Article 23 of the Code of Public General Laws, title "Corpo-Preamble. rations," and sub-title "Railroad Companies," the powers of which have been amended and enlarged by an Act of the General Assembly of Maryland, by chapter 383 of the Acts of 1892, and also further amended and enlarged by chapter 274 of the Acts of 1894, by which it is authorized to acquire or consolidate with any other railway or railways within or without the State of Maryland; and,

WHEREAS, The Edmondson Avenue, Catonsville and Ellicott City Electric Railway Company is a body corporate duly created and existing under a special Act of the General Assembly of Preamble. Maryland, passed at the session of 1892, chapter 335, and the Maryland and Washington Railway Company is a body corporate, chartered by a special Act of the General Assembly of Maryland passed at the session of 1892, chapter 264; and

WHEREAS, The Baltimore and Washington Turnpike and Tramway Company is a body corporate, duly created and exist-Preamble. ing under and by virtue of an Act of the General Assembly of Maryland, passed at the session of 1892, chapter 700; and

Whereas, The said several bodies corporate are desirous of uniting for the purpose of constructing and operating a contin- Preamble. nous line of railway by means of electricity, or other improved motive power, between the city of Baltimore and the District of Columbia; therefore,

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Columbia and Maryland Railway, The Ed-Consolidamondson Avenue, Catonsville and Ellicott City Electric Railway Company, and the Baltimore and Washington Turnpike and Tramway Company, and the Maryland and Washington Railway Company, be, and they are hereby and each of them is hereby authorized and empowered, in addition to the powers contained in their said several charters, respectively, to unite and consolidate under the name of the "Columbia and Maryland Railway," under such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon by a majority of the stockholders of each company so consolidated, and such consolidated company shall also be authorized to consolidate with other passenger railway companies from time to time, and such other passenger railway companies are hereby authorized to consolidate with it upon terms that may be agreed upon by a majority of the stockholders of each of such companies, and the consolidated company so formed shall be vested with all the powers and purposes of each of the constituent companies; a copy of such agreement of consolidation, certified under