

*Laws of His Majesty's Province of Upper Canada*, passed in the year 1857. Toronto: Stewart Derbishire & George Desbarats, 1857.

20 Victoria – Chapter 157

**An Act to incorporate the St. Clair, Chatham and Rondeau Ship Canal Company. Assented to 10th June, 1857.**

Whereas Joseph Northwood and others, have petitioned to be incorporated for the purposes of this Act: Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, enacts as follows:

I. Joseph Northwood, George Thomas, Archibald McKellar, William Eberts, the Honorable John Prince, M. L. C., John W. Keating, Thomas M. Taylor, Peter J. Flood, John Waddell, Thomas Cross, John S. Vosburgh, Alexander Knapp, Robert K. Payne, Rowley Pegly, George Duck the younger, James Burns, P. L. Sternberg, H. C. Walker, Hiram Niles, Charles Walker, George Steele, B. L. Sheppard, Arthur Hughes, O. H. O'Viat, W. J. Gordon, John McDowall, Robert Stuart Woods, or either of them, together with all such persons (subjects of Her Majesty, or others) as shall become Stockholders of the Company hereinafter mentioned, shall be and are hereby ordained, constituted and declared to be a body corporate and politic, in fact and by the name of the "St. Clair, Chatham and Rondeau Ship Canal Company," and by that name they and their successors shall and may have continued succession; and by such name shall be capable of contracting and being contracted with, of suing and being sued, pleading and being impleaded, answering and being answered unto, in all Courts and places whatsoever, in all manner of actions, suits, complaints, matters and causes whatsoever; and they and their successors may and shall have a common seal, and may change and alter the same at their will and pleasure; and also, they and their successors by the same name of the St. Clair, Chatham and Rondeau Ship Canal Company, shall be in law capable of purchasing and holding to them and their successors, any estate, real, personal or mixed, to and for the use of the said Company, and of letting, selling, conveying or otherwise departing therewith for the benefit and on the account of the said Company, from time to time, as they shall deem expedient or necessary.

II. The Directors of the said Company shall have full power and authority to survey and explore the Country lying between the waters of the river St. Clair and Lake Erie, and to designate and establish, and for the said Company to take, appropriate, have and hold, to and for the use of them and their successors, the line and boundaries of an intended Canal, to commence at some point on the waters of the river St. Clair, and passing through or byway of the town of Chatham to connect the waters of the river St. Clair with those of Lake Erie, at the Rondeau harbour, and to build and erect, the same with the necessary locks, dams, tow-paths, branches, feeders, basins, and tramways, and also, to select such sites for such warehouses and other erections as may be considered expedient by the said Directors, and to purchase and dispose of the same to and for the use and profit of the said Company; Provided that nothing hereinbefore contained shall be construed to extend to compel the owners of any mill seat which shall be in existence before the construction of the said Canal or any of its branches or feeders, to sell or convey the same to the said Company unless the same shall be in the line of the said Canal, or that the possession of the same shall be necessary to the construction of the said Canal or any

of its branches or feeders; Provided also, that the owner or owners of any mill seat or mill seats, using any additional supply of water brought thereto by the said Canal or its branches or feeders, shall pay a reasonable compensation therefor to the said Company, to be determined as hereinafter provided for, determining any damage done to property by the said Company.

III. It shall and may be lawful for the said Company, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, from and after the passing of this Act, to supply the said Canal, whilst making and when made, with water from all such brooks, springs, streams, water-courses, lakes, hollows or repositories of water as shall be found in making the said Canal, or within the distance of two thousand yards of the same or any part thereof, or any reservoir or reservoirs to be made for the supplying of the said Canal with water; and the said Company are hereby authorized and empowered to make all such reservoirs, and such and so many feeders, branches, aqueducts, tunnels and channels in connexion with and for the use of the said Canal, as to them shall seem necessary and proper: and for the purposes aforesaid, the said Company, their agents, servants and workmen, are hereby authorized and empowered to enter upon and into the lands and grounds of, or belonging to the Queen's Majesty, Her Heirs or Successors, or to any other person or persons, bodies corporate or politic, (except as hereinbefore mentioned,) and to survey and take lands of the same or any part thereof, and to set out and ascertain such parts as they shall think necessary and proper for the making of the said Canal and its appurtenances, and for the completion of the said water connexion and navigation according to the true intent and meaning of this Act, and all such other matters and conveniences as they shall think proper and necessary for making, preserving, improving, completing and using the said intended navigation, and also to bore, dig, trench, cut, remove, take, carry away, and lay soil, clay, stone, rubbish, trees, roots and stumps of trees, beds of gravel or sand, or any other matter or thing which may be dug or got in the making of the said Canal, or in deepening or improving the navigation of any river or rivers, lake or lakes, in connexion with, and forming part of the intended navigation, or out of any land of any person or persons adjoining or contiguous thereto, and which may be proper or convenient for carrying on the repairing of the said Canal or other the said works, or which may hinder or obstruct the making, completing and using the same, and the same to lay in or upon the boundaries of the said Canal or the rivers and lakes forming portions of the said navigation, or in and upon the land of any person or persons adjoining thereto; and also to make, build, erect and set up in and upon the said Canal, and at the points of entrance to the same or any part thereof or of the said intended navigation, or upon the land adjoining or near the same, such and so many wharves, quays, piers, landing places, bridges, tunnels, aqueducts, sluices, rivers, pens for water, tanks, reservoirs, drains, bridges and other ways, roads and works, as the said Company shall think requisite and convenient for the purposes of the said navigation; and also, from time to time to alter, enlarge, amend and repair the said works or any of them, for conveying all manner of materials necessary for making, erecting, altering or repairing, widening or enlarging the said works or any part thereof, and also, to place, lay, work and manufacture the said materials, and erect such workshops, forges or other erections as they may deem necessary, upon the lands near to the said works; and to make, maintain and alter any places or passages over, under or through the said Canal or any of its branches or connexions, or other part of the said intended navigation; And also, to make, purchase, set up and appoint such tug or tow-boats, barges, vessels or rafts, for the use of the said navigation, as they shall see fit; also to erecting keep in repair any piers, inches or other works, in, upon and across, any rivers, brooks or lakes, for making, using, maintaining and repairing the said Canal, and other the rivers and navigable waters, forming part of the said intended navigation, and the

