

T H E

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Assize of Bread,

ESTABLISHED MARCH 28, 1801.

The Sixpenny Wheatn Loaf } lbs. oz.
to weigh - - - - - } 1 8
Ditto Rye - - - - - } 2 4

And other Loaves in proportion.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL, Mayor.

A LAW to repeal a Law, or Ordinance, made in the year 1795, intituled "A Law directing the uses of the Public Seals of the City of Saint John, and to regulate the Admission of Freemen in said City, and to make other and better provisions and regulations in those respects."

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Assistants of the said City of Saint John, in Common Council convened, that the aforesaid Law, or Ordinance, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

II. And be it further ordained, By the Mayor, Aldermen, and Assistants of the City of Saint John, in Common Council convened, that the Common Seal of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonality of the City of Saint John, commonly called the Common Seal of the said City, shall be and remain in the custody and keeping of the Common Clerk of the said City, for the time being, and shall be put and affixed to all Grants, Leaves, Freedoms, Certificates, and all other instruments and writings, which shall from time to time be made, granted or issued, by order of the Common Council of the said City, or otherwise provided for by the Charter of the said City—And that the fees to be taken therefor, shall be as follows, to wit: Two Shillings to the Mayor, and Two Shillings to the Clerk of said City—That the Seal commonly called the Seal of the Mayor's Court, shall be and remain in the custody and keeping of the said Clerk, and shall be put and affixed to all Process issuing out of the Court of Common Pleas, called the Mayor's Court, and out of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace, and to no other purposes whatsoever—And that the Seal commonly called the Seal of the Mayorality shall be and remain in the keeping and custody of the Mayor of the said City, for the time being, and by him put and affixed to all such writings and instruments as are usually and customarily certified under any Seal of Mayorality, and that the fees to be taken therefor shall be One Shilling for each certificate to which the said Seal is affixed, and Two Shillings for the said Seal.

III. And be it further ordained, That each person hereafter to be admitted and made a Freeman of the said City, who was not made a Freeman by the Charter of the said City, or was not born within said City, or served a regular apprenticeship of six years within the same, shall pay the sum of Five Pounds—And that every person on being admitted and made a Freeman of said City, shall pay the following fees, viz. Two Shillings to the Mayor, and Two Shillings to the Clerk, and six pence to the Marshal attending at the time such person is qualified as a Freeman.

Read and Passed in Common Council, 19th April, 1801.
CHARLES I. PETERS, C. C.

A LAW to lay a Tax on DOGS for the support of the Poor in the City of Saint John.

WHEREAS in and by an act of the General Assembly of this Province, made and passed in this present forty-first year of his Majesty's reign, intituled, "an act for the further and better support of the Poor in the City of Saint John," it is enacted, That the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonality of the said City of Saint John, be authorized yearly and every year during the continuance of that act, to

lay a Tax upon Dogs, to be levied upon the owner of the same, being within the limits of the said City, and collected in such manner as the Corporation of the said City by Law or Ordinance shall appoint, which said Tax shall be appropriated and applied for the support of the Poor and to no other purpose whatsoever. Provided that such Tax shall not amount to more than Five Shillings for any one Dog: Be it ordained by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Assistants of the City of Saint John, in Common Council convened, that from and after the first day of May next, it shall and may be lawful for the Collectors for the said purpose to be appointed by the Common Council of the said City, to demand and receive of and from all and every person or persons within the districts for which such Collectors shall be respectively appointed within the limits of the said City, having the property in or keeping any Dog or Dogs of what kind or size soever of three months old or upwards, the sum of Five Shillings for each Dog owned or kept by any such person or persons, or in his, her, or their families or houses, to be paid into the hands of the Overseers of the Poor, in the said City, for the support thereof.

