

Proceedings under this Act not to be avoided for technical errors or defects of form.

XXV. And be it enacted, That in any prosecution or proceeding under this Act, no objection of mere form or founded on any mere want of form, shall be allowed to avail, nor shall any objection to the proceedings be maintained unless it be shewn that some substantial injustice would be done if the objection were not allowed; and no particular form of words shall be necessary in any such proceeding, but it shall be sufficient that the words used will, according to the ordinary construction of the language, bear the meaning and convey the facts or information intended by the party using them; and it shall be sufficient that the offence be proved to have been committed at some time within                      days of that on which it is alleged in the complaint to have been committed and before such complaint: and the largest and most liberal interpretation shall be given to the description of the offence in the complaint, which may be consistent with substantial justice to the defendant: it shall not be necessary to prove the precise quantity or kind of liquor alleged to have been sold without a licence: it shall be sufficient to convict the master or keeper of any house, to prove that the offence was committed by any member of his family or household, (if he is by this Act made liable in such case) although the offence be alleged in the complaint to have been committed by the master or keeper of the house, and any person proved to reside in his house or to have acted as his servant or as a member of his family or household, shall be held to be so unless the contrary be proved: and                      clear day's notice to the defendant to appear and answer the complaint, or to any witness to appear and give evidence shall be sufficient.

Tavern-keepers and officers of steamers made special constables.

XXVI. And be it enacted, That for the purposes of preserving order in and upon his house and premises, every Tavern-keeper or Hotel-keeper shall be a peace officer, and shall take the oath as a special constable; and that every master, purser, and mate of a steamer shall also be a special constable, with the rights, immunities, duties and powers of such, and as such entitled and bound to preserve order on board of his or their steamer or vessel.

Authorities granting certificates may administer oath.

XXVII. And be it enacted, That the person or persons on whom the duty of granting any certificate for licence or of enforcing the provisions of this Act or any of them, or of seeing that the same are duly enforced by others, is imposed, shall be and each of them is hereby empowered to administer any oath which may be necessary for enabling them properly to perform such duty, and to keep a record of the same and of the tenor and effect thereof.

Act to affect only Lower Canada.

XXVIII. And be it enacted, That this Act shall apply only to Lower Canada.