towing-paths and other conveniences connected therewith; And also, to construct, make and do all other works, matters and things whatsoever, which they shall think necessary and convenient for the making, effecting, preserving, improving, completing and using the said Canal and the said intended navigation in pursuance of and within the true meaning of this Act, they, the said Company, doing as little damage as may be in the execution of the powers hereby granted, and making satisfaction, in manner hereinafter mentioned, for all damages to be sustained by the owners or occupiers of such lands, hereditaments and tenements.

IV. After any land or ground shall be set out and ascertained to be necessary for the purposes of the said navigation or other purposes herein mentioned, it shall be lawful for all owners, whether individuals or bodies corporate or politic, or trustees or lessees, or other party or parties holding any right, title, interest or claim to any of such lands or grounds, to contract for, sell and convey to the said Company, all or any part of such land or ground which shall, from time to time, be set out and ascertained as aforesaid; and all such contracts, agreements, sales and conveyances shall be valid and effectual in law, to all intents or purposes, notwithstanding any law, statute or usage to the contrary, and the amount of the purchase moneys to be paid for such lands or grounds respectively, shall be ascertained by arbitration as hereinafter mentioned, unless in such cases as the owner or owners may agree thereupon without, the intervention of any third party.

V. The Directors of the said Company may contract, compound, compromise, settle and agree with the owners or occupiers respectively, of any land through or upon which they may determine to cut and construct the said Canal or other works hereby authorized, either for the purchase of so much of the land as they shall require for the purposes, uses or profit of the Company, or for damages which he, she or they shall or may be entitled to recover from the said Company, in consequence of any of the works hereby authorized, being constructed in or upon his or their respective lands; and in case of any disagreement between the said Directors and the owner or owners, occupier or occupiers aforesaid, the amount of the purchase moneys for the land and tenements purposed to be purchased, or the amount of damages to be paid to them as aforesaid, shall be ascertained by arbitration in manner hereinafter mentioned.

VI. In each and every case where any dispute shall arise between the said Directors and any other person or persons whomsoever, touching any purchase, sale or damage, or the money to be paid in respect thereof, and in each and every case where, under the provisions of this Act, any purchase, sale or damage, or the money to be paid in respect of the same are directed to be ascertained and determined by arbitration, the same shall be referred to, ascertained and determined by three indifferent persons, one of whom shall be chosen by the owner or occupier of the land, or other person or persons interested, who shall disagree with the said Directors in respect to the compensation or purchase money to be paid him, her or them respectively, pursuant to the provisions, of this Act; one other of the arbitrators shall be chosen by the said Directors, and the third shall be chosen by the two persons to be so named as aforesaid, and such three persons shall be the arbitrators to award, determine, adjudge and order the respective sums of money which the said Company shall pay to the respective persons entitled to receive the same, and the award of such three persons, or any two of them, shall be final; and the said arbitrators so appointed are hereby required to attend at some convenient place on or near the line of the said Canal, to be appointed by the said Directors, within

eight days after notice in writing shall be, given them by the said Directors for that purpose, then and there to arbitrate, award and determine such matters as shall be submitted to their consideration by the parties interested; and each, of the said arbitrators shall be sworn before one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the, said district, for that purpose, any of whom may be required to attend the said meeting, for that purpose,, well and truly to assess the damages between the parties according to the best of his judgment; Provided, that no arbitrator shall be compellable to attend such meeting who originally resides more than twenty-five, miles from the place of meeting; Provided also, that if the owner or owners, or other person or persons interested in any of the land required for carrying out the purposes of this Act, shall neglect or refuse to appoint an arbitrator, upon being notified to do so by the Directors aforesaid, by writing a letter to that effect, addressed to him, her or them, at his or their last, or then present residence, and by publication of such notice for one month in one or more local newspapers of the District in which the land is situated, then and in that case, after the expiration of thirty days from the time of such notice being fully completed, the Judge of the County Court within which the lands are situate shall act as arbitrator for such party or parties so refusing or neglecting, and the said Judge shall, with the other two arbitrators, as hereinbefore provided, proceed to adjudge and determine the damages or purchase money, or other matter or thing submitted to their judgment, according to the provisions of this Act; And provided further, that either party dissatisfied with the said award may apply to any of the Superior Courts of Law or Equity during the Term next after the publication of such award, to set it aside, for any cause for which an award would be set aside as between party and party; and any of the said Courts shall have cognizance thereof, although the submission do not provide for its being made a Rule of Court; And provided further, that in all arbitrations under this Act, the arbitrators shall take into consideration the benefit conferred on the property on which they are arbitrating, as well as the damage done to any particular portion thereof.

