

SENATE....No. 78.

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN SENATE, February 15, 1871.

The Committee on Railways, to whom was referred the Order of January 12th, 1871, concerning the protection of travellers at railway crossings, report the accompanying Bill.

Per order,

GEO. M. STEARNS.

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-One.

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### AN ACT

To prevent the Obstruction of Highways by Railroad Corporations.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—*

1    SECT. 1. No railroad corporation shall unneces-  
2 sarily or unreasonably use or occupy a highway ; nor  
3 in any case, with cars or engines, for more than five  
4 minutes at one time.

1    SECT. 2. Whenever a railroad corporation has  
2 used or occupied a highway, with cars or engines, no  
3 railroad corporation shall thereafter use or occupy  
4 the same, with the cars or engines of a freight train,  
5 until a sufficient time, not exceeding three minutes,  
6 has elapsed, to enable travellers who are ready and  
7 waiting for that purpose to cross, on said highway,  
8 the tracks of said railroad corporation.

1    SECT. 3. Every violation of this act shall be pun-  
2 ished by a fine of one hundred dollars.