

Laws of Her Majesty's Province of Upper Canada, passed in the year 1849. Montreal: Stewart Derbyshire & George Desbarats, 1849.

12 Victoria – Chapter 60

An Act to prohibit the use of Strychnine and other poisons, for the destruction of certain kinds of wild animals. 30th May, 1849.

Whereas there are parties who are in the habit of using Strychnine and other deadly poisons, as a substitute for the ordinary means of ensnaring or killing foxes, martens and other wild animals, in the forests and other parts of this Province, without regard to the destruction thereby caused among domestic animals, which have been found dead in great numbers, wherever such poisons have been used for the purpose aforesaid; And whereas in addition to the mischief above mentioned, the practice aforesaid tends to the total destruction of various species of wild animals, the fur whereof forms an important article in the trade of the Province: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and intituled, *An Act to re-unite the Provinces of Upper and Lower-Canada, and for the Government of Canada*, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That no person shall use any Strychnine or other poison of any kind, mineral or vegetable, commonly known as deadly poison, as a means of killing or catching any fox, marten, or other wild animal of any kind, or shall place any such poison, whether concealed in food or otherwise, in any place where it may be found by any such wild animal; and for each and every offence against the provisions of this Section, the offender shall incur a penalty of Ten pounds currency, and shall if the same be not forthwith paid upon his conviction, be committed to Gaol for a period not exceeding three months, or until such penalty and the costs of prosecution shall be paid.

II. And be it enacted, That no apothecary, chemist, druggist, vendor of medicines or other person in this Province, shall sell or deliver any arsenic, corrosive sublimate, strychnine, or other poison, mineral or vegetable, simple or composite, commonly known as deadly poison, or which being incautiously or secretly administered, may cause immediate death, to any person who shall not then produce and deliver a certificate or note from some Justice of the Peace, Physician, Priest or Minister of religion, resident in the locality, addressed to such apothecary, chemist, druggist, vendor of medicines or other person, and mentioning the name, residence, calling or profession of the person requiring such arsenic, corrosive sublimate, strychnine or other such poison as aforesaid, and stating the purpose for which it is required, and that it ought to be sold to the person requiring the same; and such certificate or note shall be kept by the person selling or delivering such poison as his justification for so doing; and any apothecary, chemist, druggist, vendor of medicines, or other person who shall contravene the provisions of this Section, shall for each offence incur a penalty not exceeding Ten pounds currency, and shall, if such penalty be not forthwith paid upon conviction, be committed to Gaol for a period not exceeding three months or until such penalty and the costs of prosecution shall be paid.

III. And be it enacted, That the penalties imposed by this Act shall be recoverable, with costs, in a summary manner before any one Justice of the Peace, on the oath of any one or more credible witness other than the prosecutor, and the prosecution may be commenced at any time within six months after the offence committed; and one moiety of the penalty shall belong to the prosecutor, and the other moiety to Her Majesty, for the public uses of the Province.

IV. Provided always, and be it enacted, That the provisions of this Act shall not be in force in that part of the Province heretofore called Upper-Canada.