

At the general assembly of the province of Nova-Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on Thursday, the twenty-sixth day of January, 1854, in the seventeenth year of the reign of our sovereign lady Victoria, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, queen, defender of the faith, &c. &c. &c. being the fourth session of the twentieth general assembly convened in the said province.\*

\*In the time of his excellency Sir John Gaspard LeMarchant, lieutenant-governor; Michael Tobin, president of the legislative council; William Young, speaker of the assembly; Joseph Howe, provincial secretary; and Henry Twining, clerk of assembly.

## CHAPTER 1.

An Act to authorize the construction of Railways in this Province.

[Passed the 31st day of March, 1854.]

### SECTION

1. Railways to be public works; grades—where to be made.
2. Trunk line to be completed first.
3. Other lines.
4. Construction; management; commissioners.
5. Lines to be built by tender and contract.
6. Contracts—securities for performance of.
7. Chief engineer—appointment and duties of.
8. Payments to contractors.
9. Contractors and officers not to be members of the Legislature.
10. Lands required for lines and termini.
11. Powers of commissioners to deposit soil, earth, &c. supply materials.
12. Construction of roads, bridges, &c. over lands, &c.

### SECTION

13. Alteration of courses of streams, &c.
14. Drains, &c. conveying water to or from railways.
15. General powers relative to making, altering, repairing, &c.
16. Remuneration to proprietors of lands, &c. taken.
17. Where no agreement can be made.
18. Benefits to proprietors from railways, to be considered by appraisers.
19. Monies paid for lands to form a county charge—how to be assessed.
20. Working of lines.
21. Inspection of contracts and proceedings of commissioners.
22. Salaries of officers.
23. Yearly expenditure limited to £200,000
24. Accounts of commissioners—audit of.

Whereas the construction and maintenance of a trunk line of railway from the harbor of Halifax to the frontier of New Brunswick, with branch lines extending to the harbor of Pictou and to Victoria Beach, will greatly facilitate the internal trade of Nova-Scotia,—will develop her resources,—enlarge her revenue, and open more frequent and easy communications with the neighbouring Provinces and States.

Be it enacted, by the governor, council, and assembly, as follows :

1. The lines of railway to be constructed under the provisions of this act, shall be public provincial works, and shall be made public works;