VII. For the purposes of this Act, the said Company shall and may, by some Provincial Land Surveyor in the Province, and by an Engineer by them appointed, cause to be taken and made, surveys and levels of the said lands through which the said intended Canal is to be earned, together with a map or plan of such intended Canal, and the course and direction thereof, and of the said lands through which the same is to pass, and also a book of reference of the said Canal, in which shall be set forth a description of the said several lands, and the names of the owners, occupiers and proprietors thereof, so far as the same can be ascertained, and in which shall be contained every thing that is necessary for the right understanding of such map or plan, copies of which said map or plan and book of reference shall, on the completion of such survey, map and book of reference, be deposited by the said Company in the offices of the respective Registrars for the several Counties through which the said Canal or any part thereof shall pass, and also in the office of the Secretary of this Province; and all persons shall have liberty to resort to such copies so to be deposited as aforesaid, and to make extracts from or copies thereof as occasion shall require, paying to the said Secretary of this Province, or to the said respective Registrars, at the rate of six pence current money of this Province, for every one hundred words; and the said copies of the said map or plan and book of reference so deposited, or a true copy or copies thereof, certified by the Secretary of the Province, or by one of the said Registrars for the said respective counties, shall severally be, and they are hereby declared to be good evidence in the Courts of Law and elsewhere.

VIII. Whenever any highway or public road shall be cut through by the said Canal, or any of its branches, the said Company shall, within one month thereafter cause to be constructed a secure and sufficient bridge over the same with proper approaches not exceeding a grade of one foot in twenty feet so as to establish the communication between the several parts of such highway, under a penalty of five pounds per day for every day after the expiring of the said time, during which the Company shall neglect to construct the said bridge: Provided always that in the mean time some temporary means of passing along the said highway shall be constructed or provided.

IX. If any person or persons shall maliciously or wilfully break, injure, throw down or destroy any bank, lock gate, sluice, or any other work, machine, or device belonging or pertaining to the said Company, or do any other wilful act, hurt or mischief, to disturb, hinder or prevent the carrying into execution the completing and supporting the said Canal and navigation, or any of its branches, feeders, or other connections or works belonging to the said Company, every such person or persons so offending shall forfeit and pay to the said Company the full value of the damage so done, including loss or inconvenience occasioned by such obstruction, proved by the oath of two or more credible witnesses to have been done; such damages, with costs of suit in that behalf incurred, to be recovered in any Court in this Province having competent jurisdiction, and such wilful and malicious act shall be a misdemeanor, and the party or parties committing the same shall, and may be indicted and tried for a misdemeanor in any Court of competent jurisdiction, and on conviction thereof may be committed to the Common Gaol for any time not exceeding twelve months, at the discretion of the Court before whom such offenders shall have been convicted.

X. If any person shall obstruct or impede the navigation of the said Canal, or other portion of the said intended navigation, by the introduction of any timber or boats, or vessels, contrary to the rules and regulations laid down for the government of the same to be made by the said Directors, and shall not immediately, upon notice given to the owner or person in charge of such timber, boat or vessel so obstructing the navigation, remove the same, every such owner or person in charge of such timber, raft, boat or vessel so obstructing or impeding the navigation as aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding five pounds currency, for every hour during which the said obstruction shall continue; and it shall be lawful for the Company or their servants to cause such obstruction to be removed, and to cause every such boat, vessel or raft as shall be so over laden as to cause obstruction, to be detained and unloaded, so as to prevent or remove such obstruction, and to recover the cost of so doing from the owner or person in charge of the same, and to seize and detain such vessel, boat or raft, and the cargo thereof, or any part of the cargo or furniture of such vessel, boat or raft, until the charges occasioned by such unloading or removal, or both, shall be paid or satisfied: And if any vessel, boat or raft shall be sunk in any part of the said intended navigation, and the owners shall neglect or refuse to weigh and remove the same forthwith, the said Company may cause the same to be weighed and removed, and retain the same until all charges necessarily incurred in so doing shall be paid or satisfied, and all such charges may be recovered in any, Court of competent jurisdiction from the owners or persons in charge of such vessel, boat or raft.

XI. In case of any accident requiring immediate. repair on the said canal, or any part of the said navigation, the said Company, their Agent, or workmen, may enter upon the adjoining land (not being an orchard or garden) without any previous treaty with the owners or occupiers thereof; and dig for,

work, get and carry away and use, all such gravel, stone, earth, clay, or other materials as may be necessary for the repair of the accident aforesaid, doing as little damage as maybe to such land, and making compensation therefor, and in case of dispute or difference regarding the amount to be so paid, the same shall be decided by arbitration as hereinbefore provided: Provided however that if any action or suit shall be brought against the said Company for any matter or thing done in pursuance of this Act, such action or suit shall be brought within twelve calendar months after the fact committed, and not afterwards.

