

" the said limits, and to punish by a penalty, not exceeding eight hundred dollars, all infringement of any of the provisions of all by-laws passed to that effect; which said penalty shall belong to the corporation of the said city, and may be sued for in a summary manner before the Recorder's Court of the said city; and in default of payment of the said penalty and the costs, the defendant shall be imprisoned at hard labor for a time not to exceed three months, unless the fine and costs and those of imprisonment be sooner paid; and to that end the said Court has the power to summon the transgressor, although he may reside without the limits of its jurisdiction, to appear before the said Court to answer to the charge brought against him, to defend and be judged in conformity with the law which governs the said Court."

The Act is intituled " An Act to amend and consolidate the provisions contained in the Acts and Ordinances relating to the incorporation of, and supply of water for the City of Quebec."

The subject of procuring the repeal by Parliament of the foregoing sub-section was brought under the consideration of the Council of the Montreal Board of Trade, on the ground that it provides for a very serious obstruction to the navigation of the River St. Lawrence, which has been detrimental to trade and commerce,—and the following questions arose:—

1. Can the River St. Lawrence, between Quebec and Levis, be kept open during Winter by Steam Ferry Boats?
2. What influence has the ice-barrier (the so-called ice-bridge) at Quebec upon the ice formation at Cap Rouge?
3. Can the ice-barrier at Cap Rouge be destroyed in Spring so as to admit of navigating the River at an earlier date than is usual?
4. To what extent does the ice-barrier at Quebec retard the opening of River navigation?

With these queries in view, the Secretary was instructed to investigate the subject and report, so that the results may be submitted to Government, if such action is deemed expedient.