

case the party producing the said bill, note or contract shall be held and required to prove the signature thereto, as is now required in such cases.

5 VI. And be it enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, in all cases in which by the law in force in Lower Canada, and by the practice of the Courts therein, the testimony of two witnesses is required to establish
 10 the truth of any fact in any civil suit or proceeding before such Courts, subject to be contradicted or disproved in the manner provided by law, the testimony of one such witness shall alone be required and be held to
 15 establish such fact, subject to contradiction and disproof as aforesaid, any law, usage or custom in Lower Canada to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

One witness only required in all civil cases.

20 VII. And be it enacted, That in any suit or action brought or to be brought in any Court of Civil Jurisdiction in Lower Canada, it shall not be necessary to reduce to writing the testimony of the witnesses adduced in such suit or action, but such witnesses shall be examined
 25 *vivâ voce* in open Court, any law, custom or usage to the contrary notwithstanding : Provided always, that if any such suit or action be of the class of suits or actions in which by any Act or Acts made or to be made, an
 30 appeal may lie to a higher tribunal in the said heretofore Province of Lower Canada, it shall be the duty of the Judges or Judge before whom such testimony is adduced, or before whom the said cause may be tried,
 35 to take notes in writing of the material parts of such testimony, and to sign the same, which notes so signed shall be fyled and remain of record in the cause, and shall to all intents and purposes have the same legal force and
 40 effect as the written depositions of the said witnesses fyled in the cause would have had, according to the law heretofore in force in that behalf.

Testimony need not be reduced to writing.

Proviso.