

Laws of His Majesty's Province of Upper Canada, passed in the year 1836. Toronto: Robert Stanton, 1836.

6 William IV – Chapter 30 (Session 1)

An Act to continue the Improvement of certain Roads in the Home District. Passed 20th April, 1836.

Whereas the improvement of the Public Highways approaching the City of Toronto, under the authority of an Act of the Parliament of this Province, passed in the third year of the reign of His present Majesty, entitled "*An Act to raise a sum of money to improve certain Roads in the vicinity of the Town of York, and for other purposes therein mentioned,*" has fully realized the advantages anticipated, and given general satisfaction: And whereas it is desirable that such improvements should be continued on the said three Public Highways in the Home District:—Be it therefore enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province of Upper Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great Britain, entitled "*An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's reign, entitled 'An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec, in North America, and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province,*" and by the authority of the same, That it shall and may be lawful for the Receiver General of this Province, as soon after the passing of this Act as may be deemed expedient, to raise, by way of loan, from any person or persons, body politic or corporate, who may be willing to advance the same on the credit of the tolls to be levied and collected on the roads hereby authorised to be imposed, and not paid or chargeable against the general revenue of this Province, any sum or sums of money, not exceeding in the whole Thirty-five Thousand Pounds, which said sum of thirty-five thousand pounds shall be appropriated and applied as follows, that is to say—To continue the Macadamization of the Yonge Street road, the sum of Fifteen Thousand Pounds; to continue the Macadamization of the Kingston road, the sum of Ten Thousand Pounds; to continue the Macadamization of the Dundas Street road, the sum of Ten Thousand Pounds.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the Receiver General for the time being to cause or direct any number of Debentures to be made out, (distinguishing the road, on the toll of which such Debentures are to be secured) for such sum or sums of money, not exceeding for Yonge Street road the sum of fifteen thousand pounds; for Kingston road the sum of ten thousand pounds; and for Dundas Street road the sum of ten thousand pounds, as any person or persons, bodies corporate or politic, shall agree to advance on the credit of the tolls of each road; which Debentures shall be prepared and made out in such method and form as His Majesty's Receiver General shall think most safe and convenient, and shall be signed by the Receiver General for the time being.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Debentures to be issued for each road shall be secured by the tolls of such road; and the Trustees to be appointed by this Act shall have power and authority only over the road to which they are appointed; and each Turnpike or Macadamized road shall be solely managed by such Trustees, and the tolls thereof shall be applied solely on the Debentures issued on such road, and for the purposes mentioned in this Act, as regards each road.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the Receiver General for the time being to pay such sum and sums of money, out of the said loan so to be raised on the said Debentures, as the Trustees for each of the said roads respectively may require, for such parts of the work as may be from time to time completed, or for such materials as may be from time to time furnished, on such Trustees certifying that such sum or sums is or are necessary to enable them to proceed with such portion or portions of the work as are in a course of being finished, or for such materials furnished and delivered, not exceeding in the whole the sum of thirty-five thousand pounds.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid. That the interest due upon the said loan or Debentures, shall and may be payable in half-yearly periods, to be computed from the date thereof, out of the funds hereafter provided, and shall and may be paid by the Receiver General of this Province for the time being, who shall take care to have the same endorsed on each Debenture, at the time of payment thereof, expressing the period up to which the said interest shall have been paid, and shall take receipts for the same respectively; and that the Receiver General of the Province shall pay the interest on the said loan or Debentures half-yearly, as the same becomes due, out of the funds provided by this Act.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall forge or counterfeit any such Debenture, as aforesaid, which shall be issued under the authority of this Act, and uncanceled, or any stamp, endorsement, or writing thereon or therein, or tender in payment any such forged Debenture, or any Debenture with such counterfeit endorsement or writing thereon, or shall demand to have any such counterfeit Debenture or any Debenture with such counterfeit endorsement or writing thereupon or therein, exchanged for ready money, by any person or persons who shall be obliged and required to exchange the same, or by any other person or persons whomsoever, knowing the Debenture so tendered in payment to be exchanged, or the endorsement or writing thereupon or therein to be forged or counterfeited, with intent to defraud His Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, or the persons appointed to pay off the said Debentures, or any of them, or any other person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, then every such person or persons so offending, being thereof lawfully convicted, shall be adjudged a felon.

VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That at any time after the said Debentures or loan or any part thereof respectively becomes due, according to the terms thereof, it shall and may be lawful for the Receiver General of this Province, if he think proper so to do, to direct a notice to be inserted in the Upper Canada Gazette, requiring all

holders of the said Debentures to present the same for payment, according to this Act; and if after the insertion of the said notice for three months, any Debenture then payable shall remain out more than six months from the first publication of such notice, all interest on such Debentures, after the expiration of the said six months, shall cease and be no further payable in respect of the time which may elapse between the expiration of the said six months and their presentment for payment.

VIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Trustees of each of the said roads hereinafter mentioned, shall have full power and authority on the road to which they are appointed Trustees, as aforesaid, to cause the necessary surveys and estimates to be made, preparatory to the continuing the said improvements, and by public tender or otherwise, as they shall deem most advantageous, to contract for the construction and completion of any part of the said road, or for the supply of any materials therefor, for the due performance of all which contracts the said Trustees shall demand and take such good and sufficient security as they shall deem reasonable in each case.

IX. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Trustees shall and they are hereby authorized to cause the said high-ways or roads, and bridges on the said roads, to be amended, widened, and repaired in such manner as they shall think proper, and to settle the direction of any of the said roads, or change or alter or shorten, or make them more accessible, and to make or cause to be made causeways, and to cut or make drains, ditches or trenches through any grounds lying contiguous to the said roads, to make passage for the water when it may be found necessary from such ditches or trenches, through the lands or premises of any adjacent proprietor, and also to keep clear such drains, ditches, passages, and outlets, and the workmen authorized by them may go upon the said lands for that purpose: Provided always, that reasonable satisfaction be made to the owner or occupier of such lands or premises for the damage to be done thereby; and if the said owner or occupier shall not be satisfied with the allowance offered, the same shall be decided by a Jury of the Home District, at the Court of Quarter Sessions, to be empannelled and sworn for that purpose at the request of the party aggrieved, and if such verdict shall not exceed the amount offered, the owner of the said land shall pay the costs of the Court, on the assessment of such damages; and in case the verdict of the said Jury shall exceed the offer made by the said Commissioners, then the costs of such trial and assessment shall be paid by the said Commissioners out of any monies in their hands for the purposes of the said road.

X. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That from and after the passing of this Act, all persons living within half a mile on either side of any of the said roads, and who are by the existing Laws of the Province, liable to perform Statute Labour, shall, and they are hereby required to commute the same, and pay the amount in money, at the rate of two shillings and sixpence per day, for every day for which they are assessed, so soon as the Macadamizing shall be completed to the lot of land on which the parties so assessed are respectively located.

XI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Path-Masters in the several Divisions on the said roads so to be Macadamized, as aforesaid, shall have full power and authority, and are hereby required, within their respective Divisions to demand and receive the amount of commutation for Statute Labour, to be paid under this Act; and in case any person or persons shall neglect or refuse to pay the same for the space of fourteen days after it shall be so demanded, the Path-Master of the Division shall proceed to collect it in the same manner as he is authorized by law to collect other arrears and forfeitures, by virtue of his office as Path-Master.

XII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any Path-Master shall fail or neglect to collect and pay over the commutation money, as aforesaid, when required by the Trustees so to do, he shall be liable to the same penalty as is imposed for any other neglect or omission of his duty by the law in such case provided, to be levied and collected in the same manner.

XIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the Trustees of the respective roads, as aforesaid, or for such persons as they shall appoint, to ask for and receive from the several Path-Masters the money so collected by them.

XIV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the amount raised by such commutation of Statute Labour shall be expended and applied by the Trustees as follows, that is to say—So much thereof as the said Trustees shall think just and necessary on the side roads leading to the roads so to be Macadamized, as aforesaid, in any manner the Trustees may think advisable, and the remainder to go to the general fund for Macadamizing the road to which such side roads lead, and keeping the same in repair.

XV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall be the duty of the respective Trustees of each road, and they are hereby required to report at the close of every year to the Lieutenant Governor, or person administering the Government for the time being, for the information of the Legislature, the sum they have received and expended, together with the amount of tolls received.

XVI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Trustees of each road shall have power to cause the necessary surveys to be made on such road to which they are appointed Trustees; and also to have all or such of the hills on the said road reduced to the proper level; the road drained, and all necessary bridges or culverts made, so soon after the passing of this Act as they, or a majority of them may think advisable and for the public good.

