

houses and shops for corporate purpose, to charter, purchase and hold steamboats and barges, to ply in connection with their railroad, to any port or ports, place or places whatsoever, and to contract with the owners of any steamboat or other railroad company for the transportation of freights and passengers to and from any such railroad or steamboats.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That the said Washington, Annapolis and Chesapeake Railroad Company aforesaid, shall have power to unite, connect and consolidate with any railroad company or companies, either in or out of this State, so that the capital stock of said companies, so united, connected and consolidated, respectively, may, at the pleasure of the directors, constitute a common stock, and the respective companies may thereafter constitute one company and be entitled to all the property, franchises, rights and privileges, and immunities which each of them possess, have and enjoy under and by virtue of their respective charters; provided, however, the said Washington, Annapolis and Chesapeake Railroad Company shall not consolidate with any company or corporation by which the said Washington, Annapolis and Chesapeake Railroad Company shall thereby become exempt from taxation.

May consolidate with other roads.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That the Washington, Annapolis and Chesapeake Railroad Company shall have power to lease or purchase and operate any railroad or railroads either in or out of this State, for the purpose of carrying on their business, and any other railroad company in this State shall have the right to lease or sell its railroad or other property to the said Washington, Annapolis and Chesapeake Railroad Company.

May lease, other roads.

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted*, That the said board of directors of said corporation shall have the power and right to adopt any route or routes for the said railroad between the termini mentioned in their charter as to them shall seem most suitable and proper, and shall have power to cross, when necessary, all rivers, streams or creeks by suitable bridges or causeways; and also the right to cross the lines of other railroads, and to condemn easements therein, and with the consent of the board of county commissioners of any county or counties shall have the right to run over or upon the county roads or bridges belonging to such county or counties upon such terms as may be agreed upon between the said railroad company and such board or boards of county commissioners.

Route of railroad.