

Chapter 2.—“An Act to Incorporate the Halifax and Great Western Railway Company,” grew out of the first chapter, and forms a company to carry out the proposed operations contemplated therein.

Chapter 3.—“An Act respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors,” and chapter 4. “An Act to amend the Liquor License Act, 1886,” make a complete change in the licensing system hitherto in force in the City of Halifax. Saloon and tavern licenses will be abolished, and hotel bars closed to the general public. Under this Act there are three classes of licenses legalized, viz.:—Hotel, shop and wholesale, the duties being \$150, \$100 and \$300. Petitions for licenses must be filed with the Inspector on or before the 15th day of December. In the City of Halifax petitions for shop and hotel licenses must be accompanied with a certificate of three-fifths of the rate payers of the district, and for a wholesale license the certificate must have a majority of the rate payers. As respects wholesale licenses the law does not come into operation until 1st January, 1888; all licenses now in force expire on 16th March, 1887. The regulations and prohibitions of this Act are stringent, and the penalties for infringements are very heavy. A number of saloon and tavern keepers whose petitions were not perfected on the day this law went into operation, were unable to obtain licenses from the City, and have consequently been closed up. The Inspector has been vigilant in enforcing the law, and a number of convictions have resulted in heavy fines being imposed.

Chapter 5.—“An Act respecting Public Charities” abolished the Board of Public Charities, on which the Mayor sat as a member, representing the Corporation of Halifax. All the rights, powers and duties of this Board, so far as they concern the Hospital for the Insane, are vested in the Commissioners of Works and Mines. With respect to the Poors’ Asylum and Provincial and City Hospital, the former is vested in the City of Halifax; the control of the latter was left.