XII. The said Company may open, cut and erect such ponds and basins for the lying up and turning of vessels,, boats or rafts,, using the said Canal or navigation, and at such portions of the navigation as they shall deem expedient, and, they may also build and erect such dry docks, slips and machinery connected therewith for the hauling out and repairing of vessels, as they shall think proper, and may let the same on such terms as they shall deem expedient, or carry on the business of the same by their servants or agents, as the said Company or the Directors thereof shall decide from time to time.

XIII. The said Company, in order to entitle themselves to the benefit and privileges conferred upon them by this Act, shall commence the said work within three years, and they are hereby required to complete the said navigation within six years from the passing hereof, that is to say, to open a channel of water communication from some point on the River St. Clair to the waters of the Rondeau, on Lake Erie, so as to be navigable for vessel drawing twelve feet water; otherwise this Act and every thing herein contained shall be null and void to all intents and purposes.

XIV. Every vessel of whatsoever kind using the said canal, shall have her draught of water legibly marked in figures not less than six inches long, from one foot to her greatest draught, upon the stem and stern posts, and any wilful misstatement of such figures, so as to mislead the officers of the canal as to any vessel's true draught, shall be punishable as a misdemeanor on the part of the owner and master of such vessel, and the said Directors may detain any such vessel upon which incorrect figures of draught shall be found, until the same are corrected at the expense of her owner.

XV. And for preventing disputes touching the tonnage of vessels navigating the said canal, every owner or master of every boat, barge, raft or vessel, navigating the said canal, or other par. of the said navigation, shall permit the same to be guaged and measured, and for refusing to permit the same, shall forfeit and pay the sum of five pounds, and it shall be lawful for the person appointed for that purpose by the said Directors, to guage and measure all vessels using the said navigation, and his decision shall be final in respect to the tolls to be paid thereon, and he may mark the tonnage or measurement on every vessel habitually using the said canal, and such measure so marked by him shall always be evidence respecting the tonnage, in all questions respecting the tolls or dues to be paid to the said Company by virtue hereof.

XVI. The said Company may hold all such lands, hereditaments and tenements as may at any time be granted to them by Her Majesty the Queen, Her Heirs or Successors, necessary for the works.

XVII. The Capital Stock of the said Company shall be one million pounds currency, or the equivalent in sterling, (exclusive of any real estate which the said Company may have or hold by virtue of this Act,) to

be held in forty thousand shares of twenty-five pounds each; and the shares of the said Capital Stock shall, after the first instalment thereon shall have been paid, be transferable by the respective persons, subscribing or holding the same, to any other person or persons; and such transfer shall be registered in: a book or books to be kept by the said Company for that purpose.

XVIII. All persons, subjects of Her Majesty, or others, may subscribe for any number of shares, not exceeding in the first instance five hundred shares, the amount whereof shall be payable to the said Company, in the manner hereinafter mentioned, that is to say, five per cent, on each share so subscribed shall be payable to the said Company immediately after the Stockholders shall have elected the Directors as. hereinafter mentioned, and the remainder by instalments of not more than ten per centum, at such period as the President and Directors shall, from time to time direct for the payment thereof, provided that no instalment shall be called in at a shorter period than ninety days from the next preceding instalment, nor until public notice shall have been given as hereinafter mentioned, with respect to notice of meetings to be holden under this Act, for at least thirty days previous to the day on which such instalment is made payable; Provided always, that if any Stockholder or Stockholders shall neglect or refuse to pay the said Company, the instalment due upon any share or shares held by him, her or them, at the time required by law, such share or shares, with the amount previously paid thereon, shall be forfeited, and the said Directors shall sell such share or shares by public auction, after having given thirty days' notice of such intended sale to such Stockholder or respective Stockholders, and the proceeds thereof, with the amount previously paid thereon, shall be accounted for and applied in the same manner as the other funds of the Company; Provided always, that such purchaser or purchasers shall pay air instalments which shall be due upon such shares, over and above the purchase money thereof, immediately after the sale, and before they shall be entitled to a certificate of the transfer of such share or shares so to be purchased as aforesaid.

XIX. The Directors of the said Company may appoint such and so many agents in this Province, or in any other part of Her Majesty's Dominions or elsewhere, as to them shall seem expedient, and may, by any By-law to be made 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 or exercise, except the power of making By-laws; and all things done by such agent or agents by virtue of the powers in him vested by any such By-law, shall be as valid and effectual to all intents and purposes as if done by such Directors themselves; any thing in any part of this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

XX. Notwithstanding any thing contained in the foregoing section, any of the Municipalities interested in the said works may subscribe for any number of shares in the Capital Stock of, or lend to, or guarantee the payment of any sum of money borrowed by the Company from any Corporation or person, or endorse or guarantee the payment of any debenture to be issued by the Company for the money by them borrowed, and shall have power to assess and levy, from time to time, upon the whole rateable property of the Municipality, a sufficient sum for them to discharge the debt or any engagement so contracted, and for the like purpose to issue debentures payable either in currency or sterling, and at such places either within or without this Province, and at such time and for such sum respectively, not less than five pounds currency, and bearing or not bearing interest as such Municipality may think fit; and any such debenture issued, endorsed or guaranteed shall be valid and

binding upon such Municipality, if signed or endorsed, and countersigned by such officer or person, and in such manner and form as shall be directed by any By-law of such Municipality, and the Corporation seal thereto shall not be necessary, nor the observance of any other form with regard to the debentures than such as shall be directed in such By-law as aforesaid.

