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No. 44.

1st Session, 6th Parliament, 21 Victoria, 1858.

(PRIVATE BILL.)

BILL.

An Act to incorporate certain persons under
the name of the South Quebec Ware-
house Company.

Received and read, first time, Friday, 16th
April, 1858.

Second reading, Tuesday, 20th April, 1858.

MR. DUBORD.

TORONTO :

PRINTED BY JOHN LOVELL, YONGE STREET.

An Act to incorporate certain persons under the name of the South Quebec Warehouse Company.

WHEREAS it is desirable for the benefit of this Province generally, and especially for the shipping interest, that additional facilities be afforded in the harbor of Quebec for the mooring, sheltering, loading and unloading, of vessels; And whereas the persons hereinafter mentioned have, by petition, prayed to be incorporated for the purpose of creating such additional harbor accommodation, and for other purposes hereinafter mentioned; Therefore Her Majesty, &c., enacts as follows :

Preamble.

I. Henry Burstall, James Tibbits, William Rhodes, Edward Burstall, Hypolite Dubord, James Bell Forsyth, Joseph Bell Forsyth, A. Dawson Bell, and every such person or persons, body and bodies politic and corporate, as shall, under the authority of this Act, be associated with them and their several and respective successors, executors, administrators, and assigns, as stockholders in the corporation hereby created, shall be a body politic and corporate by the name of the "South Quebec Warehouse Company," and by that name shall and may have perpetual succession, and a common seal, with power to break and alter the same, and by that name shall and may sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, in all Courts of Law and Equity in the Province; and the said corporation shall have their principal place of business within the limits hereinafter mentioned, but may open such office or offices at such place, either in this Province or elsewhere, as may be found necessary or convenient for the purpose of their business.

Names of persons incorporated.

Corporate name and powers.

Common Seal.

Places of business.

II. The said Company is hereby authorized and empowered, at its own costs and charges, to construct a harbor, wharf or wharves, with a wet-dock, dry-dock, marine railway, railway sidings, turn-tables, and stations regulated for the loading, discharging, and sheltering of all vessels, shipping, and craft, propelled by steam or otherwise, on the south shore of the river St. Lawrence, in the harbor of Quebec, at the place called "St. Charles' Cove," which said harbor, wharf or wharves, and docks, shall be accessible to, and safe and commodious for, the reception of such sail, steam or other vessels as now navigate the Atlantic, as well as for vessels engaged in the inland trade of this country, and also to erect and build such necessary moles, piers, breakwaters, wharves and booms, or other erections or constructions whatever, as shall be useful or proper for the purposes aforesaid, and the protection of the harbor, wharves, docks or booms, for the accommodation and convenience of vessels entering, lying, loading or unloading, repairing or fitting up in the same; and to alter and amend, and repair and enlarge the harbor, wharf or wharves, docks, railways and railway sidings as aforesaid, as may from

Purposes for which Company is incorporated.

time to time be found necessary or expedient, and also to erect and build sheds, stores and warehouses, for the reception and storage of goods, wares, and merchandize, free of duty, or in bond, or otherwise.

Corporations may hold real property purchased from private individuals to extent of £100,000. And dispose thereof.

III. It shall be lawful for the said corporation, from time to time, to purchase, and to have and hold, such lands and tenements, and real and immoveable property, as may be necessary for carrying on the business of the said corporation, provided the portion of the capital of the company appropriated to the purchase of real property, does not at any time exceed one hundred thousand pounds; and it shall be lawful for the said corporation to sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of the said property and estate, from time to time, as they may see fit.

Buying and selling stock in certain companies.

IV. It shall be lawful for the said corporation to purchase and hold stock or shares in any line of Railway or Company of steam or other vessels navigating the ocean, or the inland waters of this continent, and the same to sell or dispose of as they may think fit; and from time to time to make advances on goods stored in the store or warehouses of the said corporation; to receive, take, and hold security or securities of any kind, or nature, for such advances, and for any debt or debts which may at any time become due to the said corporation; and to charge such a commission on such advances as may be agreed on; for which advances and commissions the said corporation shall have a lien upon such goods, and power to sell the same if such advances and commissions are not repaid according to the agreements made in respect thereto: And it shall also be lawful for the said corporation to issue certificates of goods received, or warehouse receipts therefor, on the production of which by the holder thereof, and on compliance by him with the terms thereof, the said corporation shall be compellable to deliver such goods, and not otherwise; and such warehouse receipts shall be transferable by endorsements, either special or in blank; and such endorsements shall transfer all right of property and possession of such goods to the endorsee or holder of such warehouse receipt, as fully and completely as if a sale and delivery of the goods mentioned therein had been made in the ordinary way; and on delivery of such goods by the said corporation, in good faith, to a person in possession of such warehouse receipts, the said corporation shall be free from all further liability in respect thereof.

