

King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the consent and advice of the Legislative Council and Assembly in the Province of Lower Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great Britain intituled "An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's reign intituled 'An Act for making more effectual provision for the government of the province of Quebec, in North America,' and to make further provision for the Government of the said province;" and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforesaid that the said Act passed in the fifth year of His Majesty's reign be and the same is hereby repealed.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for the Governour, Lieutenant-Governour, or person administering the Government, to issue his Warrant for the payment out of any unappropriated monies in the hands of the Receiver General of a sum not exceeding three thousand pounds currency, which sum shall be paid in the manner and under the provisions hereinafter set forth, to the person or company who shall first cause a steam vessel of not less than 500 tons burthen to be regularly navigated for four successive years (the first of which may commence in all of the month of August), between the Port of Quebec and other Ports in the River St. Lawrence and the Port of Halifax, during such part of the year as the navigation between the said ports shall remain safe and open, the dangers of navigation always excepted.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that of the sum hereby appropriated, the sum of £1,250 currency shall be paid to the person or company immediately after the close of the first season during which the said vessel shall have been so navigated, a further sum of £1,000 currency immediately after the close of the second season during which such vessel shall have been so navigated, and the remaining sum of £750 currency, immediately after the close of the third season, during which such vessel shall have been so navigated.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that no such payment or advance shall be so made at the close of any season unless the said vessel and machinery shall have been insured until the close of the season then next following, in a sum not less than the said sum then to be advanced, and also any sum previously advanced.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, shall have a special privilege and lien on the said vessel and the machinery therein, and on the sum which may be recovered from the insurers in case of the loss or partial loss of the said vessel, for the repayment of any sum or sums advanced and paid under the authority of this Act, if the said vessel shall not be so regularly navigated during four successive years as aforesaid, and that such privilege and lien shall date from the passing of this Act, and shall have preference over every other privilege, lien or claim whatsoever.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that such repayment (if any there be) shall be made to the Receiver General of this Province, and the sum or sums so repaid shall remain in his hands and await the disposal of the Provincial Legislature for the public uses of the Province.

VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the due application of the monies appropriated by this Act shall be accounted for to His Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, through the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury for the time being, in such manner and form as His Majesty, His Heirs and successors shall be pleased to direct.

It will thus be seen that the amount, six thousand dollars, offered in 1829 by the Government to any person or company for maintaining steam communication between Quebec and Halifax was insufficient, therefore nothing was attempted. But the Government, wishing to obtain this steam service, doubled the amount in 1830 by a new Act, which had the desired effect, for in 1831 the "Quebec and Halifax Steam Navigation Company" was organized, incorporated, and active

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