XXI. No Municipality shall subscribe for stock or incur any debt or liability under this Act, unless and until a By-law to that effect shall have been duly made and adopted with the consent first had of a majority of the qualified rate-payers of the Municipality, to be ascertained in such manner as shall be determined by the said By-law, after public advertisement thereof, containing a copy of such proposed By-law, inserted at least four times in each newspaper printed within the limits of the Municipality, or if none be printed therein, then in some one or more newspapers printed in the nearest City or Town thereto and circulated therein, and also put up in at least four of the most public places in each Municipality.

XXII. The Mayor, Warden or Reeve, being the Head of such Municipality, subscribing for and holding Stock in the Company to the amount of five thousand pounds or upwards, shall be and continue to be *ex officio* one of the Directors of the Company, in addition to the number of Directors authorized by this Act, and shall have the same rights, powers and duties as any of the Directors of the Company.

XXIII. If the whole number of shares shall not be subscribed within two years after the passing of this Act, it shall and may be lawful for any former subscriber to increase his, her or their former subscription.

XXIV. So soon as fifty thousand pounds of the Capital Stock shall have been subscribed, and ten per cent, thereon shall have been paid into some one or more of the Chartered Banks of this Province, or into some branch or agency of such Bank or Banks, it shall and may be lawful for the subscribers or any of them, to call a meeting, pursuant to directions hereinafter contained, for the purpose of proceeding to elect Directors as hereinafter mentioned, and such election shall then and there be made by a majority of the subscribers present in person or by proxy, and the persons then chosen shall remain in office as Directors, and be capable of serving until the first Monday in May succeeding their election; and until the aforesaid fifty thousand pounds of Stock shall be subscribed, the following persons shall be Provisional Directors of the said Company: Joseph Northwood, George Thomas, Archibald McKellar, William Eberts, John S. Vosburgh, Alexander Knapp, Robert K. Payne, Rowley Pegley, George Duck the younger, James Bums, P. S. Sternberg, H. C. Walker, Hiram Niles, Charles Walker, George Steele, B. L. Sheppard, Arthur Hughes, O. H. O' Viat, W. J. Gordon, the Honorable John Prince, M. L. G., John W. Keating, Thomas M. Taylor, Alexander Rock Robertson, Peter J. Flood, John Waddell, Thomas Cross, John McDowall, and Robert Stuart Woods; Provided always, that the parties hereinbefore named or a majority of them, shall cause books of subscription to be opened in the Town of Chatham and in such other places as they may, from time to time appoint, until the meeting of Shareholders hereinafter provided for, for receiving the subscriptions of persons willing to become subscribers to the said undertaking; and for that purpose it shall be their duty, and they are hereby required to give public notice in one or more newspapers published in the said Town and other places, as they or a majority of them may think proper, of the time and places at which such books will be opened and ready for receiving subscriptions as aforesaid, the persons authorized by them to receive such subscriptions, and



the Chartered Bank or Banks into which the ten per cent, thereon is to be paid, and the time hereinafter limited for such payment; and every person whose name shall be written in such books as a subscriber to the said undertaking, and who shall have paid, within ten days after the closing of the said books into the Bank or Banks aforesaid, or any branches or agencies thereof, ten per centum on the amount of stock so subscribed for, to the credit of the said Company, shall thereby become a member of the said Company, and shall have the same rights and privileges as such, as are hereby conferred on the several persons who are herein mentioned by name as members of the said Company; Provided also, and it is hereby enacted, that such ten per cent, shall not be withdrawn from the said Bank or Banks, or otherwise applied except for the purposes of the said Company.

XXV. The chief duties of the Directors so chosen shall be, in the first place, to provide for and pay the preliminary expenses of the undertaking, procure and provide means for the payment for accurate and detailed surveys, specifications, plans and estimates of the work to be done, in order to complete the intended navigation as contemplated by this Act; also to ask, advertise for, and receive tenders for the whole or any part of the proposed work, and generally to do all things authorized by the said Company to be done by virtue of this Act; also to issue to the parties, persons or bodies who may have contributed towards the payment of the preliminary expenses, stock certificates of the Company for the amount of their respective contributions.

XXVI. The said Company may from time to time lawfully borrow, either in this Province or elsewhere, such sum or sums of money, not exceeding at anytime the subscribed and paid up capital of the Company, as they may find expedient, and may make the bonds, debentures or other securities they shall grant for the sums so borrowed, payable either in currency or in sterling, and at such place or places within or without this Province, as they may deem advisable, and may mortgage or pledge the lands, lolls, revenues or other property of the said Company, for the due payment of the said sums and the interest thereon; and the said Company may issue debentures in sums of not less than twenty-five pounds currency, at not less than twelve months, provided the whole debt, including such debentures, does not at any time exceed the subscribed capital.

