

Act to enable certain Municipal Corporations
 in Upper Canada to aid in the establishment of
 internal means of communication.

WHEREAS that section of the Peninsula of Western Canada lying north-westerly from the Town of Guelph, and embracing the greater part of the Counties of Wellington and Bruce as well as portions of the Counties of Grey, Perth, and Huron, is entirely destitute of proper facilities for communicating with the produce markets of the Province; And whereas the Reeves of the Municipalities of Fergus, Puslinch, Normanby, Brant, Elora, Minto, Pilkington, Saugeen, Arthur, Nichol, Kinloss, Howick, Greenock, Culross, and Kincardine, and many others, have by their petitions prayed that those Municipal Corporations desiring a means of communication may be enabled to aid in the establishment of the same, and may be empowered to distribute any liability which they may see advisable to incur thereby, over the various sections of each Municipality incurring such liability, in an equitable proportion to the benefits which they may derive from the improvements, or so far as it is practicable so to do; And inasmuch as the construction of Railways and of other roads has been found to enhance to the largest amount the value of property within easy access of these lines of traffic, and it is believed that the various degrees of additional value given to property within the influence of these works may be taken as a fair standard by which to measure the different degrees of benefit received from their establishment; And whereas it is expedient to empower the various Municipalities aforesaid to aid in the promotion of their own prosperity in accordance with the equitable principle expressed in the prayers of the petitioners: Therefore, Her Majesty, &c., enacts as follows:

- 25 I. On and after the passing of this Act, and so soon as a majority of the rate-payers in any section or sections of a Municipality have by a requisition (agreeable to form A setting forth in general terms the character of the improvement they desire, and the rate per cent. for assessment purposes they are willing to bear) requiring their Municipal Council or Councils to incur any such liability as by this Act they are empowered to incur, it shall be lawful for the County Council of Wellington, the Provisional County Council (or in process of time the County Council) of Bruce, and any lesser Municipal Corporations either in or adjacent to these Counties, to guarantee to give a yearly bonus to any 35 Company or Companies, party or parties who shall undertake to build and complete a railway, or a gravel or other improved road or roads through or along or across any of the Municipalities aforesaid: Provided always that such guarantee shall be limited as hereinafter pointed out.
- On a certain petition: Certain Municipalities may guarantee a bonus, by rate on the improved value of property, to Companies affording means of internal communication.*