

Bill Read the Third Time, Motions of Charles James Fox

The order of the day being read, the Bill was accordingly read the third time.

Mr. Charles Fox, then proposed as an amendment to the Bill, to leave out the following clause:

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"And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That whenever it shall be made to appear to his Majesty in his Privy Council, that peace and obedience to the laws shall be so far restored in the said town of Boston, that the trade of Great Britain may safely be carried on there, and his Majesty's customs duly collected, and his Majesty in his Privy Council shall adjudge the same to be true, it shall and may be lawful for his Majesty, by proclamation or order of Council, to assign and appoint the extent, bounds and limits, of the port or harbour of Boston, and of every creek or haven within the same, or in the islands within the precincts thereof; and also to assign and appoint such and so many open places, quays, and wharfs, within the said harbour, creeks, havens, and islands, for the landing, discharging, lading and shipping, of goods, as his Majesty, his heirs, or successors, shall judge necessary and expedient; and also to appoint such and so many officers of the customs therein, as his Majesty shall think fit; after which it shall be lawful for any person or persons to lade or put off from, or discharge and land upon, such wharfs, quays and places, so appointed within the said harbour, and none other, any goods, wares, and merchandise, whatever. Provided always, That if any goods, wares, or merchandise, shall be laden or put off from, or discharged or landed upon, any other place than the quays, wharfs, or places, so to be appointed, the same, together with the ships, boats and other vessels, employed therein, and the horses or other cattle, and carriages, used to convey the same, and the person or persons concerned or assisting therein, or to whose hands the same shall knowingly come, shall suffer all the forfeitures and penalties imposed by this or any other Act, on the illegal shipping or landing of goods."

And the question being put, that the said clause stand part of the Bill?

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

Mr. Fox objected to another clause: he had objected to these two clauses in the Committee. He said, he now made his objections, in order that it might appear on the Journals that somebody did object to them. He then moved as a further amendment to the Bill, to leave out the following clause: —

"Provided, also, And it is hereby declared, and enacted, that nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed, to enable his Majesty to appoint such port, harbour, creeks, quays, wharfs, places, or officers, in the said town of Boston, or in the said bay, or islands, until it shall sufficiently appear to his Majesty, that full satisfaction hath been made by or on behalf of the said town of Boston, to the United Company of the East Indies, for the damage sustained by the said Company, by the destruction of their goods sent to the said town of Boston, on board certain

ships or vessels as aforesaid, and until it shall be certified to his Majesty in Council, by the Governor or Lieutenant Governor of the said Province, that reasonable satisfaction hath been made to the officers of his Majesty's revenue, and others, who suffered by the riots and insurrections above mentioned, in the month of November."

And the question being put, that those words stand part of the Bill?

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

Source: [The American Archives: Documents of the American Revolution](#)