XXVII. Each proprietor of shares in the said undertaking shall be entitled, on every occasion when, in conformity to the provisions of this Act, the votes of the members of the said Company are to be given to one vote for each share; Provided always, that all proprietary of shares, whether resident in this Province or not, may vote by proxy, if he, she or they shall see fit, provided that such proxy do produce from his constituent or constituents a notice in writing in the words or to the effect following, that is to say:

“I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, one of the proprietors of the St. Clair, Chatham and Rondeau Ship Canal Company, do hereby nominate, constitute and appoint \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, to be my proxy, in my name, and in my absence to vote or give my assent or dissent to any business, matter “ or thing relating to the said undertaking, that shall be mentioned or proposed at any meeting of the proprietors of the said undertaking, or any of them, in such manner as he the said \_\_\_\_\_ shall think fit, according to his opinion and judgment for the benefit of the said undertaking, or any thing appertaining thereto.

“In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year one thousand eight hundred and \_\_\_\_\_.”

And such vote or votes, by proxy, shall be as valid as if such principals had voted in person; and whatever question, election of proper officers, matters or things, shall be proposed, discussed or considered in any public meeting of the proprietors to be held by virtue of this Act, shall be determined by the majority of votes and proxies then present and so given as aforesaid, and all decisions and acts of any such majority shall bind the said Company, and be deemed the decision and acts of the said Company; Provided always, that no proprietor who shall not be a natural-born subject of Her Majesty, or a subject of Her Majesty naturalized under an Act of the British Parliament, or an Act of the Parliament of this Province, shall be elected President or Treasurer of the said Company.

XXVIII. No shareholder in the said Company shall be in any manner whatsoever liable or charged for any debt or demand due by the said Company, beyond the payment or the extent of his, her or their share in the capital of the said Company not paid up.

XXIX. The affairs of said Company shall be managed by a Board of seven Directors, who shall elect from among themselves a President and Vice-President; the said Directors may be subjects of Her Majesty or otherwise; Provided always, no person shall be eligible to the offices of President, Secretary or Treasurer of the said Company, except subjects of Her Majesty, by birth or naturalization; the said Directors shall be elected on the first Monday in October in every year, at a meeting of Stockholders, to be held in the Town of Chatham, and the said election shall be made by such Stockholders as shall be present at such meeting in person or by proxy; and all elections for Directors shall be by ballot, and the seven persons who shall have the greatest number of votes at any election, shall be Directors, (except as hereinbefore or after provided), and if two or more persons shall have an equal number of votes, in such manner, that more than seven shall, by a plurality of votes appear to be chosen Directors, a second ballot shall be held to determine which of the said persons having an equal number of votes, shall be Director or Directors.

XXX. The Directors so chosen or those appointed in their stead in case of vacancy, shall remain in office until the first Monday in the month of October next following their election, and on the said first Monday in October, and on the first Monday in October in each year thereafter, or on such other day as shall be appointed by any By-law, an annual general meeting of the said proprietors shall be held at the office of the Company, for the time being, to choose seven Directors for the ensuing year; but if at any time it shall appear to any ten or more of such proprietors holding together two hundred shares at least, that for more effectually putting this Act in execution, a special general meeting of proprietors is necessary to be held, it shall be lawful for such ten or more of them to cause fifteen days' notice at least to be given thereof in two public newspapers as aforesaid, or in such manner as the Company shall, by any By-law direct or appoint, specifying in the said notice the time and place and the reason and intention of such special meeting respectively; and the proprietors are hereby authorized to meet pursuant to such notices, and proceed to the execution of the powers by this Act given them, with respect to the matters so specified only; and all such acts of the proprietors, or the majority of them at such special meetings assembled, such majority not having either as principal or proxies less than two hundred shares, shall be as valid to all intents and purposes as if the same were done at annual

meetings; Provided always, that it. shall and may be lawful for the said Directors, in case of the death or absence, resignation or removal of any person elected a Director to manage the affairs of the said Company, in manner aforesaid, to appoint another or others in the room or stead of those of the Directors who may die or be absent, resign or be removed as aforesaid, any thing in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding; but if such appointment be not made, such death, absence or resignation shall not invalidate the acts of the remaining Directors.

XXXI. The Directors shall, at their first (or at some other), meeting after the day appointed for the Annual General Meeting in each year, elect one of their members by ballot to be the President of the said Company, who shall always (when present) be the Chairman of and preside at all meetings of the Directors, and shall hold his office until he shall cease to be a Director, or until another President shall be elected in his stead, and the said Directors may in like manner elect a Vice-President who shall act as Chairman in the absence of the President.

XXXII. Any meeting of the said Directors, at which not less than live Directors shall be present, shall be a *quorum*, and shall be competent to use and exercise all and any of the powers thereby vested in the said Directors; Provided always, that no one Director, though he may be a proprietor of many shares, shall have more than one vote at any meeting of the Directors, except the President and Vice-President when acting as Chairman, or any temporary Chairman who, in case of the absence of the President and Vice-President, may be chosen by the Directors present, either of whom, when presiding at a meeting of the Directors shall, in case of a division of equal numbers, have the casting vote, although he may have given one vote before; And provided also, that such Directors shall, from time to time be subject to the examination and control of the said annual and special meetings of the said proprietors as aforesaid, and shall pay due obedience to all By-laws of the said Company and to such orders and directions in and about the premises as they shall, from time to time receive from the said proprietors at such annual or special meetings; such orders and directions not being contrary to the special directions or provisions in this Act contained; And provided also, that the act of any majority of a *quorum* of the Directors present at any meeting regularly held, shall be deemed the act of the Directors.

