

Whatsoever, shall be drawn along the said road with a greater weight than is hereby allowed, the owner or owners of such carriage, if the excess of burthen shall be three hundred weight or upwards, shall forfeit and pay four times the customary tolls, for the use of the company; *Provided always*, that it shall and may be lawful for the said company, by their by-laws, to alter any or all the regulations herein contained respecting the burthens or carriages to be drawn over the said road, and to substitute other regulations, if upon experiment such alterations shall be found conducive to the public good; *Provided nevertheless*, that such regulations shall not lessen the burthens of carriages above described.

*Provisos.*

23. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the treasurer of the western shore be and he is hereby constituted a court of inspection, and it shall and may be the duty of the respective companies, once every year, (and oftener if required by the court,) to lay before the same a correct and methodical account of their disbursements and expenditures, and of the amount of the tolls collected and received on their respective roads for and during the twelve months preceding, and whenever the tolls shall, during two following years, exceed ten *per centum*, free of all charges on the institution, the said court shall, at their discretion, hold the excess thus arising above the said ten *per centum* in reserve, to meet any future deficiency, or, if in their judgment a continuance of the then tolls would produce a like annual excess, to lower the tolls, or any of them, so as to bring the aggregate on the roads respectively to ten *per centum per annum*; and the said court may, in their discretion, on the representation of the aforesaid companies, revise the tolls herein established, so as to render them in their operation more favourable to commerce and the industry of the citizen.

Treasurer of W. S. appointed a court of inspection.

24. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the stockholders of the present companies shall be entitled to receive ten *per centum per annum*, and no more, over and above all charges and deductions whatsoever; and the president and managers of the respective companies shall keep a just and true account of all and every the monies received by their several and respective collectors of tolls at the several and respective gates and turnpikes on the said roads, from the beginnings to the ends thereof, which account shall be upon oath, or affirmation, as the case may be, and shall make a dividend of the clear profits and income thereof, not exceeding ten *per centum* in any year, among all the stockholders of every description, and shall, on the first Monday in *November* (a) and *May* (a) in every year publish the half yearly dividend made of the said clear profits as aforesaid, and of the time and place when and where the same will be paid, and shall cause the same to be paid accordingly.

Stockholders not entitled to receive more than ten per cent.

(a) By the act of 1817, ch. 8, the dividends are to be declared in January and July yearly.

25. AND BE IT ENACTED, That all such carriages as aforesaid to be drawn by oxen in the whole, or partly by horses and partly by oxen, two oxen shall be estimated as equal to one horse in charging all the aforesaid tolls, and every mule as equal to one horse.

Two oxen estimated as equal to one horse.

26. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if the said companies, after any of the said roads are completed aforesaid, shall neglect to keep the said roads in good and perfect order for the space of fifteen

Penalty for not keeping roads in repair.