Making advances on goods consigned to company.

Transferable receipts for goods.

Until the election of Directors, the affairs of the Company to be managed by Trustees.

V. The stock, real estate, property, affairs and concerns of the said Company shall, until the election of Directors, as hereinafter mentioned, be vested in Henry Burstall and William Rhodes as Trustees of the said Company until the first election of Directors thereof, with power to such Trustees to open books for the subscription of stock therein, and generally to exercise the usual functions of provisional Directors until such first election, and such first election of Directors shall be made at a general meeting of the Stockholders of the said Company to be held for that purpose at the City of Quebec, within sixty days after one-fifth of the capital stock of the said Company shall have been subscribed for, and after such notice thereof shall have been given as is hereinafter required for special general meetings of Stockholders in the said Company, and at such meeting five Directors shall be elected to hold office until the first Wednesday in the month of March then next following; and after such first election, the stock, real estate, property, affairs and concerns of the said Company shall be managed and conducted by five Directors to be annually elected by the Stockholders at a meeting of the Stock-

First meeting for election of Directors.

Annual elections.

holders to be held for that purpose, on the first Wednesday of the said month of March, in each year; notice of which annual meeting shall be given at least sixty days previous to the day fixed for holding the same, in the manner hereinafter mentioned; and no person shall be a Director of the said Company unless he be the proprietor of at least ten shares of stock therein.

Notice of meetings for election.

VI. Such meeting shall be held, and the said election made, by such of the Stockholders of the said Company as shall attend for that purpose, in their own proper person or by proxy; and all elections for such Directors shall be by ballot, and the five persons who shall have the greatest number of votes at any such election, shall be Directors, and if it shall happen at any such election that two or more persons shall have an equal number of votes, in such manner that a greater number of persons than five shall, by a majority of votes, appear to be chosen directors, then the said Stockholders hereinbefore authorized to hold such election, shall proceed to ascertain, by ballot, which of the said persons so having an equal number of votes shall be a Director or Directors, to complete the whole number of five; and if any vacancy shall at any time happen among the Directors by death, resignation or otherwise, such vacancy shall be filled, for the remainder of the year in which it may happen, and until the then next annual meeting for the election of Directors by a person to be elected by the Stockholders in manner aforesaid, at a special general meeting thereof duly called for that purpose.

Mode of election.

To be made by ballot.

Vacancy in direction how filled up.

VII. In case it shall, at any time happen that an election of Directors shall not be made on any day, when, pursuant to this Act, it ought to have been made, the said Corporation shall not for that cause be deemed to be dissolved, but it shall and may be lawful, on any subsequent day, to make and hold an election of Directors in such manner as shall have been regulated by the by-laws of the said Corporation; and the previous Directors shall, in every case, hold office until the election of their successors.

Failure to elect Directors on days appointed not to operate dissolution of Company.

VIII. Special general meetings of the Stockholders may be convened on the requisition of any two Directors, or of a Shareholder or Stockholder possessing fifty shares of the stock of the said Corporation, after sixty days notice of such meeting; and such notice, and notice of the annual meetings of the said Corporations, shall be held to be validly given if inserted three times as an advertisement, in any two newspapers published in the City of Quebec; the first of which insertions shall be at least sixty days previous to the day fixed for such meeting.

Special meetings when and how to be called.

IX. The Directors for the time being, or the major part of them, shall from time to time have power to make such by-laws, rules, and regulations, as to them shall appear needful and proper, for the purposes of this Act, to wit:

The Directors to make By-laws, and for what purposes.

For the direction, conduct and government of the said Corporation, and of its property, real and personal, and its improvement and regulation throughout the year;

Government of the Corporation and its property.

For the preventing injury thereto and encroachments and incumbrances thereon, and the removal of the same;

For the preventing injury thereto.

