

HOUSE....No. 168.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-
Four.

AN ACT

Concerning the Charles River Railroad Company.

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. The Charles River Railroad Company are
2 hereby authorized and empowered to change the loca-
3 tion of their railroad, by locating and constructing a
4 railroad, diverging from their line as now located, at
5 some point near the West Village in Medway, and
6 thence running through the north-westerly part of
7 Bellingham, across the south-easterly corner of Men-

8 don, and through the easterly part of Blackstone, by
9 or near the Valley of Mill River, to the southerly line
10 of said town, and may discontinue that portion of
11 their located line which lies south of the said point
12 of divergence.

1 SECT. 2. The said company shall continue liable to
2 pay to all persons and corporations all damages which
3 shall be caused prior to such discontinuance by the
4 location of said line thus discontinued.

1 SECT. 3. If the location of such new line of rail-
2 road shall not be filed, according to law, within one
3 year from the passage of this act, and if the same
4 shall not be completed, with at least one track, within
5 two years from the passage of this act, then this act
6 shall be void.

1 SECT. 4. The said company shall, with respect to
2 the new line hereby authorized, be subject to all the
3 duties, restrictions, and liabilities, and enjoy all the
4 rights and privileges set forth in all preceding acts in
5 relation to this company, and in the forty-fourth
6 chapter of the Revised Statutes, and in that part of
7 the thirty-ninth chapter of said Statutes which relates
8 to railroads, and in the public statutes which have
9 been, or may be hereafter passed, relating to such
10 corporations.

1 SECT. 5. This act shall take effect from and after
2 its passage.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 14, 1854.

The Joint Special Committee to whom was referred a Bill, and certain Petitions in aid thereof, "concerning the Charles River Railroad," ask leave to present the following

REPORT :

Your committee, upon an examination of the Bill, were of opinion that no reliable judgment upon its merits could be formed, without some examination of the parties who might be affected by its passage ; therefore, your committee entered upon an investigation of the case, by opening a hearing, to parties who appeared in behalf of, and as remonstrants against, its enactment.

Upon a partial hearing, some members of your committee were in doubt as to the propriety of proceeding without an Order of Notice having been first issued, that should primarily emanate from the committee before whom the case was to be heard ; and the committee were entirely unanimous in an opinion that, owing to the lateness of the session, and the apparent desire of some of the parties appearing, for a protracted hearing, that the case could not be suitably heard, and deliberately acted upon, at the present session of the legislature.

We beg leave to add, that from the partial hearing had, your

committee think the subject entitled to the consideration of a future legislature, and we therefore recommend a reference of the bill to the next general court.

For the Committee,

JAMES S. WHITNEY.