CHAPTER xviii.

An Act to enlarge the powers of the London, Tilbury, and Southend Railway Company with respect to the providing Steam Communication between their railway and Gravesend. [13th May 1875.]

A.D. 1875.

WHEREAS by "The London, Tilbury, and Southend Extension Railway Act, 1852," (in this Act called the Act of 1852,) powers were granted to the Eastern Counties (now Great Eastern) and London and Blackwall Railway Companies to construct a railway, with branches to Tilbury and Southend in the county of Essex, and to provide a steam communication to Gravesend:

15 & 16 Vict. c. lxxxiv.

And whereas the powers of that Act were, by "The London, Tilbury, and Southend Railway Act, 1862," transferred to and are now vested in the London, Tilbury, and Southend Railway Company (in this Act referred to as the Company), who were incorporated by the said Act of 1862:

25 & 26 Vict. c. viii.

And whereas the railways of the Company have long since been made and opened to the public, and have, under the powers of "The London, Tilbury, and Southend Railway Deviation and Amendment Act, 1854," been leased to Messieurs Peto, Betts, and Brassey, which lease will expire on the 3rd day of July 1875:

And whereas the Act of 1852, after reciting that a steam communication connecting the London, Tilbury, and Southend Railway with the town of Gravesend would be of great public advantage, enacts (section 28) that, subject to the provisions and restrictions therein-after contained, the Companies (now the Company) may purchase, build, construct, navigate, use, maintain, and work, and also hire or subscribe to, steamboats for the conveyance of passengers and goods between Tilbury or Chadwell and Gravesend, and Milton next Gravesend and Northfleet, but such Act by section 32 provides that the powers by that Act granted for the purchase, hire, and use of steamboats shall not continue for a longer term than

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fourteen years from the 1st day of January 1854, unless Parliament shall in the meantime extend such term:

And whereas such powers have been and continue to be exercised by the lessees of the Company:

And whereas such steam communication was established and steamboats were provided by the Company for the purpose:

And whereas, in conformity with the provisions to that effect in the Act of 1852, the Company agreed with the corporation of Gravesend for a lease of the ferry rights of such corporation for a period which will expire on the 25th day of March 1880, and the lessees of the Company, under agreement with the Company, now exercise and have for many years past exercised the said ferry rights, but they will cease to do so on the expiration of their lease of the railways:

And whereas it is expedient that the powers of the Act of 1852 with respect to steam communication and the means and mode of establishing it, as by that Act provided, should be in full force and operation, and that the said thirty-second section of that Act should be repealed:

And whereas this 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; that is to say,

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as "The London, Tilbury, and Southend Railway (Steamboats) Act, 1875."

Repeal of 32d section of Act of 1852.

2. From and after the passing of this Act section 32 of the Act of 1852 shall be and is hereby repealed, and the powers by that Act conferred with respect to steamboats and steam communication may be at any time and from time to time exercised by the Company, but, except as regards the said repealed section, subject to the provisions and restrictions contained in the said Act.

Company may apply their funds towards purposes of Act.

3. The Company may apply to the purposes of this Act any of the moneys which they are already or may be authorised to raise, and which may not be required by them for the purposes for which the same were or may be authorised to be raised.

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

4. Nothing in this Act contained shall be deemed or construed to exempt the railways of the Company or the Company from the provisions of any Act relating to railways, or to the better and more impartial audit of the accounts of railway companies, for the time

being in force, or from any future revision and alteration, under the authority of Parliament, of the maximum rates of fares and charges, and of the rates for small parcels, authorised by any Act relating to the Company.

Expenses of Act.

5. The costs and charges of applying for and obtaining this Act, and incidental thereto, shall be paid by the Company out of the moneys authorised to be applied to the purposes of this Act.

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