

actions were prescribed by six or by thirty years, according as the matter was of a commercial nature or not. 4. Actions for sums due schoolmasters and teachers, for tuition and board and lodging furnished by them. The old law required only one year.

Article **2262** enumerates the actions which are subjected to a prescription of one year. Those in which that period changes the previous law are : 1. Actions for bodily injury, not provided for by special laws. These actions formerly came under the general prescription by thirty years. 2. Actions for wages of domestic or farm servants, merchants' clerks, and other employees hired for less than a year. Merchants' clerks were formerly subject to the six years prescription, and the servants or employees had a right to recover for one year besides the current year or month, according to whether they were hired by the year or by the month.

The articles to be next explained are those which tend to produce greater simplicity, uniformity, or facility, in the matter of prescriptions.

As regards the prescription of moveables and personal actions under our former law, different rules obtained. In commercial matters the English rule governed, by which they were subjected to the *lex fori* ; in all other matters the French rule prevailed, which subjected them to the law of the domicile of the debtor or the possessor. Then as to the admissibility of foreign or partly foreign prescription, the law was also different, according to whether the matter was commercial or not.

Articles **2190** and **2191**, partaking of both systems, have adopted a uniform rule, applicable to moveables and to personal actions generally, whether in commercial matters or not, and subjecting them to the *lex fori*. Under the former article prescription entirely acquired under foreign law, before the possessor or debtor was domiciled here, may be invoked, if the cause of action did not arise, or the debt was not stipulated payable, in Lower Canada ; and prescriptions partly acquired under a foreign law may, under the same restrictions, be invoked, provided they have begun abroad and are completed under our own law. Prescriptions entirely acquired in Lower Canada may be invoked, dating from the maturity of the obligation, when the cause of action arises, or the debt is stipulated to be paid, or the debtor, at