XVII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the following persons shall be Trustees, with full powers to carry into effect the purposes of this Act, viz:—For the Yonge Street road—Jesse Ketchum, Esquire, Toronto; Charles Thompson, John Montgomery, James Pearson, George Lount, James Davis, and D'Arcy Boulton. For the Kingston road—Thomas Helliwell, of the City of Toronto, Brewer; Daniel Knowles, Yeoman; James Beatty,

now Common Councilman for the City of Toronto; Charles Coxwell Small, Esquire; and William Cawthra. For Dundas-Street road—William Warren Baldwin, Esquire; Francis Logan, of the Township of Toronto; George Dennison, Esquire, one of the Aldermen of this City; John McFarlane, of Etobicoke, Yeoman; Jacob Cook, Abijah Lewis, and George Silverthorne, of Toronto Township, Yeoman, who shall have authority only over the road to which they are appointed Trustees; and shall have power to erect such number of Gates on or across the said road of which they are Trustees, as to them or a majority of them may appear requisite, and fix such toll as may be found necessary and expedient to answer the purposes of this Act, which rates or tolls may be altered from time to time as circumstances require: Provided always, that the Trustees acting under the authority of this Act, shall have power to make such equitable arrangement with any person desiring or having occasion merely to cross any Macadamized road mentioned in this Act, and without any intention to evade the tolls, as to them may seem just and reasonable.

XVIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That so much of the thirty-sixth clause of an Act passed in the fifth year of the reign of His Majesty King William the Fourth, entitled “An Act to reduce to one Act of Parliament the several Laws relative to the appointment and duties of Township Officers in this Province,” as relates to the wilful stopping up of any highway or road in any Township, be and the same is hereby repealed, so far as relates to the operations of this Act.

XIX. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Trustees for Dundas Street shall, so soon after the passing of this Act as may be practicable, continue and complete the Macadamization of Dundas Street, (known also as Lot Street) from the toll-gate at present erected thereon, eastward to Yonge Street.

XX. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Trustees for each road shall meet in the City of Toronto on the first day of May next, and elect one of their number to act as Chairman for the ensuing year; and all subsequent times and places of meeting shall be in the discretion of a majority of the Trustees.

XXI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all acts, proceedings, orders, matters and things, relative to the execution of the trusts in the said Trustees vested, may be done and executed by a majority of them, the Chairman being always one.

XXII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all the money collected at the different toll gates on each road shall be paid by the Collector to the Trustees of such road, when required by them; and that it shall be the duty of the said Trustees of each road to pay the same over to His Majesty’s Receiver General, at least once in three months, to be by him applied to the payment of the interest on the said loans, as it becomes due; and the overplus to be applied to the redemption of the principal: Provided always, that the money paid by the Trustees of each road shall be applied only to the Debentures issued for such road.

XXIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Trustees are empowered and required to levy such tolls as may be necessary to pay the principal and interest of the respective sums loaned for the purposes of this Act, within the term of thirty years.

XXIV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in order to raise the sum necessary to meet any deficiency left by the tolls for the purposes of this Act, such deficiencies shall be raised, levied and collected from the inhabitants of the Home District, paying or liable to pay the ordinary taxes now by law imposed, which additional rate shall be collected in the same manner as other taxes, by the Collectors of the several Townships in the said District, and paid by them to His Majesty's Receiver General, which said additional rate shall be rated, levied, and collected under and virtue of any order of the Magistrates in Quarter Sessions assembled, made in pursuance of any application of the Receiver General of this Province for that purpose, upon its being made to appear to the satisfaction of the said Justices, that the interest upon the said loan cannot be otherwise paid and discharged under the provisions of this Act.

XXV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if it shall at any time happen that the interest on the sum of money, raised under the authority of this Act, shall be in arrear and unpaid in consequence of the tolls and other means herein provided for the payment thereof, proving insufficient to meet the same, it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty's Receiver General, from and out of the monies in his hands, applicable to the public uses of this Province, to advance such sum as may be necessary to pay any balance in arrear on account of such interest, on receiving from the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or person administering the Government of this Province, a warrant for that purpose, which warrant shall and may be issued at any time, upon application being made to the Lieutenant Governor, by the Trustees, for that purpose.

XXVI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any sum of money so advanced by the Receiver General, as aforesaid, shall be charged against the Trustees for the said road, and shall be repaid in the same manner as any other monies borrowed for the purposes of this Act.

XXVII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the Trustees of such roads to raise such tolls on the said roads, from and after the expiration of fifteen years from the passing of this Act, as will enable them to keep such roads in repair, pay the interest on the said loan, and redeem the principal sum of thirty-five thousand pounds, within a period of not less than thirty years from the passing of this Act.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to prevent the Receiver General from issuing any Debentures, authorized to be issued by this Act, redeemable at a shorter period than thirty years from the date of any such Debenture, and from issuing other Debentures for a renewed loan to;

replace the same or any part thereof, so that the whole sum of Thirty-five Thousand Pounds be liquidated within the period of thirty years.

