

**51.** From and after the passing of this Act, every proprietor or agent, who shall wilfully grant a certificate or receipt, setting forth a less sum than the rent really paid or payable for the premises therein mentioned or referred to, and every tenant, who shall present to the assessors of the said town such a receipt or certificate, falsely representing the value of the rent paid by such tenant, in order to procure a diminution or abatement of his assessment, or who shall directly or indirectly deceive the said assessors as to the amount of such rent, shall be liable, on conviction thereof, before the Mayor or a Justice of the Peace, to a penalty of twenty dollars or less, or to imprisonment during one calendar month or less, according to the judgment of such Mayor or Justice of the Peace. 5 10

**52.** It shall be lawful for the said Council, whenever any house shall encroach upon any of the streets or public squares of the said town, to prevent the proprietor of such house from rebuilding on the site occupied by the demolished house; and it shall be lawful for the Council to purchase such part of such lot encroaching upon any street, or to require the proprietor of such land to dispossess himself thereof, in consideration of an indemnity therefor, and such indemnity shall be fixed by arbitrators appointed respectively by the said Council and by the party they are desirous of dispossessing; and the said arbitrators, in case of difference of opinion, shall appoint a third, and the said arbitrators, having been sworn by a Justice of the Peace, shall take cognizance of the matter in dispute, and after visiting the place in question, shall decide upon the amount of indemnity to be granted to such proprietor; and the said arbitrators shall be authorized to decide which of the parties shall pay the costs of arbitration. 15 20 25

**53.** The said Council shall have full power to purchase and acquire out of the revenues of the said town, all such lots, lands, and real property whatsoever within the said town, as they shall deem necessary for the opening or enlargement of any street, public square or marketplace, or the erection of any public building, or generally for any object of public utility of a municipal nature. 30

**54.** When the proprietor of a lot, which the said Council shall be desirous of purchasing, for any object of public utility of a municipal nature, shall refuse to sell the same by private agreement, or in case such proprietor shall be absent from the Province, or in case such lot of land shall belong to infants, issue unborn, lunatics, idiots, or wives *sous puissance de maris*, the said Council, after sufficient notice given to the said proprietor, may apply to the Circuit Court sitting in and for the County of Richelieu, or to any other Court, for the appointment of an arbitrator by the said Court, to make, conjointly with the arbitrator appointed by the said Council, a valuation of such lot, with power to the said arbitrators, in case of a difference of opinion, to appoint a third; and such arbitrators, before proceeding to such valuation, shall give to the said Council and the said proprietor sufficient notice of the day, hour and place when they will proceed to such valuation and the hearing of the parties in the case; and when the said arbitrators shall have made their report to the said Council, at a regular meeting thereof, it shall be lawful for the said Council to acquire such lot on depositing the price at which it shall have been valued by the said arbitrators in the hands of the Clerk of the said Circuit Court, or of the Prothonotary of the Superior Court in and for the District of Richelieu, for the use of the person entitled thereto; and if no such person entitled to such indemnity shall appear within six months after such amount shall have been deposited in the hands of such Clerk or Prothonotary, to claim the sum so 35 40 45 50 55