

17. All actions for the recovery of penalties or forfeitures imposed by this Act must be commenced within three years after the offence committed.

Limitation for penalties.

18. No appeal shall be prosecuted from any decree or sentence of any Court in this Province, touching any penalty or forfeiture hereby imposed, unless the inhibition be applied for, and decreed, within twelve months from the decree or sentence being pronounced.

Appeals, within what time to be prosecuted.

19. All coasting vessels under sixty tons burthen, owned in this Province, and engaged in the coasting trade thereof, shall be furnished with a narrow piece of plank, or iron, affixed to the bottom of the keel, and level therewith, extending aft at least six inches beyond the aperture between the stern post and rudder, and well secured on the keel; but this section shall not extend to vessels in which the main or false keel extends six inches beyond the aperture between the stern post and rudder.

Coasting vessels to have plank or iron extending aft of stern post.

20. Any owner or master of a coasting vessel not so furnished or built, running foul of any net set within or off the harbours, bays or rivers of the coast of this Province shall, upon due proof thereof, forfeit five pounds, to be recovered by the party injured, to his own use as a private debt, leaving to such party grieved, nevertheless, his rights at common law for any further damages.

Forfeiture for destroying nets if not so provided.

21. The owner of every vessel or boat under the burthen of fifteen tons, belonging to this Province, and employed in fishing, coasting, or piloting, shall furnish a written description of the same, together with his own name, place of abode, and occupation, to the chief officer of the Provincial Treasury of the district wherein the owner resides; such officer shall thereupon grant to the owner a certificate, that the requisite description has been filed with him, and that a certain number has been affixed thereto; which number shall thereafter be painted conspicuously on both bows in figures not less than nine inches in length, and on the mainsail of such vessel or boat in figures not less than three feet in length.

Vessels under fifteen tons to have distinguishing numbers.

22. Vessels or boats belonging to owners residing within the Bay of Fundy, shall be distinguished by numerals in red on the bows and mainsail; and vessels or boats belonging to owners residing on the Gulf coast of this Province, shall be distinguished by numerals in black upon a white patch on each bow, and in black upon the mainsail of such boat or vessel.

Colour of the numbers.

23. Every vessel or boat under the burthen of fifteen tons, belonging to this Province, and found fishing, coasting or piloting near its shores, without bearing a distinguishing number on the bows and mainsail, as above provided, shall be seized and detained until properly numbered, and until the payment of a fine not exceeding five pounds.

Vessels without distinguishing number to be seized.

24. If the owner of any vessel or boat under the burthen of fifteen tons, shall make any false or fraudulent description of the same, or any misrepresentation whatsoever, in order to obtain a certificate and number therefor, he shall forfeit twenty pounds.

Penalty for false description of vessel.

25. If any person shall make a false or fraudulent declaration, oath or representation with reference to the sale, transfer, registry or re-registry of any ship or vessel above the burthen of fifteen tons, or shall conspire or collude with a foreigner in any false or fraudulent transfer of a foreign ship or vessel, either to obtain a British register therefor, or for any false, fraudulent, or deceptive purpose, or shall wilfully and knowingly aid in giving to the master or owner of a foreign vessel, being a foreigner, the character of a British subject, or to a foreign vessel the character of a British vessel, he shall forfeit one hundred pounds.

Penalty for falsity as to vessels over fifteen tons or foreign vessels.

26. The Lieutenant Governor may by Commission under the Great Seal, appoint the Officer in command of any of Her Majesty's Vessels of War, employed on the coasts of this Province in the protection of the fisheries, to be a Justice of the Peace in any or every County of this Province; such Commission to be in force while such officer is employed on the coast in the protection of the fisheries, and in command of one of Her Majesty's vessels.

Commission of the Peace to Officer in command of H. M. Vessels of War.

27. In this Chapter, "Vessels" shall include Ships, and "Harbours" shall include Ports, Bays and Creeks.

Definition of terms.

28. This Act shall not come into operation until Her Majesty's approbation is thereunto had and declared.

Suspending clause.

[This Act was specially confirmed, ratified, and finally enacted, by an Order of Her Majesty in Council, dated the 24th day of October, 1853.]