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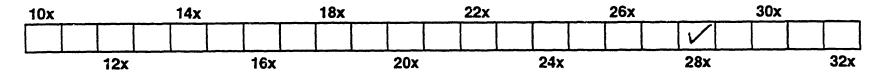
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No. 370.

(PRIVATE BILL.)

1st Session, 4th Parliament, 16 Victoria, 1853.

BILL.

An Act to incorporate The Canadian Steam Navigation Company.

Received and Read a first time, Friday, 22nd April, 1853.

Second Reading, Monday, 25th April 1853.

MR. CARTIER.

QUEBEC:

BILL.

1852-3.]

[No. 370.

An Act to incorporate The Canadian Sleam Navigation (see further, page 1035. Company.

WHEREAS an Act has been passed by the Parliament of this Preamble. Province, in the present Session thereof, intituled, "An Act 16 V. c. 9, "for the establishment of a Line of Steam Vessels between this cited. "Province and the United Kingdom," and in pursuance of the

- 5 said Act, a Contract for a Steam service previously entered into by Robert McKean, Donald McLarty and Robert Lamont, Merchants and Steamship Owners, of Liverpool, with Her Majesty's Chief Commissioner of Public Works for this Province, has been duly ratified: And whereas the said Robert McKean, Donald McLarty and Robert Lamont, of Liverpool, Thomas Ryan, of the City of Montreal,
- 10 Esquire, J. P. Greenshields, of the same place, Esquire, Luther H. Holton, of the same place, Esquire, Robert Gillespie, junior, Thomas Holdsworth Brooking, Robert Carter, Matthew Hutton Chaytor, Merchants, of London, Patrick Henderson and Company, Merchants, Glasgow, John Carmichael, Merchant, Liverpool, John Laird, Iron
- 15 Ship-builder, Liverpool and Bickenhead, John Holme, Timber Merchant, Liverpool and Birkenhead, and other persons have petitioned the Legislature of this Province, praying that an Association under the style of The Canadian Steam Navigation Company, may be incorporated for the purpose of carrying out the
- 20 said Contract, and such extensions of it, and for such other services and such general purposes of Steam Navigation in this Province or clsewhere, as may hereafter be deemed beneficial to the said Association, and it is expedient to accede to their request; Be it therefore enacted, &c.,
- 25 That the said Robert McKean, Donald McLarty, Robert Lamont, Certain per-Thomas Ryan, J. P. Greenshields, Luther H. Holton, Robert sons incorpo-Gillespie, Junior, Thomas Holdsworth Brooking, Robert Carter, Matthew Hutton Chaytor, Patrick Henderson and Company, John Carmichael, John Laird and John Holme, together with such per-
- 20 son or persons as shall under the provisions of this Act become proprietors of any share or shares or stock in the Company hereby authorized to be formed, and their several and respective heirs, executors and administrators, curators and assigns, being proprietors of any share or shares or stock in the said Company, are and shall

23 be a Company for the purposes aforesaid, according to the Rules,

Orders and Directions hereinafter expressed, and shall for that purpose be one Body Politic and Corporate, by the style and title of "The Canadian Steam Navigation Company," and by that name shall sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded in all Courts. whether of Law or Equity, and shall have perpetual succession, with 5 a Common Seal which may be by them changed or varied at their pleasure.

II. And be it enacted, that the said Company shall and may, and Business to be carried on by they are hereby authorized and empowered, from and after the passthe said Coming of this Act, by themselves, their directors, agents, officers 10 workmen and servants, in this Province or elsewhere, to contract for, construct, purchase, acquire, have, keep, navigate, usc, work, hire, or let on hire, charter, or let on charter, man, equip, repair or maintain Steam or other Ships or Vessels, and to do all things necessary or incident thereto, and to the carriage and conveyance 15 of passengers, goods and merchandize from any port or other place. whether in this Province or elsewhere, or to any other port or place, whether in this Province or elsewhere, and to carry on and transact all such business and to do all such matters as may be incidental to the carrying out of the objects of the Company, or neces- 20 saryor expedient in order to the more effectual or profitab'e prosecution thereof, and to sell, part with, mortgage, or dispose of the stock or property of the Company, or any part thereof, when and as may be deemed expedient, and to enter into contracts and arrangements with other bodies politic and corporate, or any persons whomsoever, 25 for the joint or better execution of the purposes aforesaid, or otherwise, for the benefit of the said Company.

Company ed to them.

Proviso: They may

cause them-

selves to be re-insured.

III. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Comgoods entrust. pany, if they shall think proper, and whenever they shall deem it for their interest so to do, to insure the owners of or parties interested 30 in goods, wares, merchandize and things carried in their vessels or entrusted to them, or in their care and custody, and belonging to other parties, against loss from all or any risks or perils of the sea or navigation, or from any or all risks and perils whatsoever happening while such goods, wares, merchandize or things shall be in 35 the possession, custody or charge of the said Company or their agents or servants, or of any party employed by them to convey, keep or take charge of the same for any purpose, and to issue policies of insurance accordingly, and to receive such premium or price for so doing as the said Company and the parties 40 insured shall agree upon, and to insert in such policies such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between them and such parties, and every such policy shall have effect and may be enforced by or against the said Company according to the tenor thereof and to law : Provided always, that the said Company may, if they see 45 fit, cause themselves to be re-insured in whole or in part against any loss to be sustained by them under any such policy, by any other Company or party or parties whatever.

Corporate name and general powers.

puny.

IV. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Com- company empany to purchase, rent, take, hold and enjoy to them and their powered to hold real prosuccessors, as well in this Province as in such other places where perty in this it shall be deemed expedient for the purposes of the said Company, elsewhere. 5 either in the name of the said Company or in the name of Trustees for the said Company, such wharves, docks, depôts, stationhouses, offices, buildings, and hereditament: as they may find necessary, proper, profitable, or convenient for the purposes of the said Company, but not for any other purpose, and to sell, 10 mortgage, part with or dispose of the same when not wanted for the purposes of the said Company, and others to purchase and acquire in their stead : Provided always, that the yearly value of such Proviso: wharves, docks, depôts, stations, houses, offices, buildings, lands, property in and other hereditaments within this Province at the time when the this Province, in the province of the province of the province of the province, the province of th

15 said Company shall enter into possession thereof, shall not exceed in the whole the sum of \pounds currency.

V. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Com- capital stock. pany to raise and contribute among themselves at such times, and from time to time, and in such proportions as to them shall seem 20 meet and convenient, such a sum of money as they shall find necessary or expedient for the purposes of the Company; provided such Proviso: sum do not exceed $\pounds 1,250,000$ sterling; and the sum so raised shall amount limitbe the Capital Stock of the said Company, which shall be divided into shares of ± 20 sterling each, or of such other sum as shall by Shares. 25 the By-laws of the said Company be from time to time provided.

VI. And he it enacted, That the business and affairs of the said Board of Di-Company shall be conducted and managed, and its powers exercised elected. by a Board of Directors to be appointed by the Shareholders, which Board shall consist of such a number of Shareholders as shall be 30 from time to time fixed by the By-laws of the said Company, and

- which Board in the first instance, and until the first General Annual Meeting of the Company as hereinafter provided, shall consist of the said Robert Lamont, Thomas Ryan, J. P. Greenshields, Thomas First Direc-H. Brooking, Robert Gillespie, junior, Robert Carter, Matthew torsnamed.
- 35 Hutton Chaytor, Robert Henderson (of the firm of Patrick Henderson and Co.), and John Carmichael.

VII. And be it enacted, That the Directors of the said Company Directors shall have full power and authority to make, prescribe, alter, amend, make By-laws repeal and re-enact all such By-laws, Rules, Regulations and Ordi- for regulating

⁴⁰ nances, and whether imposing penalties or otherwise, and whether and affairs of binding on the Company, its Directors, Managers, Agents, Officers, the Company. Clerks, and Servants or other persons or bodies, as shall appear to them proper and needful, touching the well ordering of the Company, the acquirement, management and disposition of its stock, property,

45 estate and effects and of its affairs and business, but that for such purposes a majority of the whole body of Directors shall be present

Province or

and assisting or be represented by proxy as hereinafter provided, and particularly that the said Directors shall have power in manner aforesaid to make, prescribe, alter, amend, repeal or re-enact By-laws, Rules, Regulations and Ordinances touching the following matters:

Special purposes for which such By-laws may by made. 1. The calling up and payment and increase and decrease, from 5 time to time, of the Capital of the said Company, and of the instalments thereof, and of the amount of each of the respective shares therein and the conversion thereof into stock.

2. The issue of certificates to the respective Share or Stockholders of the said Company of their shares or stock therein, and the regis- 10 tration thereof, and of the addresses of the Shareholders for the purposes of the Company.

3. The forfeiture or sale of shares or stock for non-payment of calls or other liability of the Shareholders.

4. The set-off of all debts due to the said Company from the 15 Shareholders against such shares and stock, and dividends or payments to which they may be entitled.

