



**CHAP. lxxi.**

An Act to enable the Great Northern Railway Company to abandon the construction of the Watford and Edgware Railway.

A.D. 1870.

[20th June 1870.]

**W**HEREAS the Watford and Edgware Junction Railway Company (who are herein-after called the Watford Railway Company) were incorporated in the year 1864 for making a railway from Watford to the Edgware, Highgate, and London railway at Edgware, and were empowered to raise for that purpose a capital of 150,000*l.* in shares and to borrow 49,000*l.* on mortgage :

27 & 28 Vict.  
c. ccv.

And whereas by the 16th section of "The Great Northern Railway Act, 1867," all the lands acquired by, and all the powers, rights, and privileges granted to, the Watford Railway Company were transferred to the Great Northern Railway Company, who were authorised to exercise the said powers and to raise the said capital in their own name by shares or by loan ; and the 17th section of the said Act provides that if the undertaking of the Watford Railway Company is not completed and opened for public traffic by the thirty-first day of July one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, the Great Northern Railway Company shall be liable to a penalty at the rate of fifty pounds for every day after the said period until such undertaking shall be so completed and opened :

30 & 31 Vict.  
c. cxxxii.

And whereas the lands necessary for the said Watford railway have either been purchased or contracted for, but no part of the railway has been made, and inasmuch as there is already communication by means of the London and North-western railway between Watford and London, it is not expedient that the capital necessary for the construction of a railway between Watford and Edgware should be expended, and the Great Northern Railway Company (who are herein-after referred to as "the Company") are desirous of being relieved of the duty of constructing the said railway :

But inasmuch as these objects cannot be accomplished without the authority of Parliament :

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May it 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 for any purpose as "The Great Northern Railway Act, 1870."

Company may abandon the Watford railway.

2. The Company may abandon the construction of the railway authorised by the herein-before first recited Act of 1864.

Compensation for damage to land by entry, &c. for purposes of railway abandoned.

3. The abandonment by the Company under the authority of this Act of the said railway shall not prejudice or affect the right of the owner or occupier of any land to receive compensation in accordance with the provisions in that behalf of "The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," for any damage occasioned by the entry of the Company on such land for the purpose of surveying and taking levels, or probing or boring to ascertain the nature of the soil, or setting out the line of the extension railway, and shall not prejudice or affect the right of the owner or occupier of any land which may have been temporarily occupied by the Company to receive compensation, in accordance with the provisions in that behalf of "The Railways Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," for such temporary occupation, or for any loss, damage, or injury which may have been sustained by such owner or occupier by reason thereof, or of the exercise as regards such land of any of the powers contained in the last-mentioned Act or the Act of 1864.

Compensation to be made in respect of railway abandoned.

4. Where before the passing of this Act any contract may have been entered into or notice given by the Company or by the Watford company for the purchasing of any lands for the purposes of or in relation to the said railway, full compensation shall be made by the Company to the owners and occupiers of, or other persons interested in, such lands for all injury or damage sustained by them respectively by reason of the purchase not being completed pursuant to the contract or notice, and such compensation and the application thereof shall be assessed and determined in manner provided by "The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," for determining the amount and application of compensation paid for lands taken under the provisions thereof.

As to capital.

5. All debts and liabilities incurred by the Company in respect of the said railway, or under this Act or the Act of 1864, shall be paid and discharged by them, and the Company shall not under the 16th section of the said Act of 1867 raise any greater sum than fifty thousand pounds by shares, and shall not raise any money by mortgage in respect of the Watford undertaking.

6. The lands already purchased by the Company, or by the Watford company, for the purposes of the railway hereby authorised to be abandoned, shall be deemed to be superfluous lands within the meaning of the "Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," and the sections 127 to 132 of the same Act shall apply to such lands and be incorporated with this Act: Provided that three years from the passing of this Act shall be the period within which the Company shall absolutely sell and dispose of such superfluous lands, and the moneys arising from such sale shall be applied to the general purposes of the Company.

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As to lands  
already pur-  
chased.

7. The Company shall not, out of any money which they are by any Act authorised to raise, 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 railway, or to execute any other work or undertaking.

Deposit for  
future Bills  
not to be  
paid by Com-  
pany out of  
capital  
raised under  
their Acts.

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

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

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.

Expenses of  
Act.

