

PRIVATE AND LOCAL LAWS.

*E. H. Abbott*

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LEGISLATURE OF WISCONSIN,

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just debts owing by said person, and if any person whose personal estate is liable to taxation shall, at any time before said special assessors shall have completed their assessment, make affidavit that the value of his personal estate liable to taxation, after deducting his just debts, does not exceed the value named in his affidavit, it shall be the duty of such special assessors, to value all such estate at the sum specified in such affidavit, and no more.

SEC. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 3, 1855.

## Chapter 113.

An Act to incorporate the Viroqua Hydraulic Company.

*The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

**Created body corporate.**

SECTION 1. Henry Nichols, William F. Terhune, Moses Decker, Henry G. Weeden, E. W. Tucker, J. W. Schooley, George F. Haswell, John Gardner, George Pratt, T. H. Crawford, L. L. Radcliffe and Herman Greve, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners under the direction of a majority of whom subscriptions may be received to the capital stock of the Viroqua Hydraulic Company, hereby incorporated; and they may cause books to be opened at such time and place as a majority shall direct, for the purpose of receiving subscriptions to the capital stock of said company, first giving ten days notice of the time and place of taking such subscriptions, by posting the same in four conspicuous places in the town of Viroqua.

**Capital stock.**

SEC. 2. The capital stock of said company shall be three thousand and five hundred dollars, in shares of twenty dollars each; and as soon as fifty shares or more shall be subscribed and ten per cent paid thereon, the subscribers of such stock, with such other persons as shall associate with them for that purpose, their successors and assigns shall be and they are hereby declared and created a body

corporate and politic, by the name and style of "Viroqua Hydraulic Company," with perpetual succession; and by that name shall have all the privileges, franchises and immunities incident to a corporation; they shall be capable in law of contracting and being contracted with, suing and being sued, defending and being defended, in all courts and places; they shall be capable in law of purchasing, holding, selling, leasing, and conveying estate, personal, real or mixed, so far as the same may be necessary and proper for the construction, extension, management and usefulness of the works of said company, and for the good government of the same; they may have a common seal which they may alter and renew at pleasure, and generally may do all and singular the matters and things which to them it may lawfully appertain to do for the well being of the said corporation.

SEC. 3. The affairs of said company shall be managed by a board of five directors; who shall be chosen by ballot, each share of stock being entitled to one vote, the votes to be given in person or by proxy duly authorized; which directors shall appoint one of their number president, and for the purpose of electing the first directors, the said commissioners or a majority of them, after the stock shall have been subscribed, as provided in the second section of this act, shall give ten days notice by posting the same in three conspicuous places in the town of Viroqua, of the time and place by them appointed for the subscribers or stockholders to meet for the purpose of electing directors; and annually thereafter on the second Monday of January, the stockholders shall meet for electing directors as aforesaid: *Provided*, That none but stockholders shall be elected directors, and that previous to the first election, the commissioners hereinbefore named, shall elect one of their number president, and they may perform all the duties and be invested with all the powers of directors.

Affairs to be managed by board of directors.

Proviso.

SEC. 4. A majority of said board of directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. They shall have power to make and establish by-laws, rules, orders and regulations as may be necessary for the management of the affairs of said company; to make such covenants, contracts, and agreements with any person or persons copartnership, or body politic, whatsoever, as the execution and management of the works or the convenience and interest of the company shall require.

Power of directors.

Company to  
build water-  
works.

SEC. 5. The said company shall have power and the exclusive right and privilege of building water works in the village of Viroqua, in the county of Bad Ax, for supplying water to said village and its inhabitants, to be taken from Bishop's Spring, or any other spring within the distance of five miles from said village of Viroqua, and for making all excavations, and completing such other work as may be necessary to convey water in pipes through all the alleys, highways and commons now in said village or that may be added thereto.

How charter  
forfeited.

SEC. 6. If the said company shall not within one year from the date of this charter commence the construction of said works and fully complete the same within two years from the commencement of the same, so far as to put them in successful operation, then the rights and privileges and powers of said corporation under this act, shall cease and be null and void.

Neglect to  
suspend cor-  
poration.

SEC. 7. If from any cause an election for directors shall not be held at the time specified therefor, the same may be held at any other time upon ten days notice published as hereinbefore named; and until such election, the directors of the preceding year shall continue to act; and this charter shall not be avoided by reason of any irregularity or want of such election; and in case of vacancy from the death or resignation of any directors, his place may be filled by the board of directors.

May increase  
capital Stock.

SEC. 8. The stockholders holding a majority in value of the stock may, at any annual or special meeting, increase the capital stock of said company to an amount not exceeding eight thousand dollars.

SEC. 9. The property of each individual invested in said corporation shall be liable to be taken in execution for the payment of his or her debts, in such manner as is or may be provided by law: *Provided*, All debts due the company shall be first paid.

Company au-  
thorized to  
borrow money.

SEC. 10. The said company are hereby authorized, in their corporate capacity, to borrow any sum or sums of money, from any person or persons, corporations or body politic of any kind, and make and execute, in their corporate name, all necessary writings, notes, bonds, or other paper, and make, execute, and deliver such securities in amount and kind as may be deemed expedient by said corporation for all purposes necessary in carrying out the objects of said company; and the official acts of said company are hereby declared binding in law and equity upon

said corporation, and upon all other parties to such contract.

SEC. 11. If any person shall wilfully and knowingly break, injure or destroy, or cause to be done any act whatsoever, and thereby injure, or destroy any building, machinery, pipes or structures of any kind, or anything appertaining to the works of said corporation, or whereby the same may be stopped, obstructed or injured, the person or persons so offending shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and being thereof convicted, shall be punished by a fine and imprisonment, or either at the discretion of the court: *And Provided*, Such criminal prosecution shall not in any wise impair the right of action of said company for damages by a civil suit hereby authorized to be brought for any such damage or injury as aforesaid, by and in the name of said corporation, in any court having competent jurisdiction.

Penalty for destroying property of company.

Proviso.

SEC. 12. This act shall be in force from and after its passage; and in case of a violation by the company of any of its provisions, the legislature of the state may resume all and singular the rights and privileges hereby granted.

SEC. 13. This act shall be favorably construed to effect the purpose thereby intended, and the same is hereby declared to be a public act, and copies thereof printed by authority of the state shall be received as evidence thereof.

Approved March 3, 1855.

## Chapter 114.

An Act to incorporate the Fond du Lac Gas Light Company.

*The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Benjamin F. Moore, John B. Macy, Mason C. Darling, Timothy F. Strong, Francis G. Macy, Abram G. Butler, Major J. Thomas and such other persons as may become associated with them as stockholders, their successors and assigns, are hereby created a body politic and corporate by the name of the "Fond du Lac Gas Light Company," with perpetual succession, and by that name shall

Created body corporate.