

tioned," and such Act so far as it is material for the purposes of this petition to state the same, after reciting "That His Majesty has been most graciously pleased to direct measures to be immediately taken under the superintendence of the proper military department, for constructing a canal uniting the waters of Lake Ontario with the River Ottawa, and affording a convenient navigation for the transport of naval and military stores. And that such a canal when completed will tend most essentially to the security of this Province, by facilitating measures for its defences, and will also greatly promote its agricultural and commercial interests, and it is therefore expedient to provide by law any necessary facility towards the prosecution of so desirable a work, "It was therefore thereby enacted by the authority of the same, that the officer employed by His Majesty to superintend the said work should have full power and authority to explore the country lying between Lake Ontario, or the waters leading therefrom, and the River Ottawa, and to set out and ascertain such parts of the lands belonging to any person in the route of the said canal as he should think necessary and proper for making the said canal, locks, and all such other works, improvements, matters and conveniences, as he should think proper and necessary for making, effecting, preserving, improving, completing, and using in the said navigation and also, to construct, make and do all other matters and things which he shall think necessary and convenient for the making, effecting, preserving, improving, completing and using the said canal, in pursuance and within the true meaning of the said Act, doing as little damage as may be in the execution of the several powers to him hereby granted."

5. And it was further enacted by the authority aforesaid that after any lands or grounds should be set out and ascertained to be necessary for making and completing the said canal, and its other purposes and conveniences mentioned, the superintending officer aforesaid was empowered to contract, compound, compromise and agree with all persons, for themselves or their heirs and successors, and for those whom they represented, who should occupy, be possessed of or interested in any lands or grounds which should be set out or ascertained as aforesaid, for the absolute surrender to His Majesty, his heirs and successors, of so much of the said land as should be required for, or for the damages which he, she or they might reasonably claim in consequence of, the said intended canal, locks and other constructions and erections being cut and constructed in and upon his, her and their respective lands, and that all such contracts, agreements and surrenders should be valid and effectual in law, to all intents and purposes,

6. And further it was enacted that such parts and portions of land covered with water so ascertained to be necessary to be occupied for the purposes of the said canal; and also such parts and portions as should upon