- Appointment and removal of clerks and servants. For the appointment, regulation and removal of the officers, clerks and servants of the said Corporation, and the election and remuneration of the Directors thereof;
- Penalties. For the imposition of penalties, not exceeding five pounds currency, for any breach of the said by-laws, or of the provisions of this Act; 5
- Transfer of shares. For regulating the transfer of shares in the capital stock of the said Company;
- Lien on goods. For the regulating and fixing the nature and extent of the lien of the said Corporation on goods and commodities, landed, shipped, stored or conveyed within the aforesaid limits, which lien may be either general 10 or special;
- Contracts with the Company. For regulating the mode in which all contracts to be entered into by the said Corporation, of whatever nature, may be executed on behalf of the said Corporation;
- General purposes. And finally, for the doing of everything necessary to carry out the 15 provisions of this Act according to their intent and spirit; Provided always, that such by-laws shall have no force or effect until sanctioned by a majority of Stockholders present in person or by proxy at any annual or other general meeting; and a certificate purporting to be signed by the Secretary of the said Corporation, and under the seal of 20 the said Corporation, shall be *prima facie* evidence of such by-laws, and of their having been sanctioned and posted up as herein required, in all or any Courts of Justice in this Province.
- Copies of By-laws to be posted up on Works, &c. X. Printed copies of such by-laws, certified by the Secretary, shall be posted up in a conspicuous position in the offices of the said corporation, 25 and until they have been so posted up, such by-laws shall have no force or effect whatever.
- The President to be elected. XI. It shall be lawful for the Directors to elect one of their members to be President of the said Corporation, and to appoint such officers, managers, clerks, and servants, with such emoluments as they may see 30 fit, and in their discretion to take such security from such officers, managers, clerks, and servants, or any of them, as the said Directors may deem necessary.
- Security to be given by Officers.
- Further powers of Directors. XII. The said Directors may make any payments and enter into any contracts for the purposes of the said Corporation, and for all matters 35 necessary for the transaction of its affairs; may generally deal with, treat, purchase, loan, sell, mortgage, let, release and dispose of, and exercise all acts of ownership over the lands, tenements, property and effects of the said corporation; may institute and defend, in the name of the said corporation, all suits at law; may from time to time displace the 40 officers, agents, clerks, and servants of the said corporation, except as hereinafter provided; and shall have power to collect and receive all charges subject to which goods or commodities may come into their possession; and on payment of such back charges, shall have the same lien for the amount thereof, upon such goods or commodities as the persons 45 to whom such charges were originally due, had upon such goods or commodities while in their possession; and shall and may have power to do
- Actions generally. Dismissing Officers. Collection of charges, dues, &c., on goods.

all things whatever which may be requisite or necessary to carry out the objects of the corporation.

XIII. It shall be the duty of the Directors to make annual dividends of so much of the profits of the said company as to them, or a majority of them, may seem advisable; and once in each year an exact and particular statement shall be rendered by them of the state of the affairs, debts, credits, profits, and losses of the said corporation, and such statements shall appear on the books, and be open for the perusal of any stockholder upon request, at least one month before the annual meeting of the said company.

Declaring dividends annually, and statement of accounts.

XIV. It shall and may be lawful for the said corporation to levy upon all vessels or rafts entering, departing from, or being anchored or otherwise moored, fastened, or lying within the limits of the property of the company, and upon all goods landed or shipped, carried or deposited, or stored therein, such wharfage, and such storage rates, and such other rates or tolls, not exceeding those limited in the schedule hereunto annexed, as the Directors may, from time to time, fix and establish, as hereinafter provided, and the said rates and dues shall be levied as follows:

Power to levy rates upon vessels.

1st. On sea-going vessels: The tonnage dues, or moorage rates thereon, shall be levied from the master or person in charge thereof, and the wharfage rates on goods landed or shipped, shall be levied from the consignee, shipper, owner, or agent thereof.

By whom payable on seagoing vessels.

