



CHAPTER xcvi.

An Act to extend the time limited for the completion of the Bridge and other works authorised by "The Albert Bridge Act, 1864," "The Albert Bridge Act, 1869," and "The Albert Bridge Act, 1871," and to continue and enlarge the powers of such Acts ; and for other purposes. A.D. 1873.

[7th July 1873.]

WHEREAS by "The Albert Bridge Act, 1864," after reciting that the making and maintaining a bridge across the river Thames therein specified would be of great public utility, and also reciting that it was expedient that provision should be made for the purchase by the Company incorporated by the Albert Bridge Act, 1864, of the then existing Battersea Bridge across the Thames, which was built and maintained under the authority of the Act 6 Geo. 3. chapter 66., the persons therein named were incorporated by the name of the Albert Bridge Company, and authorised to make and maintain in the manner therein provided the bridge, approaches, and other works therein specified, and the Company was empowered by the said Act to take tolls for the bridge, and to raise money, and to do various other matters in relation thereto ; and it was by the 17th section of the said Act provided that the bridge, approaches, and works thereby authorised should be completed within five years after the passing of the same Act, and that on the expiration of that period the powers of the Company for making the same should cease, but that, nevertheless, after the expiration of that period, the Company from time to time might improve, maintain, repair, or rebuild such of the works as they should execute within that period ; and it was by the said Act, sec. 18., further provided that the proprietors of Battersea Bridge should appoint a committee of three of the proprietors to act in all matters concerning the sale of their bridge to the Company ; and sec. 19., that the compensation to be made by the Albert Bridge Company for the estate and interest of the proprietors in Battersea Bridge, and the approaches, bridge-

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house, and toll-houses belonging thereto, and for the tolls and profits thereof, and for the ferry named in the said Act of the 6th Geo. 3. chap. 66., (in the Albert Bridge Act, 1864, called "the purchased property,") should be a perpetual yearly rentcharge of such amount as should be agreed on between the Company and the committee, as if the committee were the absolute owners in fee simple of the purchased property, and absolutely entitled to the compensation to be made by the Company for the same; and it was by the said Act provided that the committee might sell, and that the Albert Bridge Company might purchase, the purchased property accordingly; and such Act also provided that the new bridge should not be opened for public traffic unless and until the sale and purchase were completed, and that the sale and purchase should be carried into effect by a conveyance duly stamped, which might be executed by any two of the committee; and that on the vesting of the rentcharge in the proprietors, and the delivery to them respectively of the certificates, and the execution of the conveyance by the Albert Bridge Act, 1864, provided, the purchased property should by the said Act be vested in the Company as their own property, subject to the provisions of the recited Act of the 6th Geo. 3. chap. 66.; and the said Act contained other provisions in reference to such purchase and sale of Battersea Bridge to the Albert Bridge Company, and the rights and remedies of the Battersea Bridge proprietors in respect of their rentcharges:

32 & 33 Vict.
c. xlv.
34 & 35 Vict.
c. lxxiii.

And whereas by "The Albert Bridge Act, 1869," and "The Albert Bridge Act, 1871," the time granted by "The Albert Bridge Act, 1864," for the completion of the bridge and other works was extended; but it was provided by "The Albert Bridge Act, 1871," that the powers thereby granted to the Company for the completion of the works should, on the expiration of the period of eighteen months from the passing of the Act (29th June 1871), cease to be exercised, except as to so much of the said bridge and works as should then be completed: Provided always, that in case the Company should not, on or before the 1st day of February 1872, prove to the satisfaction of the Board of Trade that they had expended between the 19th day of May 1871 and the 31st day of January 1872 the sum of ten thousand pounds on works and materials towards the construction of the bridge, including the staging and sinking the cylinders, then the powers granted to the Company for the completion of the works should absolutely cease and determine:

And whereas the sum of 10,000*l.* has been expended within the time and for the purposes provided by the Albert Bridge Act, 1871:

And whereas nearly the whole of the works authorised by the said recited Acts was completed before the expiration of the extended time, but it has been found impracticable absolutely to complete the whole of such works within such time : A.D. 1873.