5. The transfer of shares or stock and the approval and control by the Directors of such transfer and of the proposed transferees, and as to the remedy against transferees.

6. The declaration and payment of profits of the said Company, 20 and dividends in respect thereof.

7. The formation and maintenance of a Sinking or Reserve Fund.

8. The number and qualification of the Directors, and the appointment, term of office, removal and remuneration of the Directors, and of all such managers, agents, officers, clerks or servants of s id 25 Company as they shall deem necessary for carrying on the business of the said Company, and the security, if any, to be taken from such parties respectively for the due performance of their respective duties, and also of the indemnity of such parties.

9. General, Special, or other Meetings of the said Company and 30 Directors in this Province or elsewhere, and the *quorum* and business to be transacted thereat respectively, and the number of votes which Shareholders shall have in respect of shares held by them, and the mode of taking votes and regulating Proxies of Directors and Shareholders.

10. Making and entering into deeds, bills, notes, agreements contracts, chatter parties, policies of insurance, and other documents and engagements to bind the Company, and whether under the seal

1024

5

Company or not, and whether by the Directors or their agents, as may be deemed expedient.

11. As to borrowing or lending money, or securities for money. and the securities to be given by or to the said Company for the 5 same.

12. Keeping minutes of the proceedings and the accounts of the said Company, and making the same conclusive and binding on the Shareholders, and rectifying any errors which may be made therein.

13. The audit of accounts and appointment of Auditors.

14. For giving notices by or to the Company. 10

15. For recovery of damages and penalties.

16. The dissolution and winding up of the Company.

VIII. And be it enacted, That all such By-laws, Rules, Regula- Authority of 15 tions and Ordinances shall be valid and have effect in the same such By-laws, ¢с. way as if the same had been contained and enacted in this Act, until the same are altered or repealed or amended as hereinbefore mentioned, or are altered or repealed by the majority in value of Shareholders voting at an Annual or other Special or General Meeting. 20 to whom power is hereby given so to alter or repeal the same.

IX. And be it enacted, That a copy of such By-laws as aforesaid Proof of such er ef any one or more of them, sealed with the seal of the Company, By-laws. shall be evidence in all Courts of Law or Equity of such By-laws or By-law, and that the same were or was duly made, and are or is 25 in force; and in any action or proceeding at Law or in Equity between the Company and any Shareholder, it shall not be necessary to give any evidence to prove the 'seal of' the Company; and all documents purporting to be sealed with the seal of the Company. shall be taken to have been duly scaled with the seal of the Company.

- 30 X. And be it enacted, That the Directors of the said Company Directors to shall from time to time issue to each of the Shareholders respect- issue certiively, certificates under the common seal of the Company, of the Stock and number of shares to which he is entitled, and he shall then be the take acknowlegal owner of such shares and invested with all the rights and
- 35 subject to all the liabilities of a Shareholder in respect of such shares, and each person to whom any share or shares shall be assigned, shall sign an acknowledgment of his having taken such share or shares, which acknowledgment shall be kept by the Directors, and shall be conclusive evidence of such acceptance, and that

40 the persons signing it has taken upon himself the liability aforesaid.

ficates of

Instalments may be sued for and recovered with interest.

What it shall_ suffice to allege an l prove in any such suit.

Proviso.

deem it more expedient in any case to enforce the payment of any unpaid instalment than to forfeit or sell the said shares therefor, it shall and may be lawful for the Company to sue for and recover the same from such Shereholder with interest thereon in any action in 5 any Court having civil jurisdiction to the amount claimed; and in any such action it shall be sufficient to allege that the Defendant is the holder of one commore shares (stating the number of shares) and is indebted to the Company in the sum to which the calls in arrear may amount, and to maintain such action it shall be sufficient that 10 the signature of the Defendant to such acknowledgment as hereinbefore mentioned shall be proved, and that the calls in arrear have been made, and a certificate under the seal of the Company, or signed by any one or more of the Directors. shall be sufficient evidence of the calls having been duly made and being in arrear, and 15 the amount due in respect thereof : Provided that nothing herein contained shall in any way affect the right of the said Company to forfeit the shares of any Shareholder for non-payment of Calls or Subscriptions, whether after or before such a Judgment for recovery the cof. 20

Application of Capital. XII. And be it enacted, That the Capital Stock of the said Company is hereby directed and appointed to be laid out and applied in the first place for and towards the payment, discharge and satisfaction of all fies and disbursements for obtaining and passing this Act, and the preliminary expenses attending the establishment 25 of the said Company, and all the rest, residue and remainder of such money for and towards carrying out the objects of this undertaking and the other purposes of the Company, and to no other use, intent or purpose whatsoever.

