CHAPTER XVIII.

An Act proposing an amendment to Article four (4) of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota.

February 21, 1871

SEC. 1. Amendment to Article four (4) of the Constitution. Certain provisions of Law to be submitted to vote of the people.

2. To be submitted to the votes at the next general election—the votes to be canvassed and returned as provided by law—when Governor to issue proclamation.

3. Ballots, how prepared.

4. When act to take effect.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

SECTION 1. That the following amendment to article four (4) of the constitution of the state of Minnesota be proposed, that is to say, that article four (4) of said constitution be amended by adding thereto the following additional section, as section thirty-two (32):

Sec. 32. Any law providing for the repeal or amendment of any law or laws heretofore or hereafter enacted, which provides that any railroad company now existing in this state, or operating its road therein, or which may be hereafter organized, shall in lieu of all other taxes and assessments upon their real estate, roads, rolling stock and other personal property at and during the time and periods therein specified, pay into the treasury of this state a certain per centage therein mentioned of the gross earnings of such railroad companies now existing or hereafter organized, shall before the same shall take effect or be in force, be submitted to a vote of the people of the state, and be adopted and ratified by a majority of the electors of the state voting at the election at which the same shall be submitted to them.

SEC. 2. This proposed amendment shall be submitted to the people of said state for their approval or rejection at the next general election for the year one thousand
eight hundred and seventy-one (1871), and each of the legal voters of the said state may, in their respective districts at said election, vote by ballot for or against said amendment, and the returns thereof shall be made and certified, and such votes canvassed and the result thereof declared in the manner provided by law for returning, certifying and canvassing votes at general elections for state officers, and declaring the result thereof, and if it shall appear therefrom that a majority of the voters present and voting at such election, upon such amendment, have voted in favor of the same, then, within three days after that result shall have been ascertained and declared, the governor shall make proclamation thereof, and such amendment shall thereupon take effect and be in full force as a part of said constitution.

Sec. 3. The ballots used at said election by those voting in favor of said amendment, shall have written or printed, or partly written and partly printed thereon the following words: "Amendment to article four (4) of the constitution relating to taxes upon railroads, Yes;" and the ballots used at said election by those voting against such amendment shall have written or printed, or partly written and partly printed thereon the following words: "Amendment to article four (4) of the constitution relating to taxes upon railroads, No."

Sec. 4. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

Approved February 21, 1871.