

George A. - Additional Instruction to
our trusty & well beloved Frederick Haldimand
Esq. &c. &c. Given at our Court at St. James's
the 16th day of July 1779 in the 19th Year of Our Reign.

Whereas it is expedient & agreeable
to our Royal Will & Pleasure, that our Subjects
Inhabitants of our Province of Quebec under your
Government, should have & enjoy every benefit and
security resulting to them from a speedy & effectual
distribution of Law & Justice, according to the Principles
of the British Constitution, as far as the same can
be adapted to their peculiar Circumstances and
Situation; and whereas according to the practice of
the Courts of Civil & Criminal Judicature, as
constituted by the Ordinances now in force, the
Official Duty of the Chief Justice of our said Province

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is confined to causes of a criminal nature only, &
except in Cases of Appeal, where He sits in common
with the rest of our Council; in consideration
hereof, & to prevent (as far as in us lies) the frequency
of Appeals, it is Our Will & Pleasure, & You are
hereby strictly enjoined & required by, & with the
Advice & Consent of our Council, in their Legislative
Capacity assembled, to frame an Ordinance to be
passed for the purposes of explaining & amending the
Ordinances before mentioned by directing & enacting
that the Chief Justice shall preside, & be made a
Member of the Court of Common Pleas, & as such
shall sit in the said Court four times in the Year
at Quebec, and twice in the Year at Montreal,
at the latter Place, immediately after or before
the present Circuit Business, as shall be deemed
most convenient; that notwithstanding His
having given His Opinion in the Court below, He
shall sit and give His Opinion in the Court of Appeal
that such Court of Appeal shall consist of four
Persons besides the Chief Justice, to be nominated
by the Governor, or Commander in Chief for the
time being, from amongst the Members of Our
Council, and approved, and confirmed by Us,
together with the Judges of the Court of that
District, from whence the Appeal does not come)

come; that of these Persons, five to be a Quorum for
the dispatch of Business; the Chief Justice (or
the Person, or one of the Persons officiating in
that Capacity) always to be one; And that
the said Court of Appeals be confined to examine
Errors of Law only, taking the Facts as stated
in the Transcript transmitted by the Court
where such Cause shall have been determined
and without going into new Evidence, or
reexamining the Evidence before taken.

(signed) G. R.

