had or admitted in any committee of the whole House upon such bill.

36.—That no bill shall be read twice on the same day; that no committee of the whole House shall proceed on any bill on the same day in which the bill is committed, unless the House, upon motion shall see special cause for the same.

37.—That when a bill or petition is read in the House, the Clerk shall certify the readings and the time on the back thereof.

38.—That in a committee of the whole House, a Member may, at any time previous to a bill being passed entirely—that is to say, all the clauses, preamble, and title of the same,—move to have any particular clause thereof that may have been passed, re-considered.

39.—That the allegations in every petition for a private bill, meant to originate in this House, shall be first referred to a select committee, and the matter thereof reported upon, before the introduction of any such bill.

40.—That when a private Bill is brought from the other House, the principle of which is admitted, this House, by message, may either request a

communication of the evidence received in proof, the allegations, or matter whereon the Bill is founded, or the committee of this House, to whom it may be referred, shall examine the said allegations, and on reporting the Bill, state whether the same, or matter thereof, be founded and whether the parties concerned in interest or property therein, have given their consents to the satisfaction of the committee.

41.—That the foregoing be considered a standing instruction at all committees who shall meet upon private bills, and further, that they require all persons whose interest or property they shall consider to be affected thereby, to appear in person before them, to give their consent thereto; and if they cannot personally attend they may send their consent in writing, which shall be proved to the satisfaction of the committee; and that when any committee shall be appointed on a private bill, notice thereof shall be set up in the Lobby of this House twelve days before the meeting of the committee.

42.—That when any bill, originating in this House, has once passed through its final stage in this House, no new bill of the same matter and argument can afterwards be originated in this House during the same Session.

43.—That when any Bill shall be brought down to this House from the Honorable the Legislative Council, or when any Bill sent up from this House to the Legislative Council shall be returned with amendments, such Bill so brought down or the amendments, shall undergo the same readings and formal consideration, and the same shall be committed, and be subjected to the same order, form, and stages, as are observed upon Bills originating in this House.



44.—That every public Bill shall be introduced by a motion for leave, specifying the object of the Bill; or by a motion to appoint a Committee to prepare and bring it in; or by an order of the House on the report of a Committee; and that every private Bill, after the present Session, shall be founded on a Petition, notice of the intention of the Petitioners having been inserted in the *Royal Gazette*, or for the out port Districts, in some one of the Local Newspapers published therein, or if there be no Newspaper published in the District, then by affixing such notice upon some place of Public Worship or other place of Public resort, for the period of one month previous to the meeting of the Legislature.

45.—That all Petitions to be introduced, shall be brought in immediately after the minutes are read, and that such Petitions shall be read by the Clerk, after the third reading of any Bills that may stand for that purpose on the order of the day.

46.—That all orders of the day which, by reason of any adjournment, shall not have been proceeded upon, shall be considered as postponed, till the next day on which the House shall sit, and shall stand first on the order of the day after the third reading of Bills and Addresses, and reading of Petitions.

47.—That all accounts which shall in future be presented by any individual for work or labor done, or for articles furnished for the use of this House, shall be accompanied by satisfactory vouchers specifying that the charges therein contained are the usual charges, and the commonly received prices for such work and labour, or for such articles furnished.

48.—Resolved, that the Sergeant at Arms, attending this House, shall be entitled to take and receive the following fees, Viz.

	£	s	d
For taking a Member of the House into Custody.....	2	2	0
For taking a stranger into Custody...	1	1	0
For every day in Custody.....	0	10	0
For bringing a Member of the House to the Bar to be reprimanded. ...	1	1	0
Bringing any other person to the Bar to be reprimanded.....	0	10	0

49.— That no Rule adopted by this House shall be dispensed with, unless by consent of at least two thirds of the whole of the Representatives of the Colony.