XXIX. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That His Majesty's Receiver General shall and may, and he is hereby authorised as soon after the passing of this Act as practicable, to pay off and cause the Debentures issued under the authority of the said Act passed in the third year of His Majesty's Reign, entitled, "An Act to raise a sum of money to improve certain roads in the vicinity of the Town of York, and for other purposes therein mentioned," to be paid off and discharged, and to issue Debentures, for the said Debentures to be paid off and cancelled, upon the same securities as are hereinbefore mentioned.

XXX. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no person shall leave any waggon, cart, or other carriage, nor shall lay or cause to be laid or left any matter or thing, creating an obstruction of any kind or nuisance upon any of the said roads, ditches, or drains thereof, and every person so offending shall, for every such offence, forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding Twenty Shillings.

XXXI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall cut, break down, or otherwise destroy any of the Turnpike Gates, or any Toll-house to be erected by virtue of this Act, every person so offending and being lawfully convicted, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and punished byline and imprisonment; and if any person or persons shall remove any earth, stone, or timber on the said road, to the damage of the same, or shall forcibly pass or attempt to pass by force any of the said Gates, without having first paid the legal Toll at such Gate, such person or persons shall pay all damages by them committed, and shall forfeit and pay a fine not exceeding two pounds, nor less than ten shillings, currency, to be recovered before any two Magistrates within the Home District.

XXXII. And whereas, the Trustees appointed by the said before recited Act, passed in the third year of His Majesty's reign, chapter thirty-eight, have for the purposes of carrying the said Act into full operation, become personally responsible for the said loan, by that Act authorized to be raised: Be it therefore further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That as soon as the loan of Ten Thousand Pounds by the said recited Act authorized to be raised and expended, shall have been paid and discharged by the Receiver General of this Province, with the interest due thereon, out of the monies to be raised by virtue of this Act, as also other sums of money actually expended upon the said roads, as the said Trustees shall have become personally responsible for the payment of; the said Trustees shall be and they are hereby declared to be fully exonerated and discharged from all personal responsibility regarding such sums as aforesaid.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That so much of the before recited Act, passed in the third year of the reign of His present Majesty, entitled, "An Act to raise a sum of money to improve certain roads in the vicinity of the Town of York, and for other purposes therein mentioned," as will in any way affect or interfere with the provisions of this Act, and not otherwise, shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the money authorized to be issued by this Act shall be paid by the Receiver General of this Province in discharge of any warrant or warrants, issued for that purpose by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or person administering the Government of the same, and shall be accounted for to His Majesty through the Lord Commissioners of His Treasury, in such manner and form as His Majesty, his Heirs and Successors shall be graciously pleased to direct.

XXXV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Trustees, if they think proper, may commute the Tolls with any person or persons by taking of him or them a certain sum either monthly or annually, in lieu of such Tolls, and that the said Trustees shall affix in a conspicuous place at all such Toll Gates a Table of the Rates of Tolls to be exacted and taken, to be plainly and legibly printed.

XXXVI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons, shall, after proceeding upon any of the said roads, with any of the carriages or animals liable to Toll, turn out of the same into any other road, and shall enter the said road beyond the said Turnpike Gate or Gates, without paying Toll, whereby such payment shall be evaded, shall for every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of ten shillings, which said sum shall be expended on the said roads, or towards the payment of the principal or interest of the sum expended thereon; and any one Magistrate of the said Home District, or Alderman of the City of Toronto, shall, on conviction of said offender, fine such person in the said penalty, and from whose judgment there shall be no appeal.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons, occupying or possessing any enclosed lands near any Toll-houses or Toll-Gates, which shall be erected in pursuance of this Act, shall knowingly permit, or suffer any person or persons to pass through such lands, or through any gate, passage, or way thereon, with any carriage, or with any horse, mare, gelding, or other animal, liable to the payment of the Toll, whereby such payment shall be avoided, every person or persons so offending, and also the persons riding or driving the animal or carriage, whereon such payment is avoided, being thereof convicted, shall for every such offence, severally forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding ten shillings, which shall be laid out in improving such road.

XXXVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all persons, horses or carriages, going to, or attending, or returning from any funeral of any person, shall pass the gate free of toll.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, from time to time, by commission under his hand and seal, to nominate and appoint such person or persons as he may think fit, to fill any vacancy or vacancies which may happen in the said Board of Trustees, by death, resignation or otherwise.