

or cause to be brought or defended any action, suit or prosecution, criminal as well as civil, in law or in equity, touching or concerning the property, right or claim aforesaid, of or belonging to or had by the said Society, and in all cases concerning the property, right or claim aforesaid of the said Society, may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in their proper names as President and Treasurer of the said Society, without other description, and no such suit, action or prosecution shall be discontinued or abated by the death of such persons or their removal from the offices of President or Treasurer, but shall continue in the proper name of the persons commencing the same, any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding; and the succeeding President and Treasurer shall have the same rights and liabilities, and shall pay or receive like costs as if the action or suit or prosecution had been commenced in their names, for the benefit of or to be satisfied out of the funds of the said Society.

President and Treasurer may bring actions, &c.

As to their successors.

Secretary, a competent witness.

XIII. And be it enacted, That in all such actions, suits and prosecutions as aforesaid, the Secretary of such Society shall be a competent witness, notwithstanding he may also be Treasurer of the said Society, and that his name may have been used in such action, suit or prosecution as such Treasurer.

Non-liability of the President, &c.

XIV. And be it enacted, That the President, Vice-President and Directors of every such Society shall in their private capacity be exonerated from all responsibility in relation to the liabilities of such Society.

Treasurer to prepare yearly a statement of the funds of the Society. Particulars.

XV. And be it enacted, That the Rules of every such Society shall provide that the Treasurer or other principal Officer thereof shall once at least in every year prepare or cause to be prepared a general statement of the funds and effects of and belonging to the said Society; specifying in whose custody or possession the said funds or effects shall then be remaining, together with an account of all and every the various sums of money received and expended by or on account of the said Society since the publication of the preceding periodical statement; and every such periodical statement shall be attested by two or more members of the said Society appointed Auditors for that purpose, who shall not be Directors, and shall be countersigned by the Secretary or Clerk of the said Society, and every member shall be entitled to receive from the said Society a copy of such periodical statement without charge.

Attestation, &c.

Saving of the rights of the Montreal Building Society, and of the Act 8 V. c. 94.

XVI. And be it enacted, That nothing herein contained shall affect or be construed to effect or interfere with any of the rights or privileges conferred upon the "Montreal Building Society," under the Act passed in the eighth year of Her Majesty's Reign, and intituled, *An Act for the incorporation of certain individuals under the name and style of "The Montreal Building Society,"* nor in any wise to affect the said Act.

Interpretation clause.

XVII. And be it enacted, That the words "Lower-Canada" in this Act shall be understood to mean that part of the Province which formerly constituted the Province of Lower-Canada; the words "Upper-Canada" that part of the said Province which formerly constituted the Province of Upper-Canada; and the word "Society" shall be understood to include and to mean Building Societies and Institutions established under the provisions and authority of this Act; the word "Rules" to include Rules, Orders, By-laws and Regulations; every word importing the singular number shall extend and be applied to several persons or things as well as one person or thing, and bodies corporate as well as individuals; and every word importing the plural number shall