CHAP. cxii.

An Act for empowering the Great Western Railway Company to provide and use Steam and other Vessels; and for other purposes. [13th July 1871.] A.D. 1871.

WHEREAS the Great Western Railway Company (in this Act called "the Company") are possessed of railways extending to Milford Haven and Weymouth, and various other ports and places in England and Wales; and it is expedient that they should be empowered to provide and use steam and other vessels between the ports and places in this Act mentioned, but the object aforesaid cannot be effected without the authority of Parliament:

May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The Great Western Railway (Steam Vessels) Act, 1871."

Part IV. of 26 & 27 Vict. c. 92. incorporated.

2. Part IV. (relating to steam vessels) of "The Railways Clauses Act, 1863," (except where expressly varied by this Act,) is incorporated with and forms part of this Act.

Interpretation of term.

3. In this Act the expression "the Company" means the Great Western Railway Company.

Company may provide and work steam and other vessels between certain ports and places in England and the Channel Islands, Cherbourg,

4. The Company may build, purchase, hire, provide, charter, employ, and maintain steam and other vessels of every or any description, and may navigate, work, and use the same, and may therein and thereby convey and carry passengers, animals, minerals, goods, merchandise, and things of every description between the following ports and places; namely,

Weymouth and Portland, or either of them, on the one hand, and the Channel Islands and the ports of Cherbourg and Saint Malo, or any or either of them, on the other hand;

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Saint Malo, and certain ports in Ireland.

Milford Haven on the one hand, and the ports or places of Waterford and Cork, or either of them, on the other hand;

and may do all acts that may be necessary to enable them to carry fully into effect the purposes aforesaid: Provided always, that the provisions of this Act applicable to Portland shall not be exercised without previous arrangement with and the sanction of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

Company may make charges for conveyance of traffic.

5. The Company may ask, demand, and recover for the conveyance of passengers, animals, minerals, goods, merchandise, and other things in the steam or other vessels so provided and used by them such reasonable rates or sums as they shall think fit: Provided always, that the rates or sums to be demanded by them for the conveyance of passengers and merchandise shall not exceed the rates or sums authorised to be taken by them for the conveyance of passengers upon their railways for a like distance; provided also, that it shall be lawful for every first-class passenger conveyed in such vessels to take with him, without extra charge, his ordinary luggage, not exceeding one hundred and twenty pounds in weight, and every second-class passenger not exceeding one hundred pounds in weight, and every third-class passenger not exceeding sixty pounds in weight.

Company may apply surplus moneys to purposes of this Act.

6. The Company may from time to time apply to the purposes of this Act any moneys from time to time raised by them, and which are not by any of the Acts relating to the Company made applicable to any special purpose, or which, being so made applicable, are not required for the special purpose.

Deposits for future Bills not to be paid out of capital.

7. The Company shall not, out of any money by any Act relating to them authorised to be raised, pay or deposit any sum which, by any standing order of either House of Parliament now or hereafter in force, may be required to be deposited in respect of any application to Parliament for the purpose of obtaining an Act authorising the Company to construct any other railway, or to execute any other work or undertaking.

Railways not exempt from provisions of present and future general Acts.

8. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed or construed to exempt the railways of the Company from the provisions of any general Act relating to railways, or the better and more impartial audit of the accounts of railway companies, now in force or which may hereafter pass during this or any other future session of Parliament, or from any future revision or alteration, under the authority of Parliament, of the maximum rates of fares and charges, or of the rates for small parcels, authorised by the Acts relating to the Company.

Expenses of Act.

9. All costs, charges, and expenses of and incident to the preparing for, obtaining, and passing of this Act, or otherwise in relation thereto, shall be paid by the Company.

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