

fifth, eighteen hundred and fifty-five. It authorizes and directs the conveyance to E. R. Carpentier, his heirs, agents or assigns, of exclusive ferry privileges 'between Oakland and San Francisco, or between the said town or any other place,' for the term of seventy years, together with all the ferry rights, privileges and franchises which now are or hereafter are to be owned by the Town of Oakland. The ordinance directing the conveyance to Mr. Carpentier is but one of similar ordinances by which the Town of Oakland has been unlawfully despoiled of her property, divested of her rights, and retarded in her prosperity, prior to the passage of this ordinance. The Trustees of the Town of Oakland granted to the brother of said Carpentier all the water front of the town, extending to Ship's Channel, in the Bay of San Francisco, together with the exclusive right of constructing wharves and collecting wharfage, (without limit or restriction), for thirty-seven years. A mere nominal percentage, without guarantee or security to the town, and amounting in the course of two or three years to about one hundred dollars, is the only consideration (with the exception of a small school house, for which no deed is found) proffered the town for the aforesaid grants. As trifling as this consideration is, the grantee in the latter case applied to the Board of Trustees and obtained the passage of an ordinance by which the town assumed all taxes which might be levied upon any wharf or wharves which he had constructed or might construct. This would render the city liable for the State and county taxes upon such wharves, which, at a moderate estimate, would amount in one year to more than the aforesaid has amounted to in two years; thus compelling the city to pay a premium to the grantees for taking all the property, ferry rights, privileges and franchises which the town of Oakland had, present or prospective, to give away. Under this arrangement, the people of the town are plundered of their property and their taxes to pay the taxes of those who have plundered them, and to support a monopoly which adds *its* exactions to the measure of iniquity and injury thus imposed upon the community."