

245.

**BILL.**

An Act to authorize the formation of Joint Stock Companies in Lower Canada for the construction of Macadamized Roads, and of Bridges and other works of like nature.

**W**HEREAS it is expedient to encourage the construction of Planked, Macadamized or Gravelled Roads, and also of Bridges, Piers and Wharves, in Lower Canada, by Companies who may be disposed to subscribe the necessary capital for the completion thereof; And whereas the delay and expense incident to obtaining a special Act of Incorporation from the Legislature for each separate Company, operate as a great discouragement to persons desirous of embarking capital for the formation of such Companies: Be it therefore enacted, &c.

And it is hereby enacted, by the authority of the same, That any number of persons not less than five, may, in their discretion, form themselves into a Company under the provisions of this Act, for the purpose of constructing any Road or Roads of the kind mentioned in the Preamble to this Act, not less than two miles in length, whether such Roads be to be made over entirely new ground, or by improving any existing Road not being a Turnpike Road, or partly by making a new Road and partly by improving an existing one, and also any Bridge or Bridges, Pier or Piers, Wharf or Wharves; Provided always, that no such Company shall construct any such Road or other such works aforesaid, through, over, along or upon any private property or property of the Crown, without having first obtained the permission of the owner or owners, occupier or occupiers, thereof, or of the Crown, so to do, except as hereinafter provided; nor shall any such Road be made of a steeper grade than one foot elevation to twenty feet along the Road, without the sanction of the Commissioner of Public Works; nor shall any Bridge be constructed over any navigable River, except with the sanction and approval of the Governor in Council, and upon such conditions, and restrictions for securing the freedom of the navigation and otherwise protecting the interests of the Public, as he shall deem it right to insist upon; And provided also, that no such Company shall be formed under the provisions of this Act to construct any line of Road for which a Charter shall have heretofore been granted, unless the Chartered Company shall have forfeited its Charter by not com-

Preamble.

Companies may be formed for certain purposes.

Proviso.

Proviso.