2nd. On all other vessels: The tonnage dues thereon, as well as the wharfage rates upon the cargo, shall be paid by the master or person in charge thereof, saving to him such course as he may have by law against any other person for the recovery of the sums so paid; Provided, however, that it shall be lawful for the said corporation to demand and recover the said wharfage rates from the owners, consignees, or agents of ships, or shippers of cargoes, if they see fit to do so; and in the event of goods lying unclaimed on the wharves, or in the warehouses of the said corporation, for a period of ninety days, such goods may be sold by public auction after three weekly advertisements thereof shall have been published in any newspaper in the City of Quebec, and the said corporation shall account for the proceeds thereof to the owner thereof on demand, first deducting all their lawful charges thereon; and if such goods be of a perishable nature, they may be sold within a shorter period, provided cause for such sale be shown by affidavit before any Justice of the Peace for the District of Quebec, and an order for such sale procured from such Justice, who is hereby authorized to grant the same.

On other vessels.

Proviso: may be recovered from owners or consignees. Unclaimed goods how to be dealt with.

XV. It shall be lawful for the Directors, from time to time, to ask, demand, and receive, from all owners or masters of vessels, or persons in charge thereof, from owners, consignees, or agents of all rafts, wares, goods or other merchandize, rates, tolls, dues, and duties for moorages of rafts, vessels, or boats, propelled by steam, sail or otherwise, which may from time to time enter or depart from the said harbor, within the said limits, or which may be lying or anchored, or otherwise moored or fastened therein, and upon all goods, wares and merchandizes landed, shipped, carried or deposited or stored therein, not exceeding those limited in the schedule hereunto annexed.

Companies may levy tolls and rates not exceeding those in the schedule.

Seizure of vessels and goods for non-payment of dues.

XVI. In case of non-payment of said dues or tolls or part thereof, or any other charge which, under this Act, the said Corporation may lawfully make, it shall be lawful for the said Corporation to seize forthwith before judgment, any vessel or goods whatsoever upon which such dues or other charges may be owing, and to detain the same at the risk, cost and charges of the owner, until the sum due and the charges incurred for the seizure and detention of the same be paid in full; and in the event of such rates, dues or other charges remaining due for forty days after such seizure, such vessel or goods may be sold by the said Corporation by public auction, after the publication in any newspaper in the said City of Quebec, of three weekly advertisements of such sale; and the said Corporation shall thereafter, on demand, account to the owner of such vessel or goods for the proceeds of such sale, first deducting the rates or tolls due, and all their other legal charges.

Sale of vessel or goods, if tolls are not paid.

Masters of vessels required to make certain reports.

XVII. It shall be lawful for the said Corporation to require from the master or person in charge of every vessel in the said harbour, a report in writing signed and certified by him, of his vessel's cargo inwards, and her draft of water, such report to be made before he shall break bulk; also, of her outward cargo and draft of water before his vessel shall leave the harbour, and such other particulars as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act; and in case of refusal or neglect to make such reports, or any of them, it shall be lawful for the said Corporation to seize and detain such vessel at the risk, cost and charges of the master, owner, or person in charge thereof, until the aforesaid requirements are complied with; Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall prevent the said Corporation from making such mutual agreement with the masters, owners or agents of steamboats or other vessels, with respect to making such reports, and with respect to the payment of all harbour and other dues as may be considered expedient; And provided also, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent the said Corporation from commuting with such masters, owners or agents of steamboats or other vessels, for all rates or dues accruing thereon, on such terms and conditions, and for such sum or sums of money, and for such periods as to the said Corporation may seem fit and expedient.

Proviso: Corporation may agree with masters of steamboats, &c.
Proviso: For further agreement.

Vessels may be seized for injury done to wharves, &c.

XVIII. If any injury shall be done to any of the wharves, piers or other works in the said harbour, constructed or to be constructed, by any vessels, or by the carelessness or wantonness of the crew thereof, while in the execution of their duty, or of the orders of their superior officers, it shall be lawful for the said Corporation to seize such vessel and detain her until the injury so none shall have been repaired by the master or crew; or until security shall have been given by the said master to pay such amount for the injury and costs, as may be awarded in any suit which may be brought against him for the same; and he is hereby declared to be liable to the said Corporation for any such injury.

Recovery of harbor dues and penalties.

XIX. All dues and penalties imposed by this Act, or by any by-law made under the authority thereof, and all rates, tolls and dues authorized to be levied under and by virtue of this Act, may be recovered by civil action or proceeding at the suit of the said Corporation, before any Court of competent jurisdiction.

