

## CHAPTER LIII.

*An Act to provide a sinking fund for the adjustment of the Minnesota state railroad bonds.* March 5, 1867

- SECTION 1.—Separate fund to be provided to adjust railroad bonds, by sale of lands.  
 2.—How lands to be managed and controlled.  
 3.—State treasurer to insert notice in paper, when fund shall have attained a certain amount, a proposal for surrender from holders of bonds.  
 4.—Act to be submitted to voters before becoming law.

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

SECTION 1. All lands which have enured or shall enure to this state under the provisions of an act of the congress of the United States, approved September 4, 1841, entitled, "An act to appropriate the proceeds of sales of public lands and to grant pre-emption rights," and the proceeds thereof, together with all moneys which shall be paid into the treasury, after the passage of this act, by the several railroad companies, as or in lieu of taxes, shall be held and set apart as a separate fund, which shall be denominated the "State railroad bond sinking fund."

SEC. 2. The said lands shall be selected, appraised, sold, leased, conveyed and held, and in every respect managed and controlled in the same manner, by the same officers, (except that the minimum price shall be three dollars per acre,) as the lands belonging to the common school fund of this state are, or may be by law, directed to be selected, appraised, sold, leased, conveyed, held, managed and controlled.

SEC. 3. Whenever said Minnesota state railroad bond sinking fund shall have accumulated the sum of twenty thousand dollars, but not oftener than once in each year, the state treasurer shall insert a notice in some newspaper published at the capital of the state, and in a newspaper in the city of New York, inviting the holders of Minnesota state railroad bonds to submit, at an appointed time, to the said treasurer, pro-

posals for the surrender of an amount or amounts of said bonds in exchange for the money then in said sinking fund. A copy of said notice shall be mailed to the address of each person having an interest in such bonds, so far as the names of such persons can be ascertained. Upon receiving such proposals, they shall be opened and examined by the governor, auditor and treasurer, who shall decide which of said proposals are most advantageous, and shall thereupon direct the auditor to draw his warrant upon the treasurer, for the payment of the money, or any part of it, belonging to said Minnesota state railroad bond sinking fund, to the person or persons whose proposals shall have been decided to be the most advantageous; upon compliance, by such person or persons, with his or their said proposals, said bonds, so received, with the interest coupons thereon, shall be forthwith cancelled. Such officers may reject such proposals, and may direct the treasurer to advertise for new proposals.

SEC. 4. This act shall be submitted, for approval or rejection, to the electors of the state, at the next general election, in the manner following: Each elector may vote a printed or written ballot, or part written and part printed, inscribed—Application of state railroad bond sinking fund, for the extinguishment of the Minnesota state railroad bonds, "Yes," or the same "No." The ballots cast shall be canvassed and returned in the same manner as the votes cast for the state officers at such election. If a majority of the votes cast at such election on the subject shall be "Yes," then this act shall take effect and be in force from and after Jan. 1, 1868. If a majority of said votes shall be "No," this act shall be null and void, except in respect to the provisions for the submission thereof, which shall be in force from and after the passage of this act.

Approved March 5, 1867.

To be submitted  
to voters