

19. All coasting vessels under sixty tons burthen owned in this province and engaged in the coasting trade thereof, shall be furnished with a narrow piece of plank or iron affixed to the bottom of the keel and level therewith, extending aft at least six inches beyond the aperture between the stern post and rudder, and well secured on the keel. But this section shall not extend to vessels in which the main or false keel extends six inches beyond the aperture between the stern post and rudder.

20. Any owner or master of a coasting vessel not so furnished or built, running foul of any net set off the harbours, bays and rivers of the coast, shall upon due proof thereof forfeit twenty dollars, to be recovered by the party injured to his own use as a private debt; leaving to the party aggrieved, nevertheless, his rights at common law for any further damage.

21. In this chapter "vessels" shall include ships; and "harbors" shall include ports, bays and creeks.

22. The first eighteen sections are suspended as regards citizens and inhabitants of the United States of America, and shall continue so suspended and not in force so long as the treaty between her majesty and that country, signed on the fifth day of June, 1854, shall continue and be in force.

23. The master of any vessel registered and belonging to this province, and bound from any port therein, to be employed in the deep sea fishery, shall before proceeding on such fishing voyage enter into an agreement in writing with every person on board, apprentices excepted, which agreement shall express whether the same is to continue for one voyage or for the fishing season; and shall also express that the fish or the proceeds of such fishing voyage or voyages which may appertain to the crew of such vessel, shall be divided among them in proportion to the quantity or number of fish which they may respectively have caught; which agreement in addition to the signatures of the master and crew shall be countersigned by the owner of such fishing vessel, or his agent, and shall be as nearly as possible in the form given in the annexed schedule.

24. Any person having engaged for a voyage or for the fishing season, as before provided, who shall while the agreement therefor continues in force, desert or absent himself from the vessel in which he shipped, without leave of the master, shall be liable to the same penalties and forfeitures imposed on the like offences under chapter seventy-five; and every master of a fishing vessel taking any person on a deep sea voyage without entering into the before required agreement, shall be liable to the penalty imposed on that offence by the same chapter.

MEMORANDUM.—Laws for Regulations and inspections of Fish are to be found under Chapter 85, Revised Statutes. These, laws though minute in their application and stringent in the penalties that are attached to their infraction, are practically inoperative because they are left to the option of the county sessions to adopt them.