

An Act to incorporate a Company for the construction of a Ship Canal to connect the waters of Lake Champlain and the River St. Lawrence.

WHEREAS the construction of a Ship Canal to connect the River St. Lawrence with Lake Champlain, leaving the St. Lawrence at some point between Lake St. Francis and the Village of Longueuil, and coming out at some point on the River Richelieu or Lake Champlain, would tend much to advance the general interests of the Province, by greatly increasing the business which would be carried on through the St. Lawrence Canals, with Boston, New York and other eastern cities in the United States, and would greatly contribute to promote the trade and facilitate the communication between the eastern and western sections of the Province, and particularly the transportation of timber and deals from the Ottawa and Quebec Districts; And whereas the several persons hereinafter named are desirous to make and maintain the said Canal; Therefore Her Majesty, &c., enacts as follows:

I. The Honorable John Young and the Honorable William H. Merritt, together with such other person or persons as shall under the provisions of this Act become subscribers to any proprietors of any share or shares in the Canal hereby authorized to be made and other works and property hereinafter mentioned, and their several and respective heirs, executors, administrators, curators and assigns, being proprietors of such share or shares are and shall be united into a company for carrying on, making, completing, and maintaining the said Canal and other works, according to the rules, orders, and directions hereinafter expressed, and shall for that purpose be a body politic and corporate by the name of "The St. Lawrence and Champlain Canal Company, and by that name shall have perpetual succession, and shall have a common seal, and other the usual powers and rights of bodies corporate not inconsistent with the other provisions of this Act, and by that name shall and may sue and be sued and may purchase and hold lands (which word throughout this Act shall be understood to include the land and all that is upon or below the surface thereof, and all the real rights and appurtenances thereunto belonging) for them and their successors or assigns for the use of the said Canal and works, without Her Majesty's Letters *d'amortissement*, (saving, nevertheless, to the seignor or seignors within whose censive the lands, tenements and hereditaments so purchased may be situate, his and their several and respective *droits d'indemnité*, and all other seigniorial rights whatever,) and also to alienate and convey any of the said lands purchased for the purposes aforesaid; and any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, or communities, may give, grant, bargain, sell, or convey to the said company any lands for the purposes aforesaid, and the same may re-purchase of the said Company without letters *d'amor-*

Preamble.

Certain persons incorporated.

Corporate name and powers.

Word "lands" how understood.