Company not bound to see execution of trusts. XIII. And be it enacted, That the Company shall not be bound 30 to see to the execution of any trust whether express, implied or constructive to which any of the said shares may be subject, and the receipt of the party in whose name any such share shall stand in books of the Company, shall from time to time, be a discharge to the Company for any dividend or other sum of money payable in 35 respect of such share, notwithstanding any trusts to which such share may then be subject, and whether or not the Company have had notice of such trusts, and the Company shall not be bound to see the application of the money paid upon such receipt.

As to Shares of Shareh dlers becoming bankrupt; or Shares transruittee otherwise than by regular transfer.

XIV. And be it enacted, That when any shares shall have be- 40° come transmitted in consequence of the bankruptey or insolvency of any Shareholder, the assignee of such Shareholder shall not be entitled, and in case of such transmission in consequence of the death or marriage of a Shareholder, the executors or administrators or husband, as the case may be, of such Shareholder shall not, except so 45° far as may be otherwise provided by By-laws, be entitled to receive

XI. And be it enacted, That in case the said Directors shall

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any of the profits of the Company, or to vote in respect of such shares as the holders thereof : but, nevertheless, after the production of such declaration or other evidence of such transmission as may be required in that behalf of any By-law of the Company, such 5 assignees, executors or administrators or husband, as the case may be, shall have power to transfer the share or shares so transmitted in the same manner and subject to the same regulations as any other transfer is to be made.

XV. And be it enacted, That on the first Monday in the month Annual Meet-10 of September in each year, or on such other day in each year as holders. may be appointed for the purpose by the By-laws of the Company, an Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the said Company shall be held at Quebec, or such other place as may from time to time be appointed in that behalf by the said By-laws, for the election of

- 15 Directors, in the room of those whose office may at that time become or be vacant, and generally for the transaction of the business of the Company, and it shall be lawful for such meeting to be adjourned to any other time and to any other place, whether within this Province or elsewhere.
- XVI. And be it enacted, That the Directors of the said Ccm- Directors may 20 pany may vote by proxy, as Directors, at any meeting of the Di- vote by proxy rectors, such proxies being themselves Directors, and appointed in the following form or to the like effect :---

"I hereby appoint of pointment. 25 " one of the Directors of the Canadian "Steam Navigation Company to be my proxy as a Director of the "said Company, and as such proxy to vote for me at all meetings of "the Directors of the said Company, and generally to do all that "I could myself do as such Director, if personally present at any such 30 "meeting. A. B. signature." But no Director shall act as proxy Limitation. for more than three other Directors.

XVII. And be it enacted, That except in so far as it is herein Majority of otherwise provieded all transactions, questions and matters to cide questions be determined at any General Meeting of the Company or 35 at any meeting of the Directors, shall be determined by the majority of the votes of the Shareholders or Directors, as the case may be, present, and assisting as such meeting, either in person or by proxy, and in case of an equality of votes at any such meeting, the Chairman of such meeting shall have a casting vote.

XVIII. And be it enacted, That the Directors of the said Directors em-40 Company may act as Directors, either in this Province or elsewhere, appoint and may appoint such and so many agents in this Province or agents and in-elsewhere, and for such time and on such terms as to them shall with certain seem expedient, and the Directors may by any By law to be made pewere.

ing of Share-

Form of ap-

for such purpose, empower and authorize any such agent or agents to do and perform any act or thing, or to exercise any powers which the Directors themselves or any of them may lawfully do, perform and exercise, except the power of making By-laws, and all things done by any such agent by virtue of the powers in him vested by such By-law, shall be valid and effectual to all intents and purposes as if done by such Directors themselves, anything in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Defects in election. dc., of Director not to affect his acts as such.

XIX. And be it enacted, That all acts done by any person or persons acting as Directors or Director, shall, notwithstanding there 10 was some defect in the appointment of any such persons or person, or that they or any of them were disqualified, be as valid as if every such persons or person had been duly appointed and was qualified to be a Director.

English Rules cf Evidence to apply in da.

XX. And be it enacted, That in all actions or suits at law by or 15 against the Company, or to which the said Company may be a party Lower Caua- instituted in Lower Canada, recourse shall be had to the Rules of Evidence laid down by the laws of England as recognized by the Courts in Lower Canada in Commercial cases, and no Shareholder shall be deemed an incompetent witness either for or against the on Company unless he be incompetent otherwise than as a Shareholder.