And whereas it is expedient that the time limited by the said recited Acts for the completion of the said bridge, approaches, and works should be extended, and that the powers granted to the Company in respect thereof should be revived, continued, and enlarged :

And whereas the objects aforesaid cannot be accomplished 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 :

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The Albert Bridge Act, 1873." Short title.

2. The time limited by the recited Acts for the completion of the bridge and other works thereby authorised shall be and the same is hereby revived and extended for the period of six months from the passing of this Act. Extending time for completion of bridge, &c.

3. The powers by the recited Acts granted to the Company, save and except the powers granted by "The Albert Bridge Act, 1864," for the compulsory purchase of land, but including the powers of the Company for and in respect of the purchase and sale of the estate and interest of the proprietors in Battersea Bridge and the approaches, bridge-house, and toll-houses belonging thereto, and the tolls and profits thereof, and the ferry named in the said Act of the 6th Geo. 3. chap. 66., and also the powers of the committee appointed or to be appointed by the proprietors of Battersea Bridge, in respect of such purchase and sale, and the several provisions relating thereto contained in the 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, and 27th sections of the Albert Bridge Act, 1864, and all obligations, contracts, and agreements of the Company, either with the committee of such proprietors or any other persons, shall, notwithstanding the non-completion of the works within the period fixed by the said recited Acts, be revived and remain in full force for the above-mentioned period of six months from the passing of this Act. Extending powers of Act of 1864.

4. On the expiration of the period of six months from the passing of this Act, the powers of the Company for making the Powers to cease at end of six months.

A.D. 1873. — bridge, approaches, and works authorised by the Albert Bridge Act, 1864, shall cease; nevertheless, after the expiration of that period the Company from time to time may improve, maintain, repair, or rebuild such of the works as they shall have executed within the period, and complete unperformed contracts or agreements.

Saving
rights of the
Conservators
of the River
Thames.

5. Nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to repeal, affect, prejudice, lessen, or derogate from the stipulations and provisions for the protection of the Conservators of the River Thames contained in, or the rights and powers of the Conservators under "The Albert Bridge Act, 1864," nor to prejudice or derogate from the estates, rights, interests, liberties, privileges, or franchises of the Conservators of the River Thames, or to prohibit, defeat, alter, or diminish any power, authority, or jurisdiction which, at the time of the passing of this Act, the said Conservators did or might lawfully claim, use, or exercise.

Saving
rights of the
Battersea
Park Com-
missioners.

6. Nothing contained in this Act, or in any of the Acts herein referred to, shall alter any of the powers or provisions contained in "The Albert Bridge Act, 1864," relating to the Battersea Park Commissioners, without the consent in writing of the said Commissioners first had and obtained for that purpose, which consent such Commissioners are hereby authorised to give, upon and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by them; neither shall anything in the said Act or Acts contained divest, take away, prejudice, diminish, or alter any estate, right, title, privilege, power, or authority vested in or enjoyed by the said Battersea Park Commissioners, their successors or assigns.

Saving
rights of the
Metropolitan
Board of
Works.

7. Nothing in this Act contained shall affect, prejudice, or lessen the powers of the Metropolitan Board of Works under "The Thames Embankment (Chelsea) Act, 1868," or any other of the Board's Acts; and when any of the works authorised by the said recited Acts or this Act shall in any way interfere with the said embankment, the said Board shall and they are hereby empowered to make and complete all such works of the Albert Bridge Act; and the costs, charges, and expenses of the making and completion of such works shall be borne by the Albert Bridge Company; and the certificate of the engineer of the said Board for the time being as to such costs, charges, and expenses shall be accepted by the said Company, and be final, without any reference to any arbitrators or jury; and any footpath made on the said embankment under the said bridge shall be deemed part of the embankment works authorised by the before-mentioned Act of 1868.

8. Where the bridge passes over the said embankment it shall be made and maintained water-tight by the Company.

Bridge to be watertight at the Chelsea embankment.

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

Expenses of Act.