

CHAPTER 231.

AN ACT GRANTING SWAMP LANDS IN THE COUNTY OF OTTER TAIL TO AID IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A RAILROAD FROM FERGUS FALLS TO THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.

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

SECTION 1. For the purpose of aiding in the construction of a railroad from Fergus Falls in the county of Otter Tail to the Northern Pacific railroad, there is hereby granted to the Minnesota Northern Railroad Company all the swamp lands belonging to this State, lying and being in the county of Otter Tail, and as soon as the said railroad shall be completed from Fergus Falls to the Northern Pacific railroad, the said lands shall be conveyed to said company by the governor of the State, and if it shall be found that any portion of the swamp lands in said county have been sold or otherwise disposed of by the United States or this State, the amount so sold or disposed of shall be made up to said company out of the swamp lands belonging to this State and lying outside of said county, the same to be selected by said company; and the lands so selected shall, on the completion of said railroad, be conveyed to said company by the governor of this State, and the said lands shall be subject to taxation, so soon as and not until the same are sold or contracted to be sold by said company, *Provided*, That the said company shall at all times after acquiring said lands, offer the same for sale for actual improvement or settlement, at prices not exceeding on an average, two dollars (\$2) per acre. *Provided*, also, that said company shall, within sixty (60) days after the passage of this act, signify its acceptance of the same by filing such acceptance in the office of the Secretary of State, and in case of failure so to do, that any other railroad company duly organized for the purpose of building the railroad aforesaid, may secure the benefits of this act by so filing such acceptance, and that in case the said railroad shall not be built and put in operation from Fergus Falls to the Northern Pacific railroad within three (3) years from the passage of this act, then and in that case all the lands hereby granted shall be forfeited to the State. *Provided* further, that nothing in this act shall be understood or construed as making an *additional* grant of lands by this State, but the same shall be limited to such lands as have been heretofore granted, and have been or may hereafter be forfeited to the State, by virtue or otherwise of the conditions attaching to the original grants thereof.

Approved March 12, 1878.