

repairing the Public Roads in this Province, made at a Session of ^{Liber H. S.} Assembly, begun and held at the City of Annapolis the second Day ^{No. 1} of October, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty-three, have, since the passing the said Act, built Mills, and erected Dams for such Mills on Branches of Runs below the Places where public or main Roads crossed such Branches or Runs, by Means whereof the Waters are so stopped and interrupted in their Course, that the public or main Roads are become unpassable, to the great Prejudice of all those who have Occasion to pass and use such Roads:

Be it therefore Enacted, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advise and Consent of his Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That where any Person or Persons have, since the second Day of October, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty-three, built, or shall hereafter build or erect, any Mill on any Branch or Run below the Places where public or main Roads did or shall cross such Branch or Run, and by the building and erecting of such Mill, or the Dam for the same, the public or main Road which crossed or shall cross the Branch or Run as aforesaid, is or shall be any Way hurt or injured, or the Passage therein any Way obstructed or rendered difficult or incommodious, such Person or Persons, or the Owner, Possessor, or Occupier, of such Mill or Mills shall, and they are hereby obliged, by the last Day of October next, where such Mill or Mills have already been built, or within three Months after the building of any other Mill or Mills, stopping or impeding the Course of the Water as aforesaid, to make good and sufficient Bridges and Causeways, twelve Feet wide at the least, over the said Branches or Runs, at the Places where the public or main Roads crossed such Branches as aforesaid, and the same Bridges maintain and keep in good Repair, under the Penalty of Twenty Pounds Current Money, and the like Sum for every two Months Neglect thereafter; one half thereof to be applied towards defraying the Charge of the County where such Neglect shall happen, the other half to him or them that shall inform or sue for the same; to be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any Court of Record, within this Province, wherein no Essoin, Protection, or Wager of Law, or more than one Imparlance, shall be allowed.

Provided, That such Person or Persons, Owner or Owners, Possessor or Occupier, of such Mill or Mills, shall not be obliged to send his or their taxable Persons, who shall reside in the Precinct of such public Road, to work on any Part of such Road, except on such Bridge and Causeway as aforesaid. [Proviso.]

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[The Owners of Mills to build Bridges over Runs where Main Roads cross such Runs.]