

ly at the general meeting of the shareholders to be held as provided by the said act. tion of directors.

2. As soon as the new board of directors under this act shall be elected, they shall issue new stock to an amount not exceeding twenty thousand dollars ; the proceeds of this stock shall be invested by the board in such a manner as that the revenue to be derived therefrom shall be applied solely and exclusively to the maintaining and keeping in order of the said cemetery. Issue of new stock. Application of proceeds.

3. The said new stock shall be preferential and dividends thereon, not exceeding six per cent, shall be paid before any dividends be paid on the old stock of the company. New stock to be preferential, dividends thereon.

4. This act shall come into force on the date of its sanction. Coming into force.

C A P . L I V .

An act to amend the Town Corporations' General Clauses Act, 40 Victoria, chapter 29.

[Assented to 18th May, 1887.]

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows :

1. Paragraph 4 of section 39 of the town corporations' general clauses act is amended by inserting, after the words "one thousand dollars" in the third line thereof, the words "over and above all charges and hypothecs affecting the same." 40 V., c. 29 s. 39 § 4 amended.

2. This act shall not affect officers now in office.

Present officers not affected.

C A P . L V .

An Act for the purpose of authorizing the appointment of a royal commission to hold an investigation into certain matters relating to the administration of the municipal affairs of the city of Montreal.

[Assented to 18th May, 1887.]

WHEREAS a petition signed by a large number of the rate, payers of the city of Montreal has been presented to the council of the said city reciting the com- Preamble.

plants made against the administration of its affairs by certain newspapers, both against the council of the city and against the employees of the corporation ; and such petition, which has been transmitted to the government of this Province, prays for the issue of a royal commission to inquire into the truth of such accusations ;

Whereas another petition was also presented to the said council on behalf of the workmen's associations praying for a commission of inquiry to investigate into the working of the charter of the city and for the measures to be adopted to remedy the state of things complained of ;

Whereas it is in the public interest that the prayer of such petitions should be granted, and an act to that effect be passed, as the existing laws appear to be insufficient to lawfully institute such inquiry ;

Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows :

Lieutenant-Governor may issue Royal Commission for certain purposes.

1. The Lieutenant Governor in council may issue, under the Great Seal of this Province, a royal commission, entrusted with making a complete investigation into the administration of the municipal affairs of the city of Montreal, upon the working of the charter of the said city and upon the conduct of the members of the council and of its officers and employees, from such time as he deems proper.

Composition of commission.

2. Such royal commission shall be composed of not more than three competent persons selected by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

Term of office.

3. The persons so appointed commissioners for the purposes of this act shall remain in office during pleasure.

Commissioners to be sworn.

4. Such commissioners shall, as soon as possible after their appointment, take and subscribe an oath before one of the judges of the Superior Court to act impartially according to their conscience and to faithfully perform the duties of their office ;

The taking of such oath shall remain of record.

President and clerk of commission.

5. After having been sworn, the commissioners shall select one of their number as president of the commission of inquiry and shall afterwards appoint a competent person to act as clerk of the commission ;

Register to be kept by clerk.

The said clerk shall be obliged to keep a register in which all the proceedings had before the commission shall be entered by him.

Stenographers may be appointed to take evidence.

6. The commissioners may, if they deem proper, appoint stenographers to take notes as complete as possible of the evidence given before the commission ; the said stenographers being previously sworn in the manner provided in

the Code of Civil Procedure ; the notes taken by them shall be taken under the dictation of the president of the Commission.

7. The commissioners shall, as soon as possible after the organization of the commission, proceed, day by day as far as possible, to hold a complete and full inquiry into the administration of the council of the city of Montreal and of its officers, and into the working of its charter, in accordance with the instructions which shall be given to them.

Proceedings
by commis-
sioners.

The commissioners shall have all the rights and powers granted to commissioners appointed under the act of this Province, 32 Victoria, chapter 8, respecting inquiries concerning public matters.

Powers of
commission-
ers.

8. The sessions of the commission shall be public, excepting during the time that the commissioners shall deliberate upon any facts and questions which may be submitted to them or come to their knowledge.

Sessions to be
public.
Exception.

9. The president of the commission shall sign the orders summoning witnesses and the other documents connected therewith, and shall have all the powers of the judges of the Superior Court to compel witnesses to appear, to give evidence and produce the necessary papers, and to punish them in case of disobedience.

President to
sign orders.

His powers
as to witness-
es.

10. The commissioners, or the majority of them, may, from time to time, as they deem proper, make partial reports of their operations addressed to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council ;

Interim re-
ports.

When the inquiry shall be concluded, they shall make a final report of their proceedings to the Lieutenant-Governor, which report shall be printed and transmitted to the municipal council of the city of Montreal.

Final report.

11. The commissioners shall, as much as possible, sit in the city of Montreal in the city hall of the said city, but may sit elsewhere if necessary for the purposes of the said inquiry.

Commission-
ers to sit in
Montreal, but
may sit else-
where.

12. The act respecting the independence of the members of this Legislature shall not apply to this act.

49-50 V. c. 97
ss. 58 and 66
not to apply.

13. The fees of the commissioners, their travelling expenses and expenses, as well as the fees, salaries and emoluments of the clerks, stenographers, bailiffs and witnesses, shall be paid by the city of Montreal, after being taxed and approved by the Attorney-General.

Payment of
fees &c.

14. To defray the expenses of the commission and

Deposit to be

made previous to issuing commission. insure its proper working, the Lieutenant-Governor in council may require from the city of Montreal, before issuing such commission, a deposit in money of a sum deemed necessary and sufficient for that purpose, which sum, if it become insufficient during the course of the inquiry, shall be increased upon notice to that effect to the said city by the president of the commission.

Coming into force.

15. This act shall come into force by order in council passed upon demand made by resolution of the council of the city of Montreal ;

Proclamation for that purpose.

Such coming into force shall be rendered public by proclamation published in the Quebec Official Gazette and in four newspapers published in the city of Montreal, two in French and two in English, at least eight days before the commencement of the inquiry.

C A P . L V I .

An Act to amend the Charter of the City of Montreal.

[Assented to 18th May, 1887.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS the corporation of the city of Montreal has, by its petition, represented that it has become necessary, in order to meet new engagements contracted in view of the epidemic of last year, to modify the acts concerning the said corporation, to extend the electoral franchise, and to make other alterations in the interest of the inhabitants of the said city ;

Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows :

Franchise of husbands separated as to property from their wives.

1. The husband of any woman, under the law of separation as to property, shall be entitled to vote at the municipal elections of the said city of Montreal, when she shall be seized and possessed, either as proprietor or usufructuary, of real estate of a sufficient value to qualify to vote under the charter of the said city, and she shall possess the other qualifications required of electors by the said charter.

Franchise of widows and spinsters.

2. Widows and spinsters of lawful age, being owners of real estate of a sufficient value, and possessing the qualifications required of electors by the act 37 Victoria, chapter 51, shall be entitled to vote at the municipal elections of the said city ; and, for that purpose, their names shall be registered in the voters' list, like those of other electors.