

C H A P. X. whatsoever; and no register of wills as aforesaid shall exact, extort, demand, take, accept or receive, from any person whatsoever, any fee or fees, gratuity, gift or reward, for giving his advice in any matter or thing that will be transacted in the courts of the county where he acts as register aforesaid, under the penalty of thirty pounds current money for every such offence.

C H A P. XI.

Passed January 20. An ACT for erecting a town at the mouth of Conococheague creek, in Washington county.

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is represented to this general assembly by Otho Holland Williams, that he is possessed of part of a tract of land called Rofs's Purchase, and of a tract of land adjoining thereto called Leeds, contiguous to the mouth of Conococheague creek, and that, from the advantages of navigation from the head branches of Patowmack river to the mouth of Conococheague, and the great prospect of the navigation of the said river being extended to tide water, on the application of many of the inhabitants of Washington county, he hath been encouraged and induced to lay out part of the said tracts into a town, and hath contracted with the commissioners of the said county to build a warehouse on the said land, and to furnish scales and weights for the inspection of tobacco, and an inspector is already appointed; and prayed a law to lay out and erect a town on the said lands, and to secure the purchasers of lots in the said town, reserving the right of the proprietors and their interest in the said lands; and this general assembly are of opinion, that the erecting a town at the mouth of the said creek may be convenient and beneficial to the public;

Commissioners appointed, &c.

II. *Be it enacted, by the general assembly of Maryland,* That Thomas Hart, Thomas Brooke, Moses Rawlings, Richard Pindell and Alexander Clagett, or any three or more of them, be and are hereby appointed commissioners to survey a quantity of land, not exceeding one hundred and fifty acres, being part of a tract of land called Rofs's Purchase, and another called Leeds, contiguous to the mouth of Conococheague creek, in Washington county, and the same, when surveyed, to lay out into lots, streets, lanes and alleys, (the main streets running east and west, or nearly so, not to be less than eighty feet wide, and the streets crossing the said main streets not to be less than sixty-six feet wide) to be erected into a town, and to be called and known by the name of Williams's Port, and a correct and accurate certificate and plot thereof return to the clerk of Washington county court, who is hereby required to record the same among the land records of the said county, and to keep the original plot in his office, and a copy from the original, or the record thereof, shall be conclusive evidence as to the bounds and lines of the lots of the said town, and of the streets, lanes and alleys thereof.

Lots to be bounded, &c.

III. *And be it enacted,* That the said commissioners, or a major part of them, shall cause the said lots in the said town to be substantially and fairly bounded and numbered, and they and their successors are hereby required, from time to time, to take care that the said boundaries be constantly kept up and preserved.

How vacancies are to be filled.

IV. *And be it enacted,* That on the death, removal or resignation, of any of the said commissioners, the major part of the remaining commissioners shall appoint another to serve in the stead of such commissioner so dying, removing or resigning.

Commissioners to employ a clerk, &c.

V. *And be it enacted,* That the commissioners of the said town, or a major part of them, shall have full power to employ a clerk, who shall be under oath, fairly and honestly to enter into a book, to be kept for that purpose, all the proceedings of the said commissioners relating to the said town, in which book, among other things, shall be entered a copy of the plot and certificate of the said town, describing every lot by its number, and who the taker up or purchaser was or shall be; and the said books shall always be open to the inspection and examination of the said commissioners.

VI. *And*