As to writs of XXI. And be it enacted, That if any writ of Saisie Arrét or Saisie Arret, attachment shall be served upon the said Company, it shall be lawful drc., upon the for the President, or for the Secretary or the Treasurer thereof, or Company. any agent to be appointed as hereinbefore provided, in any such 25 case to appear in obedience to the said writ, to make the declaration by law required according to the exigency of such case, which said declaration or the declaration of the said President, shall be taken and received in all Courts of Justice in Lower Canada as the declaration of the Company, and in causes in which Interrogatories, sur 30 fuits et articles, or the serment decisoire may be served upon or Faits et articles. required of the Company, the Directors shall have the power, by a vote or resolution entered among the minutes of the proceedings of any meeting, to authorize the President, Secretary or Treasurer, or such agent as aforesaid, to appear and answer such Interrogatories, 35 or take or refer such serment decisoire, and the answers on oath of Answers. the President, Secretary or Treasurer, or such agent as aforesaid so authorized, shall be held and taken to be the answers on oath of the Company to all intents and purposes, as if the formalities by law required had been complied with, and the production of a copy of 40 any such resolution, certified by the Secretary, with the said answers, shall be sufficient evidence of such authorization.

XXII. And be it enacted, That every contract, policy, agrec-Execution of contracts, ment, engagement or bargain by the Company, or by any one or policies. &c, more of the Directors on behalf of the Company, or by any agent 4g on behalf of the Company,

1133

or agents of the Company, and every Promissory Note made or indorsed and every Bill of Exchange drawn, accepted or indorsed. by such Director or Directors on behalf of the Company. or by any such agent or agents in general accordance with the powers to be 5 devolved to and conferred on them respectively under the said By-

- laws, shall be binding upon the said Company; and in no case shall seal not reit be necessary to have the seal of the Company affixed to any quired therato such contract, policy, agreement, engagement, bargain, promissory note, or Bill of Exchange, or to prove that the same was entered. 10 into, made or done in strict pursuance of the By-laws, nor shall the
- party entering into, making or doing the same as Director or agent. be thereby subjected individually to any liability whatsoever : Pro- provise vided always, that nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the said Company to issue any note payable to the bearer 15 thereof, or any Promissory Note intended to be circulated as money
- or as the notes of a Bank.

XXIII. And be it enceted, That if at any time any Municipal Municipal and or other Corporation, civil or ecclesiastical, body politic, corporate other Corporations may or collegiate, or community in this Province or elsewhere, shall be take Stock in 20 desirous of taking shares of the Capital Stock of the said Company, or lead money or otherwise promoting the success of their undertaking by loans of pany. monev or securities for money at interest on à constitution de rente. it shall be lawful for them respectively so to do in like manner, and with the same rights and privileges in respect thereof as private 25 individuals may do under or by virtue of this Act, anything in any

Ordinance or Act or Instrument of Incorporation of any such body. or in any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

XXIV. And be it enacted, That the Shareholders shall not, as Non-liability such, be held liable for any claim, engagement, loss or payment, or of Sharehold-30 for any injury, transaction, matter or thing relating to or connected with the said Company, or the liabilities, acts or defaults of the said Company, beyond their past contributions to the said Company, and the sums, if any remaining due, to complete the amount of their subscriptions to the Company.

XXV. And be it enacted, That the shares in the Capital Stock Shares to be 35 of the said Company shall be deemed personal estate, and shall be personalty. transferrable as such.

XXVI. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Di-rectors, from time to time, with the consent of three-fifths in value very the paid 40 of the Shareholders present in person or by proxy, at any General into Stock,

- Meeting of the Company, when notice for that purpose shall have and divide it. been given, to convert or consolidate all or any part of the shares then existing in the Capital of the Company, and in respect whereof the whole money subscribed shall have been paid up into a general
- 45 Capital Stock to be divided amongst the Shareholders, according to their respective interests therein.

XXVII. And be it enacted, That suits at law and in equity Suits between may be prosecuted and maintained between the said Company and Company and any Shareholders thereof, and no Shareholder of the Company not being in his private capacity a party to suchsuit, shall be incompetent as a witness in such suit.

Public Act. Interpretation

XXVIII. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be a Public Act, and shall be subject to the provisions contained in the Interpretation Act, which shall be held to form part thereof so far as the same shall apply.

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