

No. 30.

1st Session, 2nd Parliament, 36 Victoria, 1873.

BILL.

**An Act respecting the St. Francis and
Megantic Railway.**

PRIVATE BILL.

MR. BROOKS.

An Act respecting the St. Francis and Megantic Railway.

WHEREAS, the Saint Francis and Megantic International Railway Company have petitioned for amendment of their Act of Incorporation, granting to said Company power to construct a branch railway to connect with the Boston, Concord and Montreal Railroad, or any extension thereof, or any railroad touching the Dominion of Canada on the northern line of the States of New Hampshire or Vermont, and to make business arrangements, including power of leasing their branch or main railway to any Company owning such road or roads, if found advisable; and further, granting to said Company power to issue an increased amount of bonds, not to exceed in all twenty-five thousand dollars per mile of their railway, and to pledge and mortgage any lands held by said Company from the Province of Quebec, as a subsidy in lieu of a money subsidy, in aid of said Company, as collateral security for their bonds; and further, granting to said Company such other amendments as may be necessary to enable them to carry out effectively the objects secured to them in their charter; and it is expedient to grant said petition; Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

1. The St. Francis and Megantic International Railway Company shall have power, and are hereby empowered to construct a branch Railway to connect the Railroad, said Company are now authorized to build, and which is now in course of construction, with the Boston, Concord and Montreal Railroad or any extension thereof; or with any other railway extending from some point, in the United States northward and touching the boundary line of Canada, either on the northern boundary of the State of New Hampshire or the State of Vermont, and to make such connection, either at the boundary of Canada, or to connect with any railway within the Province of Quebec, being an extension of or connected with such foreign railway; and the powers, privileges and immunities granted to said Saint Francis and Megantic International Railway Company, for the construction of their main line of railway, shall be extended to and have the effect as respects the branch or branches, which said Company are hereby authorized to build; and said Saint Francis and Megantic International Railway Company, shall have power to make any contract or agreement with any such foreign railway company, or with any railway company chartered in Canada, as may be found necessary to carry out the objects of such connection, and enable them to obtain the advantage of the transit of passengers and goods over the road or roads, with which their railway, or any branch of their railway, may connect, and to fix the terms, mode and conditions of all

Preamble.

Power to the Company to connect with other Railways by branches.

Present power, &c., to apply to such branches.

Company may make agreements with other companies.

Company
may lease
their road.

business arrangements between said Company and the Company or Companies owning or controlling such other road or roads; and said Saint Francis and Megantic Railway Company shall have power, if found advisable, to lease their main line, or any branch of their road to any other Company such as is before 5 mentioned, for any term of years that may be agreed upon, for such consideration as may be fixed by the contracting parties, to be used and kept in operation according to the provisions of their charter, and subject to the laws of Canada in force in the interest of the public, affecting said railway; provided no 10 agreement whereby the whole, or any part of their railway is leased to any other Company, shall have effect until approved by a majority of the shareholders of said Company present at their annual meeting, or at a meeting called for the purpose of considering the same. 15

Proviso.

Power to the
Company to
issue bonds.

2. The Saint Francis and Megantic International Railway Company, under the provisions of the thirteenth section of "The St. Francis and Megantic Railway Act," and in the manner and for the purposes therein and herein mentioned, may issue their bonds for any amount required for the purpose of prosecuting their 20 works permitted by their charter or any amendment thereof, provided the whole sum represented by such bonds shall not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars per mile of their railway, including any branch or branches thereof.

Proviso.

Certain con-
tracts hereto-
fore made
ratified.

3. Any contracts heretofore made between the Connecticut 25 and Passumpsic Rivers Railroad Company or the Massawippi Valley Railway Company and the Saint Francis and Megantic International Railway Company and the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada, or between parties representing such Companies as respects that portion of the St. Francis and Megantic 30 International Railway between Sherbrooke and Lennoxville, and with reference to the use by the St. Francis and Megantic International Railway Company of the third rail laid on the Grand Trunk Railway, between said points and the track now used by the above first two mentioned Companies, and as re- 35 spects stations, turn-table, machine shop and engine house, and generally facilities to secure to the St. Francis and Megantic International Railway Company, right of way over the portion of the road between said points, as part and portion of their road in the same manner as if built on their own land under their char- 40 ter, shall be held to have been legally made and entered into and between parties capable of contracting therefor, and may be ratified, enforced and carried out by said St. Francis and Megantic International Railway Company; and the said Railway Companies or any two or more of them may, at any time hereafter 45 make and complete and ratify any contract or contracts to secure to the St. Francis and Megantic International Railway Company the right to the use of the machine shop, turn-table, station and other railway buildings at Sherbrooke for their road, or to acquire land to erect any buildings necessary for said Company at 50 the terminus at Sherbrooke, and to acquire any land or buildings by purchase or lease at Lennoxville necessary for their purpose at Lennoxville, and generally to agree and consent to any contract or arrangement mutually beneficial to said Companies or

Provision as to
future con-
tracts.

any two of them, and so as to secure regular and uninterrupted transit of passengers and goods over the road between Lennoxville and Sherbrooke, and render the same part and portion of the St. Francis and Megantic International Railway terminating at Sherbrooke.

4. It shall be lawful for the Directors of the St. Francis and Megantic International Railway Company, at any time hereafter, if it shall be found advisable to do so, to enter into any agreement with any other Railway Company or Companies whereby
 10 their said Railway may be made to form a part or link of railway communication between the Atlantic seaboard and the Pacific or between the Atlantic and any western terminus less distant than the Pacific ocean, with a view of obtaining as direct a line of railway as is practicable from St. John's to the Western
 15 possessions of Canada, and to make any regulations whereby terms may be settled upon, for securing mutual advantages to the companies interested, and rules established to be acted upon in common to facilitate the transport of freight and passengers over the whole line of Railway of which said Railway shall
 20 form a part; or for leasing said Railway or any part thereof, or acquiring by lease any Railway or any portion of any Railway, to carry out such purpose and secure such continuous line of railway as aforesaid; provided no such lease as acquisition by
 25 holders present at any annual meeting or a meeting duly called to consider the same.

Directors may make running arrangements with other Railways as to through traffic.

Proviso.