

laid down by the laws of England, and no servant, clerk, manager or agent nor any Shareholder shall be deemed an incompetent witness, either for or against the Company, unless he be incompetent otherwise than as a Shareholder.

Secretary or Treasurer authorized to appear and answer in certain cases.

XXXIX. And be it enacted, That if any writ of *saisie arrêt* or attachment 5 shall be served upon the said Company, it shall be lawful for the Secretary or Treasurer thereof, in any such case to appear in obedience to the said writ, to make the declaration by law required, according to the exigency of each case, which said declaration shall be taken and received 10 in all Courts of Justice in Lower Canada, as the declaration of the said Company, and in cases in which interrogatories *sur faits et articles* or the *serment décisoire* may be served upon or required of the said Company, the President, Secretary or Treasurer thereof may appear and answer such interrogatories, or to take or refer such *serment décisoire* and the answers on oath of the President, Secretary or Treasurer shall be held 15 and taken to be the answers on oath of the said Company, to all intents and purposes as if all and every the formalities of law required had been complied with.

Company may become parties to Promissory Notes and Bills of Exchange.

XL. And be it enacted, That the said Company shall have power to become a party to Promissory Notes and Bills of Exchange, and any 20 such Promissory Note made or indorsed and any such Bill of Exchange drawn, accepted or indorsed by the President or Vice-President of the said Company, and countersigned by the Secretary or Treasurer, or by any agent or agents thereunto authorized under the authority of a majority of a *quorum* of the Directors, shall be binding on the said 25 Company; and in no case shall it be necessary to have the seal of the said Company affixed to any such Promissory Note or Bill of Exchange, nor shall the President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer of the said Company so making, drawing, accepting or indorsing any such Promissory Note or Bill of Exchange be thereby subjected individually to any 30 liability whatever; Provided always, that nothing in this Section contained shall be construed to authorize the said Company to issue any Note payable to the bearer thereof, or any Promissory Note intended to be circulated as money or as the notes of a bank.

Bodies corporate authorized to take shares and make loans.

XLI. And be it enacted, That if at any time any Municipal or other 35 Corporation, civil or ecclesiastical, body politic, corporate or collegiate or community, either in this Province or elsewhere, shall be desirous of taking shares in the Capital Stock of the said Company or of otherwise promoting the objects thereof by loans of money or securities for money at interest or *à constitution de rente*, it shall be lawful for them 40 respectively so to do in like manner and with the same rights and privileges in respect thereof, as private individuals may do under or by virtue of this Act, anything in any Ordinance or Act or Instrument of Incorporation of any such body or any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding. 45

Interpretation and Public Act.

XLII. And be it enacted, That the Interpretation Act shall apply to this Act, and this Act shall be deemed and taken as a Public Act.