

by sustained, in addition to the penalties provided by law.

SECTION 6. This act is hereby declared to be a public act, and shall take effect from and after its passage.

Approved March 11, 1876.

CHAPTER 286.

[Published April 7, 1876.]

AN ACT to authorize the Commissioners of School and University Lands to appoint a commission to inquire into the transactions of the Sturgeon Bay and Lake Michigan Ship-Canal and Harbor Company, and to make report of the same.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

Land commissioners to appoint persons to investigate acts of Sturgeon Bay and Lake Michigan Ship Canal and Harbor Company.

SECTION 1. In case work shall not have been begun in good faith, upon said canal and harbor, on or before the first day of August, 1876, with reasonable assurance that the same will be prosecuted to completion without further delay, the Commissioners of School and University Lands are authorized and required to appoint and commission three discreet persons to inquire into the transactions of the Sturgeon Bay and Lake Michigan Ship-Canal and Harbor Company, their officers and agents, and to report to said commissioners, on or before the first day of October, 1876, said inquiry to cover such grounds and to include such matters and things as the said commissioners may direct.

Power of persons appointed in making investigation.

SECTION 2. The persons so appointed, or any one or more of them, shall have power, in any county in this state, to issue subpoenas for persons to appear and testify, and to produce papers, records and documents and to compel obedience to any such subpoena by attachment; and such subpoenas and attachments may be directed to the sheriff of any county in this state, and shall be executed by such sheriff in the same manner as such writs are executed when issued out of the circuit courts of this state; and the tender or payment of fees to such witnesses or officers shall not be necessary.

Duty of same.

SECTION 3. The persons so appointed shall make diligent inquiry into the matters committed to them,

and make report of the testimony taken by them, and a brief statement of the facts proved by such testimony, to the commissioners, on or before the 1st day of October, 1876, unless for sufficient reasons, further time be allowed by said commissioners; and the secretary of state is hereby directed to embody the results of such investigation in his next annual report.

SECTION 4. Upon such investigation and report being made, if it shall appear that said company has not fully complied with the provisions of section four (4), of chapter one hundred and five (105), laws of 1868, which require said company to use all due diligence in disposing of the lands conveyed to them at a fair and equitable price, and not to hold the same for speculation, or that the said company by any improper influences or means whatever, obtained more than one-quarter in value of the said grant under the authority given to convey one-quarter thereof to said company, or if it shall appear that said company is not entitled to hold the lands or any part thereof, granted to it, by reason of its failure to prosecute the work of constructing said canal, it shall be the duty of the school land commissioners and of the attorney-general of the state to take such measures and proceedings, legal or otherwise, as may be necessary to protect such fund, and the interest of the state as trustee therein or otherwise.

Duty of school land commissioners and attorney general when company found in any way delinquent

SECTION 5. The persons so appointed shall be allowed and paid, out of the state treasury, the sum of five dollars each per day for the time employed in such investigation, and expenses and witnesses and sheriffs shall be paid the same as for like services in circuit courts, the bill to be audited and allowed as other claims; and there is hereby appropriated out of any of said canal and harbor funds in the state treasury an amount sufficient to carry into effect the provisions of this act.

Compensation of persons appointed.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved March 11, 1876.