Magistrate required to give an order

XX. The seizure of any raft or vessel which, under and by virtue of this Act, the said Corporation may make for the purpose of enforcing the

provisions thereof, may be effected upon the order of any Magistrate for the District of Quebec, which order such Magistrate is hereby authorized and required to give upon the application of the said Corporation, or its authorized agent, on the institution of any action before such Magistrate for any cause rendering such raft or vessel liable to seizure, and on the affidavit of any one credible person that the cause of such action alleged in the declaration, complaint or information, before such Magistrate, is well founded in fact, and such order may and shall be executed by any constable, bailiff or other person whom the said Corporation may choose to entrust with the execution thereof; and the said constable, bailiff or other person is hereby authorized and empowered to take all necessary means, and to demand all necessary aid, to enable him to execute the same.

for seizure of vessels, &c., when so requested by the company or its agent.

XXI. The capital stock of the Company shall be one hundred thousand pounds current money of this Province, to be held in one thousand shares of one hundred pounds each, and the shares of the said capital stock shall be transferable upon the books of the said Company, in such manner and subject to such restrictions as shall be fixed by the by-laws of the said Company; Provided always, that no person to whom shall be allotted any stock in the said Corporation, shall be exempted from liability to the creditors thereof, or from payment of any calls thereon, by reason of any transfer which he may make of such stock until the whole amount of the stock so allotted to him be paid in full by the holder thereof; and the stock, property and effects of the said Company shall be deemed moveable personal estate, notwithstanding the conversion of the funds, or any part thereof, into real estate.

Capital Stock of Company.

Proviso: liability of Shareholders until Stock is paid up.

XXII. The Directors shall have power to issue paid up stock in the said Company, in payment of the price of real estate acquired for the purposes of this Act; and such paid up stock shall be free from all calls whatsoever, and from all claims and demands on the part of the said Company, or of the creditors thereof, to the same extent as if the amount of the same had been regularly called in by the said Company and paid by the holder thereof in full.

In certain cases, Directors to have power to issue paid up stock.

XXIII. Every person subscribing for shares of the capital stock of the said Company, shall, at the time of such subscription, pay to the Treasurer or to such other person as may be appointed by the said Trustees, or by the Directors, to receive the same, the sum of £5 currency per share on account of such subscription, without which payment such subscription shall not be valid; and subsequent calls upon the capital stock of the said Company may be made, from time to time, by the Directors for the time being; of which calls, sixty days' notice shall be given to the stockholders, by an advertisement, three times inserted in some newspaper published in the said City of Quebec: Provided always, that no such call upon the amount subscribed for shall be made within fifteen days of any previous call, nor exceed ten per centum on the whole capital, nor become payable in less than sixty days after notice thereof has been given; Provided also, that the said Directors shall not commence the construction of the said harbour, wharves, locks or railway, until ten per centum upon the capital stock of the said Company shall have been paid in.

Per centage payable on subscribing: A notice of sixty days on calls upon stock to be given.

Proviso: calls to be made within fifteen days apart, &c.

Proviso: when the work may be commenced.

XXIV. If any stockholder shall neglect or refuse to pay any such call or calls as shall be lawfully made as aforesaid, upon any shares, such

Shareholders refusing any calls upon

stock to forfeit calls previously paid.

stockholder so refusing or neglecting shall forfeit such shares, with any amount which shall have been previously paid thereon, and the said shares may be sold by the said Directors; and the sum arising therefrom, together with the amount previously paid in, shall be accounted for and applied in like manner as other moneys of the said Company; 5
 Provided always, that the purchaser shall pay the said Company the amount of the calls due thereon, in addition to the price of the shares so purchased by him, immediately after the sale, and before he shall be entitled to the certificate of the transfer of such shares so purchased as aforesaid; and shall hold the shares so purchased, subject to all future 10
 calls thereon; Provided also, that sixty days' notice of the sale of such forfeited shares shall be given, in the same manner as is hereinbefore provided for notice of calls, and that the instalments due and the costs incurred in advertising the sale, may be received in redemption of any such forfeited shares, at any time before the day appointed for the sale 15
 thereof; And provided also, that nothing herein contained shall prevent the said Company from proceeding against any defaulter before any Court of Justice having cognizance thereof, to compel the payment of any call or calls in arrear, if they should see fit to do so.

