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No. 262.

3rd Session, 5th Parliament, 20 Victoria, 1857.

BILL.

**An Act to establish a Marine Hospital in the
Town of St. Catharines, on the line of the
Welland Canal.**

Received and read, first time, Wednesday, 22nd
April, 1857.

Second reading, Thursday, 23rd April, 1857.

HON. MR. MERRITT.

TORONTO:

An Act to authorize the erection of a Marine Hospital, near the Welland Canal, for the relief of sick and wounded Sailors navigating the Lakes.

WHEREAS it is advisable to establish at some central point in the vicinity of Lakes Erie and Ontario, an Hospital or Infirmary, for the reception of diseased and temporarily disabled mariners, actually engaged in the navigation of the said waters, and it is therefore expedient to authorise His Excellency the Governor of this Province, to appoint Commissioners for superintending the erection of a suitable building upon some point on the line of the Welland Canal; and to provide for the appointment of proper officers for the management, and to levy a capitation tax upon all parties employed in the merchant service on the aforesaid Lakes, of not more than *two shillings and six pence* per month for each individual, for the maintenance and support of the same; Therefore Her Majesty, &c., enacts as follows :

Preamble

I. An Hospital for the relief of sailors employed as aforesaid, shall be erected on such plot of ground, situated as aforesaid, as shall be appropriated by the Governor, or purchased by Commissioners appointed under the authority of this Act for the purpose.

Site of Hospital.

II. It shall and may be lawful for the Governor of this Province to authorize a sum, not exceeding *five thousand pounds*, to be paid to any Board of Commissioners, for the purpose of purchasing a site, and erecting proper buildings for the Hospital.

£5,000 appropriated for the Hospital.

III. So soon as the said building shall be reported to the Governor of this Province by the said Commissioners as sufficiently completed and furnished for the reception of patients, it shall and may be lawful for the Governor to appoint to such Institution a Board of Directors, to consist of not less than five persons, resident in the neighborhood, and interested in Lake Navigation; and it shall be the duty of the said Board, or of any two Members thereof, at least once every three months to visit the said Institution, to inspect the same; and annually, on the first Wednesday in January after the passing of this Act, to make a report of the state thereof, and of the patients admitted during the year, to the Governor, for the information of the Legislature.

Commissioners to be appointed.

Annual Report of Commissioners.

IV. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors at their first meeting to frame By laws for the government and regulation of the Charity, to appoint medical officers under the sanction of the Governor, to audit and inspect the accounts, to approve or disapprove of the appointment of the subordinate officers and attendants appointed by the principal medical

Duties of Commissioners.

attendant, and to fix the respective salaries of parties connected therewith.

Meetings.

V. It shall be the duty of the said Board to meet quarterly, and oftener if they shall see occasion, in some convenient room in the Institution, or at the Town of St. Catherines; and at any such meeting a plurality of votes shall be binding and conclusive upon any matter before the Board, and three Directors shall constitute a quorum for the despatch of business.

Quorum.

Accounts to be made up quarterly.

VI. The accounts of the said Hospital shall be made up and ascertained by the Medical Superintendent, quarterly, upon the first Monday in January, April, July and October, in each year, to be submitted to the Board of Directors at each regular meeting.

Filling vacancies in Board.

VII. Whenever any vacancies shall occur among the members of the said Board, it shall be lawful for the Governor to fill such vacancies by the appointment of other fit and proper persons, as often as need shall require.

Collection of the Tax to be imposed under this Act.

VIII. The Collectors of Canal Tolls, at each extremity of the Welland Canal, shall oblige the masters of vessels passing through the Welland Canal, owned in this Province, to pay the rate of *two shillings and six pence* per month, which is hereby imposed upon each sailor or other person employed in such Vessel by the month or otherwise: and such Collectors shall grant a receipt upon such payment being made: And the officers of Customs at each port upon the above named Lakes shall be empowered to receive the said tax, and to demand the inspection of receipts from other parties empowered to grant the same, and in default of payment to detain such vessel until such payment shall be made: and any resistance to, or refusal or neglect to pay the said tax shall be visited with the same pains and penalties and forfeitures as are provided for resistance to, or for refusal or neglect to pay any duty of customs duly established by law.

Penalty for resistance.