II. And be it further ordained, That if any person or persons having property in or keeping any Dog or Dogs of what kind or size soever, as aforesaid, shall neglect or refuse to pay unto the Collector or Collectors of their several and respective districts, the sum or sums above ordained, when thereunto required, it shall and may be lawful to levy the same by distress and sale of the offenders goods, returning the over-plus, if any, to such offender, after deducting the same tax, and the charges of making and selling such distress; and if no goods shall be found whereon to levy the same, to commence and prosecute an action or actions therefor in the City Court, for the recovery of the same, with costs of suit in the same manner that any other debt or demand can or may be prosecuted or sued for in the said City Court; and if any person or persons shall deny that he, she or they, have property in or keep any Dog or Dogs for which the said Tax shall be demanded, then upon proof that such person or persons are in possession of or suffer the same to remain in or about his, her or their houses respectively, ten days before such demand made by the Collector, he, she or they shall be deemed to be the owner or owners of such Dogs respectively, and liable to the payment of the said Tax, to be recovered in the said City Court, in manner above mentioned; and if any Dog shall keep about any persons house ten days, and no person shall appear within that time to claim the same, it shall and may be lawful for such person or persons having such Dog or Dogs about his, her or their houses respectively, to kill such Dog or Dogs at any time after the said ten days.

III. And be it further ordained, That the said Collectors shall each keep a book, and therein enter the names of the several persons in their several and respective districts, owning or keeping any such Dog or Dogs, and the number thereof, with the Tax or sums collected by virtue of this law, which entries shall be shown and exhibited to the said Overseers of the Poor at the several and respective times of payment of the said Tax, into their hands as aforesaid, each Collector retaining in his hands Four Shillings in the Pound, for collecting and paying the same.

IV. And be it further ordained, That each Collector so to be appointed shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of his duty, before the Mayor, and if any such Collector shall neglect or refuse to perform the duties hereby enjoined upon them respectively, such Collector so offending, shall for each and every offence forfeit and pay the sum of Five Pounds,

to be recovered with costs of suit, by and in the name of the Chamberlain of the said City, in the Mayor's Court, upon complaint made to the said Chamberlain by the said Overseers of the Poor, who the penalty or penalties when recovered shall be paid by the said Chamberlain into the hands of the said Overseers of the Poor, for the use of the Poor of the said City.

Copy from the Minutes,
CHARLES I. PETERS, C. C.

LONDON, MARCH 4.

Capture of the KENT, East-Indiaman.

We are extremely sorry to announce the unfortunate capture of the Hon. East-India company's ship the Kent, Capt. Robert Rivington, by a French privateer in the bay of Bengal in October last, after sustaining a gallant action for nearly two hours. The ship sailed from England on the third of May last, in company with the Queen, and was at Saint Salvador at the time the Queen was captured in July following. The Kent at the time of her capture was full of passengers; for in addition to her own, she took all the Queen's passengers on to Bengal, after the loss of the said ship. The Kent was an entire new ship of 320 tons burden, and her first voyage, as well as the first voyage as commander, of the late gallant Captain Rivington.

Capt. Rivington, of the Kent, was unfortunately killed, bravely defending the Company's property till the last moment of his existence, when he exclaimed, "Do not give up the ship."—Mr. Cator, a free merchant, also fell, covered with wounds. All the surviving passengers who were able to be removed, were put on board an Arab, and landed at Calcutta.

The Kent was in 25 fathoms water, and took the Constance for a pilot sloop. The crew of the Constance were all armed with sabres and pistols, and had been thrice encouraged with liquor, previous to their boarding the Kent.

The situation of Mr. and Miss Cator, must have been distressing in the extreme.

General St. John and his family were on board the Kent, and appear to have been particularly unfortunate. All his jewels, plate, and baggage had been burnt on board the Queen, and he was now almost destined to behold his lovely wife, daughter to the Margravine of Anspach, and his three charming daughters, victims to the lawless excess of a savage banditti. The gallant Captain Pilkington, the General's aid-de-camp, was severely wounded in defending the General's family.

