

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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PRIVATE AND SPECIAL
ACTS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE,
PASSED BY THE
FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE,

At its Session, held in January, 1834.

PUBLISHED AGREEABLY TO THE RESOLVE OF JUNE 28, 1820.

AUGUSTA :
I. BERRY & CO. PRINTERS TO THE STATE.
1834.

CHAPTER 463.

AN ACT to incorporate certain persons for the purpose of building a Bridge over Kennebec river in the town of Norridgewock.

Approved February 25, 1834.

SECT. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in Legislature assembled,* That M. S. Blunt, John Sylvester, Hanson Hight, Solomon Low, Jonas Parlin Jr., Thomas J. Copeland, Samuel Sylvester, Abel Wood and Israel Danforth, their associates and successors, be, and they hereby are created a body corporate, by the name of the Norridgewock Bridge Proprietors; and by that name may prosecute and defend suits at law; may have and use a common seal; may make any by-laws for the management of their affairs not repugnant to the laws of the State; and may choose a Clerk, Treasurer, and any other officers proper for the regulation of their corporate business by a majority of votes present, allowing one vote to each share, *Provided,* That no individual shall be entitled to more than ten votes on all his shares.

Names of persons incorporated.

Corporate name.

Powers, privileges, &c.

SECT. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That said bridge shall be built over the Kennebec river, at or near the Ripples above the old ferry way in Norridgewock in the county of Somerset; and shall be made of good materials and of suitable height from the water and not less than twenty four feet wide, well covered with plank or timber, with sufficient rails on each side for the safety of passengers.

Construction and location of said bridge.

SECT. 3. *Be it further enacted,* That a toll be and hereby is granted for the benefit of said corporation, according to the following rates, to wit: for each team including cart, sled or sleigh, drawn by two beasts, Twelve Cents and Five Mills; if drawn by more than two beasts and not exceeding four, Seventeen Cents, for every additional beast, above four, Two Cents—for each foot passenger or one person passing said bridge, Two Cents, one person and horse, Six Cents and One Quarter of a Cent; single horse cart sled or sleigh Eight cents; each wheel barrow, hand cart

Amount of toll granted said corporation.

and every other vehicle capable of carrying a light weight Three Cents—each single horse and chaise, chair or sulkey Seventeen Cents—each coach, chariot, phaeton and carriage Thirty Seven Cents and an Half Cent—neat cattle and horses, exclusive of those rode on, or in carriages or in teams Two Cents each ; sheep and swine, for each dozen, Six Cents and a Quarter of a Cent ; and at the same rate for a greater or less number ; and the same toll shall be paid for all carriages passing said bridge whether the same be loaded or not ; and to each team one man, and no more shall be allowed as a driver to pass free from payment of toll—and no additional toll shall be charged for persons actually travelling in the vehicles aforesaid ; but this exemption shall not be extended to persons taken in for the purpose of evading toll—and said toll may be commuted by this corporation with any person, town or corporation by taking of him or them a sum certain for any specified time instead thereof—And said toll shall commence on the day when said bridge is first opened for passengers and shall continue for and during the term of thirty years, from the said day, and be collected as shall be prescribed by said corporation—*Provided* the said proprietors shall at all times keep the bridge in good repair and *provided also*, that at the place where the toll shall be collected, there shall constantly be kept on a board or sign, exposed to open view, the rates of toll in legible letters.

Tolls may be commuted, &c.

When to commence.

Proviso.

Limitation of this act.

SECT. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That if the said corporation shall neglect or refuse for the space of three years from the passing of this Act, to build and complete said bridge, then this Act to be void and shall be of no effect.

Certain persons to pass free of toll.

SECT. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That all persons with their carriages and horses or on foot, passing said bridge, when actually going to or returning from any place for military duty—or military parade, and all persons when passing said bridge on their way to or return from any place of public worship on the Sabbath, and all persons passing to or from any funeral, be, and hereby are exempt-

ed from payment of the toll required by this Act ; and at all times, when the toll gatherer shall not attend to his duty at said bridge, the gate or gates shall be left open, and the bridge free from toll.

SECT. 6. *Be it further enacted,* That the first meeting of this corporation, may be called at such time and place, as may be determined upon by a majority of the persons named in the first section of this Act by publishing notice thereof in the Somerset Journal seven days at least previous to the time of such meeting.

First meeting—
how called.

SECT. 7. *Be it further enacted,* That if the proprietors of the Somerset Bridge incorporated June nineteenth, eighteen hundred and nine, shall within one year from and after the passing of this Act, rebuild the bridge across the Kennebec river at or near the place described in the second section of this Act, then and in that case, this Act shall not be in force, but be void—and in case the proprietors named in this Act shall build said bridge on the site of the former bridge said proprietors are hereby authorized to make use of any of the materials of the old bridge now remaining. *Provided,* That said proprietors shall pay a just and fair compensation therefor, and in case there should be any disagreement as to the value of such materials, the Court of County Commissioners for said County of Somerset shall appraise such materials, after giving reasonable notice to the parties respectively interested, and such sum as said Commissioners shall decide such materials are worth shall be paid by this corporation and to be in full satisfaction for the same ; and that the Legislature shall have power from time to time to regulate the tolls of said bridge, as it may deem right and proper.

This act to be
void in case pro-
prietors of So-
merset bridge
rebuild said
bridge in one
year.

Proprietors
named in this
act may use
materials of
old bridge.

Proviso.

Legislature to
have power to
regulate tolls of
said bridge.