

No. 233.

4th Session, 3rd Parliament, 14 & 15 Vict. 1851.

BILL.

An Act to provide for defraying the
expense of the River Police at
Quebec.

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Hon. Mr. HINGES.

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BILL.

An Act to provide for defraying the expense of the River Police at Quebec.

WHEREAS the expense of maintaining and paying the members of the Police force acting as Constables in the Port of Quebec, under the provisions of the Ordinance of the Legislature of the Province of Lower Canada, passed in the second year of Her Majesty's Reign, and intituled "*An Ordinance for establishing an efficient system of Police in the Cities of Quebec and Montreal*," has been heretofore defrayed by means of the voluntary contributions of the owners and masters of vessels trading to the Port of Quebec, and of merchants and others interested in the trade of the said port; and whereas it is expedient that provision should be made for raising a fund to defray such expenses in future: Be it therefore enacted, &c.,

Preamble.

Ordinance L. C. 2 Vict. (1) c. 2.

That the master or commander of every vessel of the burthen of one hundred tons or more, entering at the Port of Quebec from any port or place situate beyond the eastern limits of this Province, or clearing at the said Port of Quebec for any port or place situate beyond the eastern limits of this Province, shall, over and above all other sums payable under any act or law now in force or hereafter to be enacted, pay to the Collector of Her Majesty's Customs at the Port of Quebec, a sum equal to three farthings for every ton of the registered measurement of such vessel.

Tonnage duty imposed on vessels entering at or clearing from the Port of Quebec.

II. And be it enacted, That the Collector or other officer of Her Majesty's Customs at the Port of Quebec, shall not grant an entry inwards, or a clearance outwards, to any vessel of the burthen of one hundred tons or more, for or from any port or place situate beyond the eastern limits of this Province, unless and until the master or commander of such vessel shall have paid to such Collector the full amount of tonnage duty payable in respect of vessels under the foregoing section of this Act.

Entry or clearance not to be granted to any vessel until such duty be paid.

III. And be it enacted, That the master or commander of any vessel liable to pay such tonage duty as aforesaid and not requiring a clearance, who shall leave the port of Quebec for any port or place situate beyond the eastern limits of this Province, without having paid to the Collector or of Her Majesty's Customs at the Port of Quebec the full amount of tonnage duty payable in respect of such vessel, under the provisions of this Act, shall incur a penalty not exceeding to be recoverable in like manner as penalties for breach of the laws relative to duties of customs.

Penalty on Masters of vessels not requiring clearance, for leaving without paying the said duty.

Duties to be paid over to Receiver General.

IV. And be it enacted, That the moneys levied under the authority of this Act as aforesaid, shall be paid by the Collector of Her Majesty's Customs at the Port of Quebec, into the hands of the Receiver General, for the purpose hereinafter mentioned.

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Duty may be reduced and again raised.

V. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Governor in Council, from time to time to reduce, and having reduced, again to raise, and so as often as may be deemed advisable, the rate of tonnage authorised to be levied as aforesaid; but so as the same shall at no time exceed the said rate of three farthings per ton measurement.

Sums arising from certain sources to be paid over to the Inspector of Police.

VI. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of every person having in his hands or possession, any sum or sums of money heretofore raised by voluntary contribution, for the purpose of defraying the expense of a River Police, in the Port of Quebec, or arising from the public sale by the Harbor Master of the Harbor of Quebec of any unclaimed timber or other things found by the members of the Police force aforesaid in the River Saint Lawrence, or any boats, oars, boat-tackle or other effects or property of any kind heretofore used by such River Police, forthwith to pay and deliver over the same to the Inspector and Superintendent of the Police for the City of Quebec, who is hereby authorised and required to receive the same.

Inspector of Police to be deemed the finder of certain articles under 12 Vict. c. 116.

VII. And be it enacted, That the Inspector and Superintendent of the Police for the City of Quebec, shall be held and deemed to be the finder of any thing found in the River Saint Lawrence by the members of the Police force aforesaid, within the true intent and meaning of the ninety-ninth Section of the Act passed in the twelfth year of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Laws relative to the powers and duties of the Trinity House of Quebec, and for other purposes*" and that two thirds of the net proceeds of the Sale, of any such thing in virtue of the said Act, shall revert and be paid to him accordingly.

Application of money raised under this Act, &c.

VIII. And be it enacted, That all moneys raised, levied and received under the authority of this Act, and all moneys heretofore raised by voluntary contribution, as aforesaid, and paid over and received under the authority of this Act, shall be applied by such Officers or persons, and under such rules and regulations as the Governor of this Province shall from time to time appoint for that purpose, in defraying the expense of maintaining and paying the members of the Police force, acting as Constables in the Port of Quebec, under the Ordinance cited in the Preamble to this Act.