

amount of their capital expended in the prosecution of the said works, and of the income and profits arising from the said tolls, for and during the said respective periods, together with an exact account of the costs and charges of keeping the said roads in repair, and all other contingent costs and charges, so that the clear annual income and profits thereof may be ascertained and known; and if at the end of two years after either of the said roads shall be completed from the beginning to the end thereof, it shall appear from the average profits of the said two years, that the clear income and profits will not bear a dividend of ten *per centum per annum* on the capital stock of the said company so expended, then it shall and may be lawful to and for the said president, managers and company, to increase the tolls herein before allowed, so much upon each and every allowance thereof, as will raise the dividends up to ten *per centum*; and at the end of the three years thereafter the said companies shall on the oath or affirmation of the persons respectively employed to keep the accounts of the said companies, render such like statements to the general assembly; and if at the end of any such triennial period there shall be a surplus of tolls over and above satisfying the aforesaid ten *per centum*, upon all or either of the said roads, the said court of inspection shall have power, and is hereby authorised to receive such surplus, and to employ the same in purchasing out the stock of the said roads respectively.

26. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the general assembly of Maryland may at any period after all or either of the said roads shall have been completed, one year's notice being given to the stockholders, pay all or either of the said companies the amount of the costs of the said road or roads, with such an interest thereon as shall make it equal with the tolls received to ten *per centum* from the investments of their monies, and that thenceforwards the tolls shall be subject to the regulation of the legislature.

Assembly may purchase road.

27. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said companies shall cause posts to be erected at the intersection of every public road falling into and leading out of the said turnpike roads, with a board and index hand pointing to the direction of such roads, on both sides whereof shall be inscribed in legible characters the name of the town, village or place, to which such road leads, and the distance thereof in computed miles; and the said companies shall cause mile stones to be placed at the side of the said roads, beginning at the distance of one mile from the bounds of Rockville, and extending thence to the termination of the said respective roads, whereon shall be marked in plain legible characters the number of miles which each stone is distant from Rockville aforesaid; and at every gate or turnpike by them to be fixed on the said roads, shall cause the distance from Rockville aforesaid, and the distance from the nearest gate or turnpike in each direction, to be marked in legible characters, designating the number of miles and fractions of a mile on the said gates, or some other conspicuous place, for the information of travellers and others using the said roads; and if any person shall willingly destroy the said posts, boards, index hands, or mile-stones, or deface the same, or deface the directions made on the said gates or other conspicuous places as aforesaid, or shall without permission of the acting superintendant of the said road,

Index hands—mile-stones—penalty for defacing them.