XXXIII. Provided always, That no person holding any office, place or employment or being concerned or interested in any contract or contracts under the said Company, shall be capable of being chosen a Director or of holding the office of Director or Provisional Director.

XXXIV. Every such annual meeting shall have power to appoint not exceeding three Auditors, to audit all accounts of money laid out and disbursed on account of the said undertaking, by the Treasurer, Receiver or Receivers and other officer or officers to be by the said Directors appointed, or by any other person or persons whatsoever, and employed by or concerned for or under them in and about the said undertaking, and to that end the said Auditors shall have power to adjourn themselves over from time to time and from place to place, as shall be thought convenient by them; and the said Directors chosen under the authority of this Act, shall have power, from time to time to make such call or calls of money from the stockholders of the said Canal and other works, to defray the expenses of or to carry on the same as they, from time to time may find wanting and necessary for these purposes, except as before provided; and such Directors shall have full power and authority to direct and manage all and every the

affairs of the said Company, as well in contracting for and purchasing lands, rights and materials for the use of the said Company, as in employing, ordering and directing the work and workmen, and in placing and removing under-officers, clerics, servants and agents, and in making all contracts and bargains touching the said undertaking, and to affix or authorize any person to affix the common seal of the Company to any Act, Deed, By-law, Notice or other Document whatsoever; and any such Act, Deed, By-law, Notice or other document, bearing the common seal of the Company, and signed by the President or Vice-President shall be deemed the act of the Directors of the said Company, nor shall the authority of the signor of any document purporting to be so signed and sealed, to sign and affix the said seal thereto, be liable to be called in question by any party except the Company.

XXXV. The owner or owners of one or more shares in the said undertaking, shall pay his, her or their shares and proportion of the moneys to be called for as aforesaid, to such person or persons and at such time and place, as the said Directors shall, from time to time appoint and direct, of which thirty days' notice at least shall be given in two newspapers as aforesaid, or in such other manner as the said proprietors or their successors shall by any By-law direct or appoint.

XXXVI. The said Company shall always have power and authority at any general meeting assembled as aforesaid, to remove any person or persons chosen upon such Board of Directors as aforesaid, and to elect others to be Directors in the room of those who shall die, resign or be removed, and to remove any other officer or officers under them, to revoke, alter, amend or change any of the By-laws or Orders prescribed with regard to their proceedings amongst themselves (the method of calling general meetings, and their time and place of assembling, and manner of voting and appointing Directors only excepted,) and shall have power to make such new Rules, By-laws and Orders for the good government of the said Company, and their servants, agents or workmen, for the good and orderly making and using the said Canal, and all other works connected therewith or belonging thereto, as hereby authorized, and for the well-governing of all persons whatever travelling upon or using the said-Canal and other works, or transporting any goods, wares, merchandize, or other commodities thereon, which said By-laws and Orders shall be put into writing under the common seal of the said Company, and shall be kept in the office of the Company, and a printed or written copy of so much of them as relate to or affect any party other than the members or servants of the Company, shall be affixed openly in all and every of the places where tolls are to be gathered, and in like manner as often as any change or alteration shall be made to the same; and the said By-laws and Orders so made and published as aforesaid shall be binding upon and observed by all parties, and shall be sufficient in any Court of Law or Equity to justify all persons who shall act under the same; and any copy of the said By-laws, or any of them, certified as correct by the President, or some person authorized by the Directors to give such certificate, and bearing the common seal of the said Company, shall be deemed authentic, and shall be received as evidence of such By-laws in any Court without further proof.

XXXVII. All sales of the shares in the said undertaking shall be in the form following, varying the names and descriptions of the contracting parties, as the case may require:

I, A. B., in consideration of the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ paid by C. D., of \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby bargain, sell, and transfer to the said C. D., \_\_\_\_\_ share (or shares) of the stock of the St. Clair, Chatham and Rondeau Ship Canal Company; to hold to him the said C. D., his executors, administrators and

assigns, subject to the same rules and orders, and on the same conditions that I held the same immediately before the execution hereof: and I, the said C. D., do hereby agree to accept the said \_\_\_\_\_ share (or shares) subject to the same rules, orders and conditions.

Witness our hands and seals, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year one thousand eight \_\_\_\_\_

Provided always that no such transfer of any share shall be valid until all calls or instalments then due thereon shall have been paid up.

XXXVIII. It shall and may be lawful to and for the said Directors, and they are hereby authorized from time to time, to nominate and appoint a Treasurer or Treasurers, and a Clerk or Clerks to the said Company, taking such security for the due execution of their respective offices as the Directors shall think proper; and such Clerk shall, in a proper book or books, enter and keep a true and perfect account of the names and places of abode of the several Stockholders of the said Company, and of the several persons who shall, from time to time, become owners or proprietors of, or entitled to any share or shares therein, and of the other acts, proceedings, and transactions of the said Company, and of the Directors for the time being, by virtue of and under the authority of this Act: And the said Directors shall have power by By-law to fix and regulate the tolls to be taken upon the said Canal, but no such tolls shall be levied or taken until approved of by the Governor in Council, nor until after two weekly publications in the *Canada Gazette* of the By-law establishing such tolls, and of the Order in Council approving thereof.

