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|---|------|
| For every two-wheeled vehicle, cariole, sleigh, sled drawn by one horse..... | 0.08 |
| For each additional horse..... | 0.05 |
| For a horse and its rider..... | 0.06 |
| For every horse..... | 0.05 |
| For every ox and head of horned cattle.... | 0.04 |
| For every sheep or pig..... | 0.02 |
| For every person on foot..... | 0.02 |
| For every mower, drawn by two horses.. | 0.10 |
| For every mower, drawn by one horse.. | 0.08 |

Act in force. **21.** This act shall come into force on the day of its sanction.

C A P. C V I I I .

An Act to extend the privileges and powers of "The St. Francis Bridge Company."

[Assented to 27th May, 1882]

Preamble.

WHEREAS the St. Francis Bridge Company have, by petition, represented that they are desirous of increasing their capital stock and of obtaining further privileges and powers, and that the said company will thereby be enabled to supply a want greatly needed by the people of the villages of Melbourne and Richmond, and the surrounding townships, and the travelling public generally, and it is expedient to grant the said petition; Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows:

Right to maintain bridge and exact tolls.

1. The company shall have the right to maintain the bridge over the river St. Francis, now in course of construction between the villages of Richmond and Melbourne, and any bridge which may be hereafter built in renewal of the same, and to build and maintain a toll-house for the use of the said bridge; and to acquire and hold the land on each side of the said river, which may be necessary for the abutments and toll-house, and for by-roads from the adjacent highways to the said bridge.

No other bridge to be built.

2. After the said bridge is opened to the public, and while it remains fit for traffic no person and no company other than the said "The St. Francis Bridge Company" shall construct any bridge or shall use any boat or vessel as a ferry for hire, across the said river within the distance of half of one mile north of the said company's bridge, and

southerly to the site of the old bridge now existing, and provided that within five years from the coming into force of this act, the adjoining municipalities or any one of them shall not have reconstructed the said old bridge, then from and after the expiry of the said period of five years the exclusive privileges, by this section granted to the said company, shall extend to a distance of one mile south of the said company's bridge.

And if any person shall construct a bridge or shall ferry, for hire, across the said river, within the limits aforesaid, he shall pay to the said company for each person, animal or article that he shall have conveyed for hire, across the said river, three times the amount of tolls imposed by this act.

But nothing contained in this section shall prevent the adjoining municipalities from reconstructing the old bridge, in the delay and as provided in the proviso above mentioned.

And any person guilty of a contravention of this section shall also be liable to a penalty of ten dollars for each and every such contravention.

3. The height of the arches of the bridge, constructed by the said company, shall be not less, at any time, than six feet above high water, and the interval between the centre line of abutments and piers shall be not less than one hundred and fifty feet, so as to provide for the free passage of rafts and vessels, and no drawbridge shall be required.

4. The said company shall have the right to erect a toll-gate or bar and exact, for passing over the said bridge, tolls, not to exceed the following rates, viz :

| | | Rate of tolls. |
|--|--------|----------------|
| For every person on foot..... | \$0 01 | |
| For every vehicle, drawn by one horse.... | 0 05 | |
| For every vehicle, drawn by two horses or oxen | 0 08 | |
| For every additional horse or ox..... | 0 02 | |
| For every horse and rider..... | 0 04 | |
| For every horse, mule, cow or head of cattle | 0 02 | |
| For every sheep, calf or pig..... | 0 01 | |

Provided always that the said tariff shall have no effect until it shall have been approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

And any person, passing forcibly through the said toll-gate or over or upon the said bridge, without paying the toll exigible, or otherwise evading the payment of the said tolls &c.

tolls, or driving horses, oxen or cattle over the same faster than a walk, shall incur a penalty for each offence, not exceeding ten dollars.

Exemptions
from toll.

Provided always that no toll shall be charged to or collected from children, students and teachers going to and from school, persons going to and from divine service on Christmas, New Year's Day and Sunday, between the hours of eight a.m., and nine p.m., with their teams, ministers of the gospel at all times, teams drawing fire engines and their accessories, and on the day of an agricultural show at Richmond, the live stock and products for exhibition and the persons in charge thereof.