The French behaved with a cruelty almost unexampled in sea-fights, giving no quarter, and stabbing with their sabres even the sick in their hammocks.

Previous to their boarding, the Kent had evidently the advantage; and had the crew been equally armed with offensive weapons, or had more musquetry, the Constance would, in all probability, have paid dearly for the rashness of her attempt. This is the same ship which was beat off formerly by the Armiton.

The above unpleasant intelligence was received by private letters which arrived over land from Bombay on Monday night. The following is copied from the India Telegraph:

Calcutta, Octo. 18, 1800.

On Sunday last accounts were received in town of the capture of the honorable Company's ship Kent, Capt. Rivington, after an engagement of considerable duration with the Constance, Capt. Surcouff, off the Sands Heads. The following are the particulars:

On Tuesday morning the 7th instant, at day-light, a strange sail was discovered in the N. W. quarter; the Kent at that time was lying too for a pilot, and Capt. Rivington conceiving the vessel in sight to be a pilot schooner, immedi-

ately bore down, hoisted his colors, and made the signal for a pilot; the stranger, upon this, made sail and hauled up towards the Kent; it was soon after discovered that she was a ship, the hands were immediately called to quarters, and the ship prepared for action; upon her approach to the Kent, as she shewed no colors, a shot was fired at her from the larboard side, which was followed up, as she passed upon the opposite tack, by a broadside, and a constant fire kept up whilst she was within reach of the guns; the privateer, for it was now ascertained to be so, soon afterwards, came up on the larboard side, and commenced the engagement within about a musket shot, but without doing much injury, although she continued in this position for some time: She then shot a head, and passing round the bow of the Kent, renewed the engagement on the other side, nearly at the same distance and for the same length of time, but with as little effect as before. She afterwards made sail a-head, as if with the intention of relinquishing the attack and making off, which she could easily have done, having greatly the superiority in sailing: when she had got about the distance of half a mile a-head of the Kent, she was, however, observed to haul her main-sail up, and wear round immediately towards her, and about ten or fifteen minutes afterwards, or as soon as her guns would bear, she, for the first time, hoisted the national colors, (Surcouff afterwards declared that he had forgotten them before) and fired a broadside and a volley of musquetry from every part of the ship, which was immediately returned by the Kent, and continued while her guns would bear; the privateer then wearing round her stern, ranged close up along side, and received a full discharge from the Kent's starboard guns; at this moment she fired a whole broadside, and threw a number of hand grenades from her tops into the Kent, some of which penetrated the upper deck and burst on the gun deck, at the same time a fire of musquetry was kept up from her tops, which killed and wounded a number of the passengers and recruits that were on the quarter deck and poop: when the ships were completely locked with each other, Capt. Surcouff entered at the head of about 150 men, completely armed for boarding, having each a sabre and a brace of pistols; the contest upon deck was now desperate, and lasted for about twenty minutes, but the enemy having greatly the superiority, both in number and arms, were victorious, and a dreadful carnage ensued, they shewing no quarter to any who came in their way, whether with or without arms; and such was their savage cruelty, that they even stabbed some of the sick in bed.

Upon gaining possession of the poop, the French immediately cut down the colors, and soon after this had complete possession of the ship.

Captain Surcouff, finding some disinclination in his crew to board, had been under the necessity of plying them several times with liquor, as well as to promise them an hour's pillage in the event of carrying the ship, and this time they completely occupied, breaking open every package they could come at, and even taking the coats, hats, shoes, &c. from the persons of the officers and passengers.

From the commencement of the action until the French were in possession of the ship, was about an hour and forty seven minutes, and from the gallant manner in which the officers and crew of the Kent behaved while the ships were clear of each other, there is not a doubt but she would have overcome the privateer; but there being a very great deficiency of small arms, they had no means of repelling such a number of boarders, so well prepared for close action, and Capt. Surcouff acknowledged that had he not succeeded in carrying