

the said condemnation shall be finally binding upon the company, unless within thirty days they elect to abandon said location.

The word "certificate" is used in this section in the sense of charter. This section is remedial, and applies to companies chartered by special act, as well as those incorporated under the general law. *Dolfield v. Western Md. R. R. Co.*, 107 Md. 599.

The changing by a railroad of its route whereby it crossed the Potomac river into West Virginia, and later crossed back into Maryland, upheld under this section. *Piedmont, etc., Ry. Co. v. Speelman*, 67 Md. 274. (*Cf.* dissenting opinion, p. 283.)

An. Code, sec. 272A, 1918, ch. 307.

207. Any Railroad Company heretofore incorporated under the Laws of this State, whether incorporated under the provisions of this Article or by Special Act, or which may hereafter be incorporated under the Laws of this State, is hereby invested with all the rights and powers necessary to locate, construct, maintain and operate a railroad not exceeding one hundred (100) feet in width at the graded surface thereof, with the necessary addition thereto for slopes or embankments for cuts and fills, and with as many sets of tracks as it may deem necessary from time to time, and of additional width for such side tracks, turnouts, depots, buildings and other works as it shall deem necessary in connection with its said railroad between the termini named in its Certificate or Charter, or so far as its railroad may lie within the State of Maryland; and such Railroad Company is hereby further invested with all the rights and powers necessary and convenient to acquire, either by purchase or condemnation, all land and other property which it may deem necessary for the site of said railroad and the aforesaid additions thereto, either in fee simple or any less estate, in accordance with law; and such Railroad Company may exercise the rights and powers, with which by this section it is invested, from time to time and with respect to any portion of its existing line or railroad as the demands of its business may require; and nothing in this section shall be construed as in derogation of any rights and powers already conferred upon such Railroad Company by any of the provisions of this Article or by Special Act, but the rights and powers hereby conferred shall be construed as in enlargement of and supplementary to the rights and powers of the same kind already conferred upon such Railroad Company by the provisions of this Article or by Special Act. Provided that nothing herein shall be construed to authorize any railroad company to condemn, use or occupy upon, under or over any portion of any public highway in this State without the consent of the proper authorities of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore as to any highway in Baltimore City, or of the County or City, as to any highway in any county or city therein, nor to take away, modify or restrict the powers of the said local authorities in said Baltimore City, or any other city or county in the State, as such powers existed prior to April 18, 1918, with regard to the imposition of terms and conditions for the grant of any right in, or upon giving their assent to the use of, any portion of any public highway of this State.¹

As to fire prevention along railroad tracks and the duty of the department of forestry, railroad companies and owners in connection therewith, see art. 39A, sec. 34, *et seq.*

¹ Sec. 2 of the act of 1918, ch. 307, provides that any railroad company which avails itself of said act "shall be deemed thereby to have surrendered any exemption from taxation which it may have."