

offending, and being thereof lawfully convicted, shall be liable to the punishment prescribed for felony by the laws of this Province.

XVIII. And be it enacted, That if the said Company shall not within three years from and after the passing of this Act, complete the said Bridge, so as to make the same passable for horses and carriages, that then and from thenceforth all and singular the powers and authorities vested in them by this Act shall cease and determine to all intents and purposes whatsoever.

If Bridge be not completed within three years Act to be void.

XIX. Provided always, and be it enacted, That no toll whatever shall be demanded or taken for any horse, beast, cattle or carriage of whatever description, employed or to be employed in conveying, fetching or guarding Mails of Letters and Expresses under the authority of Her Majesty's Post Master General, or the duly authorized Post Office authorities in this Province, or of the Provincial Government, either when employed in conveying, fetching or guarding the same, or for any soldiers upon their march or upon duty, or for any horse, cattle or carriages attending them with their arms and baggage, or returning after having been so employed; nor for any wagon, cart, or other carriage whatsoever, or the horse or horses, or other cattle drawing the same, which shall be employed in conveying any Ordnance, Barrack, Commissariat, or other public stores of or belonging to Her Majesty's Service; and provided also, that no poor or other rates or taxes shall be assessed or levied upon the said Company for or on account of the said Bridge and its appurtenances, either in the Parish of Portland or in the Parish of Lancaster.

No tolls to be demanded for passage of Mails, or of Her Majesty's Troops.

XX. And be it enacted, That the Directors shall at the general meeting to be holden on the first Tuesday in June in every year, lay before the stockholders for their information, an exact and particular statement of the then state of the affairs and business of the said Company, agreeably to the several regulations of this Act, so as the same may contain a true account of the whole affairs of the said Company; which statement shall be signed by the Directors, and attested by the Secretary; and a duplicate thereof, in like manner signed and attested, shall be transmitted to the Secretary of the Province for the information of the Lieutenant Governor or Administrator of the Government for the time being, and the Honorable Her Majesty's Executive Council; provided always, that the rendering such statement shall not extend to give any right to the stockholders, not being Directors, to inspect the Accounts of any individual or individuals in the said Company.

Statement of the Company's affairs to be laid before the stockholders at the general meetings in June;

Duplicate for the information of the Lieutenant Governor.

XXI. And be it enacted, That if any shareholder shall fail to pay the amount of any assessment made by the said Company, or any part thereof, it shall be lawful for the said Company to sue such shareholder for the amount thereof, or so much thereof as may be and remain due and owing thereon, in any Court of Law or Equity having competent jurisdiction, and to recover the same with lawful interest from the day on which such assessment was payable, with costs of suit.

Company may sue shareholders who fail to pay assessments.

XXII. And be it enacted, That in any action or suit to be brought by the said Company against any shareholder to recover any money due for any call, it shall not be necessary to set forth the special matter, but it shall be sufficient for the said Company to declare that the defendant is the holder of one share or more in the said Company, [*state the number of shares,*] and is indebted to the said Company in the sum of money to which the assessment or assessments in arrear shall amount, in respect of one assessment or more, upon one share or more, [*state the number and amount of such assessments,*] by means of which an action hath accrued to the said Company by virtue of this Act.

Declaration in suits against shareholders for arrears.

XXIII. And be it enacted, That on the trial or hearing of such action or suit, it shall be sufficient to prove that the defendant at the time of making such assessment was a holder of one share or more in the said undertaking, and that such assessment was in fact made; and it shall not be necessary to prove any other matter whatsoever, and thereupon the said Company shall be entitled to recover what shall be due upon such call, and interest thereon.

Proof of defendant having been a shareholder at the time of the assessment made to be sufficient.

XXIV. And be it enacted, That whatever may be the divisible profits of the said Suspension Bridge Company, it shall be lawful for Her Majesty's Government, if it shall think fit, subject to the provisions herein contained, at any time after the expiration of twenty one years, to purchase the said Suspension Bridge, with all its hereditaments, stock and appurtenances, in the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty, upon giving to the said Company three calendar months notice in writing of such intention, and upon payment of a sum equal to twenty five years purchase of the annual divisible profits, estimated on the average of the seven then next preceding years; provided that if the average rate of profits

Right of purchasing the Bridge reserved to Her Majesty's Government.