Proviso: purchaser to pay the Company the amount due them, in addition to the price of the shares. Sixty days notice of the forfeiture to be given.

Proviso.

The Company shall have power to borrow any sum or sums of money not exceeding at one time one-half the paid up stock.

XXV. It shall be lawful for the said Corporation, from time to time, 20
 to borrow either in this Province or elsewhere, from any person or persons, or Company willing to lend the same, all such sum or sums of money not exceeding in all, at any one time, one half the paid up capital stock of the said Company, as they may find expedient; and to make the bonds, debentures or other securities they shall grant for the 25
 sums so borrowed, payable either in currency or in sterling, and in sums not less than one hundred pounds, with interest, and at such place or places, within or without this Province, as they may deem advisable, and such bonds, debentures or other securities may be made payable to bearer, or transferable by simple endorsement, or otherwise, and such 30
 bonds or debentures shall, upon enregistration in the Registry office of the County wherein the said harbour and works are situate, constitute and be a mortgage and hypothèque, ranking according to the date of such enregistration, by special privilege, upon all the property, real and personal, of the said Company, including the revenues, rates, tolls, dues 35
 and duties thereof.

Proposition of votes to shares.

May vote by proxy.

Majority to decide.

Proviso.

XXVI. At all meetings of the stockholders held in pursuance of this Act, whether the same be annual or special, every Stockholder shall be entitled to as many votes as he shall have shares in the said stock, and such vote or votes may be given in person or by proxy; and all ques- 40
 tions proposed or submitted for the consideration of the said meetings, shall be finally determined by the majority of the votes of the Stockholders present, in person or by proxy, except in any case or cases otherwise provided for by this Act; and provided also, that no person shall be entitled to vote as proxy at any meeting, unless he shall be a 45
 Stockholder in the said Corporation, and produce written authority as such proxy.

Beyond what extent stockholders shall not be liable.

XXVII. No Stockholder in the said Corporation shall be in any manner whatsoever, liable for or charged with the payment of any debt or demand due by the said Corporation beyond the amount remaining 50
 unpaid of his, her or their subscribed share or shares in the capital stock of the said Corporation.

XXVIII. If at any future period the said sum of one hundred thousand pounds shall be found insufficient for the purposes of this Act, it shall be lawful for the said Company to increase their capital stock by a further sum not exceeding £250,000 currency, subscribed either among
 5 themselves or by the admission of new Stockholders, such new stock being divided into shares of £100 each; Provided always, that such increase of stock be decided upon and ordered by a majority of the Stockholders in value in the said Company, present in person, or by proxy, at a meeting held for the purpose.

Issue of new stock, in certain shares, in case of increase of stock.

Proviso.

10 XXIX. All words herein, importing the singular number, or the masculine gender only shall extend to more than one person, party or thing, and to females as well as males; and the word "Stockholders" shall include the heirs, executors, administrators, curators, legatees or assigns
 15 of said Stockholders, or any other party having the legal possession of any share whatever in his own name, or that of any other, unless the contet shall be inconsistent with such construction; and whenever power is by this Act given to do anything, power shall be intended also to do all things which may be necessary to the doing of such things; and generally, all words and clauses herein shall receive such liberal
 20 and fair construction as will best answer the carrying into effect of this Act, according to its true interest and spirit: The words "By-laws," "vessels," "goods," and "dues," in the provisions of this Act, shall severally be construed to mean, and shall mean as follows: The word "By-laws" shall include and mean all By-laws, rules, orders and regu-
 25 lations made by the said Corporation; the words "vessel" or "vessels" shall mean and include all ships, vessels, boats, barges, steam-boats, scows, rafts and floating craft, whatsoever; the word "goods" shall mean and include all merchandize, produce, animals, articles and things whatsoever landed from a vessel, or deposited on the wharves for the
 30 purpose of being shipped or otherwise; the word "dues" shall mean and include rates, duties and dues whatsoever imposed under this Act.

Interpretation of clause.

XXX. Nothing herein contained shall affect or be construed to affect
 in any manner or way whatever, the rights of Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, or of any person or persons, or of any bodies politic,
 35 corporate or collegiate.

This Act not affect the rights of Her Majesty, &c.

XXXI. This Act shall be deemed a public Act.

Public Act.