XXXIX. The said Company or the Directors of the said Company shall, and they are hereby required to cause a true, exact, and particular account to be kept and annually made up and balanced on the thirty-first day of December in each year, of the money collected and received by the said Company, or by the Directors or Treasurer of the said Company, or otherwise, for the use of the said Company by virtue of this Act, and of the charges and expenses attending the erecting, making, supporting, maintaining and carrying on their works, and of all other receipts and expenditures of the said Company or the said Directors: And at the General Meetings of the proprietors of the said undertaking to be from time to time holden as aforesaid, a dividend shall be made out of the clear profits of the said undertaking, unless such meetings shall declare otherwise, and such dividend shall be at and after the rate of so much per share upon the several shares held by the proprietors in the Joint Stock of the said Company, as such meeting or meetings shall think fit to appoint or determine; Provided always, that no dividend shall be made, whereby the Capital of the said Company shall be in any degree reduced or impaired, nor shall any dividend be paid in respect of any share after a day appointed for payment of any call for money in respect thereof, until such call shall have been paid.

XL. In all cases where there shall be a fraction in the distance which vessels, rafts, goods, wares, merchandize or other commodities or passengers shall be conveyed or transported on the said navigation, such fraction shall, in ascertaining the said rates, be deemed and considered as a whole mile; and in all cases where there shall be the fraction of a ton, in the weight of any such goods, wares, merchandize, and other commodities, a proportion of the said rates shall be demanded and taken by the said Company of proprietors to the number of quarters of a ton contained therein; and in all cases

where there shall be a fraction of a quarter of a ton, such fraction shall be deemed and considered as a whole quarter of a ton.

XLI. Every matter or thing which the said Company are authorized or empowered to do or suffer, shall be interpreted to mean that the said Company shall be empowered to do and suffer all such acts, matters and things by their duly appointed agents, servants and workmen, whether the same be specially mentioned or not; and in all cases wherein the said Canal is mentioned in this Act, the same shall apply to all branches, feeders, reservoirs and rivers or parts of rivers which shall be made part or parcel of the navigation thereof, or of the supplying of the same with water.

XLII. The said Company shall at all times, when thereunto required by the Post Master General of this Province, the Commander of the Forces, or any person having the superintendence or command of any Police Force, carry Her Majesty's Mails, Her Majesty's Naval or Military Forces or Militia, and all artillery, ammunition, provisions or other stores for their use, and all policemen, constables and others, travelling on Her Majesty's service, on the said Canal, on such terms and conditions, and under such regulations as the Governor or Person administering the Government shall, in Council, appoint and declare.

XLIII. The said Company shall and are hereby required and directed to take sufficient security by one or more bond or bonds, in a sufficient penalty or penalties from their Treasurer, Receiver and Collector for the time being, of the moneys to be raised by virtue of this Act, for the faithful execution, by such Treasurer, Receiver and Collector of his and their office and offices respectively.

XLIV. If any action or suit shall be brought or commenced against any person or persons for any thing done or to be done in pursuance of this Act, or in the execution of the powers and authorities or of the orders and directions hereinbefore given or granted, every such action or suit shall be brought or commenced within six calendar months next after the fact committed, or in case there shall be a continuation of damage, then within six calendar months next after the doing or committing such damage shall cease, and not afterwards; and the Defendant or Defendants in such action or suit, shall and may plead the general issue, and give this Act and the special matter in evidence at any trial to be held thereupon, and that the same was done in pursuance and by the authority of this Act; and if it shall appear to have been so done, or if any action or suit shall be brought after the time so limited for bringing the same, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall be nonsuited, or discontinue his, her or their action or suit, after the Defendant or Defendants shall have appeared, or if judgment shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants shall have full costs, and shall have such remedy for the same as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have for costs of suit in other cases by law.

XLV. Any contravention of this Act by the said Company or any other party, for which no punishment or penalty is herein provided, shall be a misdemeanor, and shall be punished accordingly, but such punishment shall not exempt the said Company (if they be the offending party) from the forfeiture of this Act, and the privileges hereby conferred on them, if, by the provisions thereof, or by law, the same be forfeited by such contravention.

XLVI. Nothing herein contained shall affect or be construed to affect in any manner or way whatsoever, the rights of Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, or of any person or persons, or of any bodies politic, corporate or collegiate, such only excepted as are herein mentioned.

XLVII. At any time after the making and completing the said Canal it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors to assume the possession and property of the same and of all and every the works and dependencies thereto belonging, upon paying to the said Company, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns the full amount of their respective shares, or of the sums furnished and advanced by each subscriber towards making and completing the said Canal, together with such other sums as will amount to ten per centum upon the moneys so advanced and paid, as a full indemnification to such Company, and the said Canal shall, from the time of such assumption in manner aforesaid, appertain and belong to Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, who shall, thenceforth be substituted in the place and stead of the said Company, their heirs and assigns, for all lire purposes of this Act in so far as regards the said Canal.

XLVIII. This Act shall be deemed and taken to be a Public Act.