

An Act to authorize the Corporation of the Township of St. Vincent, to impose and collect certain tolls and for other purposes.

Preamble.

5 **W**HEREAS the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Town-
 ship of Saint Vincent have, by their petition, represented, that
 under the direction and superintendence of an engineer appointed by
 the Government, they erected a pier or wharf at the Village of Meaford,
 in the said Township of St. Vincent, on certain water lots hereinafter
 10 particularly referred to, four hundred and five feet long, and twenty-eight
 feet wide, in the years 1856 and 1857;—that the cost of making the said
 pier or wharf and of the erection of a storehouse in connection therewith,
 was about the sum of sixteen thousand dollars, of which amount the Gov-
 15 ernment paid one half, and the said petitioners the other half, (the cost of
 the storehouse being about one thousand dollars):—that said petitioners
 borrowed, on the credit of debentures, the money necessary to pay the
 half of the cost of the making of the said pier or wharf, and of erecting
 the said storehouse, being the sum of \$8,000, and that debentures to the
 20 amount of \$2,000, bearing interest, are still outstanding and unpaid on
 account thereof; that after the said pier or wharf was made, a patent,
 bearing date the third day of February, 1860, was issued to the petition-
 ers, whereby the water lots on which the said pier or wharf is erected,
 were granted to the petitioners in trust as a site for a pier and public
 25 landing place; and which said water lots are particularly described in
 said patent, and contain two acres, be the same more or less; that the
 petitioners, at the time they erected the said pier or wharf, acted under
 the belief that they had power to impose reasonable wharfage dues, but
 that they are now advised that they have no power to pass by-laws im-
 posing wharfage dues;—that many of the inhabitants of the Townships of
 30 Euphrasia, Collingwood, Holland and Sydenham, as well as the inhabi-
 tants of the Township of Saint Vincent use the said pier or wharf, and
 most of them, as petitioners believe, are in favor of petitioners having
 authority to impose reasonable wharfage dues for purposes herein men-
 tioned;—that the yearly expenditure required to keep a person to attend
 35 to said wharf and storehouse and to keep the same in repair, is about
 six hundred dollars;—that unless the petitioners are authorized to col-
 lect reasonable wharfage dues they will not be able to keep the said
 wharf in repair, and unless the said wharf is attended to and repaired
 from time to time it will soon go to wreck and become useless; that the
 40 port of Meaford is very much exposed to the north and north-west
 winds, and that for the proper accommodation and security of vessels
 entering the harbor of Meaford the said pier (there being no other pier
 at the said harbor) requires to be enlarged by extending the same in
 length about thirty feet, additional, and making the said extended part,
 45 say two hundred feet wide, thus forming a break-water,—and that the cost
 of the proposed enlargement will be about eight thousand or ten thousand
 dollars. And, whereas, the said Municipal Council have, by their said
 petition, further represented, that lots numbers 19 and 20, on the north