Increase of
capital.

Subscription
of certain mu-
nicipalities.

Money to be
raised for such
purpose.

5. The said corporation shall have the right to increase their capital to such amount, as may be authorized by the shareholders, at a special meeting called for that purpose, not exceeding fifty thousand dollars. The municipal corporations of the village of Richmond, of the village of Melbourne, of the townships of Melbourne and Brompton Gore, and of the township of Cleveland are hereby severally authorized, by a by-law of their respective councils, to subscribe and take stock in the said company, to the extent of three thousand dollars each, and to appropriate monies for the payment thereof, and the said councils may respectively levy any monies required therefor, or effect loans or issue debentures to pay for the said stock, subject to the provisions of the municipal code; and at all meetings of the company the said municipal corporations, while shareholders, shall be represented by their respective mayors.

Composition of
the board.

Qualification
of directors.

6. The board of directors of the said company shall consist of nine members, including the mayors of the said municipal council, who shall be *ex-officio* directors as long as the said municipal corporations continue to be shareholders. No person shall be eligible as a director, unless he holds absolutely in his own right at least twenty shares, of paid up stock, save the mayors, who shall require no qualification.

Payment of
increased ca-
pital stock.

7. The capital stock of the said company, if the same shall be increased, shall be called in and be payable at such time and place and upon such notice, and in such manner as shall be fixed by a by-law of the said company.

Right to bor-
row money.

8. The said company shall have the right to borrow any sum or sums, as shall be authorized by the shareholders, at a special meeting duly called for that purpose, and to hypothecate their said bridge and other real property, or to pledge the revenues and tolls thereof, as security for the

repayment of any such loans. The instrument or deed by which any such loan shall be effected, shall be registered in the registry office for the county of Richmond; and in any suit for the recovery of such sums or any portion thereof, it shall not be necessary for the creditor to allege or prove such authorization, or such meeting or any act preliminary to the effecting of the said loan; and every loan, effected by the said company, shall be held to be good and valid, unless proceedings to set the same aside shall be taken, at the instance of a shareholder or ordinary creditor of the said company, within three months from the date when the same shall have been registered as aforesaid.

Registration
of title.

9. The said company shall have all the powers of expropriation conferred upon railway companies under the railway act of this Province—and the like procedure shall apply, in respect of all such property as the said company shall require for the approaches to their said bridge from the main highways in the village of Richmond and in the village of Melbourne, to widen, straighten, or improve such approaches.

Power of ex-
propriation.

The said company shall have the right to exercise the said powers, as well in respect of the roads, streets and property of either of the said municipalities as in respect of the property of private individuals: but they shall not have the right to close any street or road now used without providing adequate means of access to the river.

Extension of
such power.

10. At any time, after the expiration of ten years from the completion of the bridge herein mentioned, either the municipality of Melbourne or Richmond or by union of any adjoining municipalities, may purchase the bridge by valuation in the usual way by arbitrators, one appointed on petition to a judge of the Superior Court, and one by the united municipalities and one by the bridge company.

Power of cer-
tain incorpo-
rations to ac-
quire bridge.

11. Should the said bridge at any time become impassable or unsafe for travel, the Superior Court, sitting in the district of St Francis, after having ascertained such fact on information or complaint brought by the Attorney General, may order the said company to repair or rebuild the said bridge within a delay to be fixed by the said court; and if the said bridge be not repaired or rebuilt within the said delay, then the said court may declare the said bridge to be confiscated to Her Majesty, and from the date of such judgment of confiscation the said bridge shall become the property of the Province of Quebec.

Provision if
bridge become
dangerous.

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Recovery of
penalties.

12. The penalties, imposed by this act, shall be recovered, with costs, before any district magistrate or justice of the peace, in and for the district of St. Francis, on prosecution brought by the Company within three months from the date when the offence was committed, and shall belong to the said company. In default of payment of the fine and costs, within fifteen days from the rendering of the judgment, the person condemned may be imprisoned for any time not exceeding thirty days, unless the fine and costs be sooner paid.
