

No. 202.

3d Session, 3d Parliament, 13 & 14 Vict., 1850.

BILL.

An Act to protect from injury Electro-
Magnetic Telegraphs in this Province.

Received and Read a first time, Saturday, 20th
July, 1850.

Second Reading, Monday, 22nd July, 1850.

HON. MR. BADGLEY.

BILL.

An Act to protect from injury Electro-Magnetic
Telegraphs in this Province.

WHEREAS it is necessary to protect from injury Preamble.
Electro-Magnetic Telegraph Lines in this Province: Be it therefore enacted, &c.

That if any person shall wilfully or maliciously cut, break, Punishment of parties damaging Telegraph wires, &c.
5 destroy, or injure any instrument, cap, wire, post or other erection, used for or by any Line of Electro-Magnetic Telegraph now or hereafter to, be in operation in this Province, under any Act in force therein, or that may be passed by the Legislature thereof, or in any manner by
10 any means impede or obstruct the action and operation of such Line, such person shall be punishable by imprisonment for not less than *five* days nor more than *thirty* days, or by fine not exceeding *ten pounds*, or by both, according to the discretion of the Magistrate before whom
15 the offence shall be charged;

That the jurisdiction over all offences against this Act shall be in any Justice of the Peace in any Parish, Village, Who shall have jurisdiction.
City, Town or County where the offence was committed or in which the offender may be found, and the proceedings thereon shall be summary;

That the fine imposed may, if not forthwith paid, be levied, with all costs of the prosecution, by warrant of distress against and by sale of the goods and chattels of the offender, or such offender may, (in the discretion of
25 the Magistrate) whether imprisonment be or be not part of the sentence, be imprisoned for a period not exceeding *thirty* days, in addition to and after the expiration of any other imprisonment making part of his sentence, unless
30 such fine and all expenses incurred in the prosecution be sooner paid; and all such fines, when collected, shall belong to the party aggrieved by and complaining of the offence, and be paid over to such party.