

No. 102.]

## BILL.

[1881.

An Act for Protecting the Public Interest in Rivers,  
Streams and Creeks.

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows :—

1. So far as the Legislature of Ontario has authority so to enact, all persons shall, subject to the provisions in this Act contained, have, and are hereby declared always to have had, during the spring, summer and autumn freshets, the right to, and may float and transmit saw-logs and all other timber of every kind, and all rafts and crafts, down all rivers, creeks and streams in respect of which the Legislature of Ontario has authority to give this power; and in case it may be necessary to remove any obstruction from such river, creek or stream, or construct any apron, dam, slide, gate-lock, boom, or other work therein or thereon, necessary to facilitate the floating and transmitting such saw-logs and other timber, rafts or crafts, down the same, then it shall be lawful for the person requiring so to float and transmit such saw-logs and other timber, rafts and crafts, and it is hereby declared always to have been lawful, to remove such obstruction, and to construct such apron, dam, slide, gate-lock, boom, or other work necessary for the purposes aforesaid, doing no unnecessary damage to the said river, creek or stream, or to the banks thereof.

2. In case any person shall construct in or upon such river, creek or stream, any apron, dam, slide, gate-lock, boom or other work, necessary to facilitate the floating or transmission of saw-logs or other timber, rafts or crafts, down any such river, creek or stream, which was not navigable or floatable before such improvements were made, or shall blast rocks, or remove shoals or other impediments, or otherwise improve the floatability of such river, creek, or stream, such person shall not have the exclusive right to the use of such river, creek or stream, or to such constructions and improvements; but all persons shall have, during the spring, summer and autumn freshets, the right to float and transmit saw-logs and other timber, rafts and crafts, down all such rivers, creeks or