

dollars, unless within forty-eight hours after the entry of the vessel the owner or consignee shall give the bonds or pay the commutation money aforesaid.

257. All or any of the said penalties and forfeitures, as well as the said commutation money, may be sued for in the name of the mayor and city council of Baltimore before any justice of the peace, in the same manner and subject to the same rules and process and the right of appeal as provided in cases of small debts.

258. The mayor may compound for or remit the said penalties and forfeitures, and payments and recoveries, or any of them, either before or after suing for the same, upon such terms as the circumstances of the case may in his judgment require.

259. The mayor and register shall pay over to the trustees for the poor of Baltimore city semi-annually three-fifths of all sums of money arising from commutation by owners or consignees of vessels as aforesaid, which shall be appropriated by said trustees to the use of the city of Baltimore for the purpose of supporting the foreign paupers of the said city, and the remaining two-fifths shall be paid to the Hibernian Society of Baltimore and the German Society of Maryland in the proportions mentioned in the next succeeding section.

260. All money received by the mayor or register for penalties and forfeitures imposed by this law shall by the mayor and city council be distributed and paid as follows: two-fifths thereof to the German Society of Maryland and the Hibernian Society of Baltimore, to be divided between them as follows: to the German Society in proportion to the amount received from and on account of German and Swiss passengers, and to the Hibernian Society in proportion to the amount received from and on account of Irish passengers: and the remaining three-fifths to the trustees of the poor for Baltimore city.

261. The register of the city shall be entitled to two per centum upon the amount of money collected under this law.

262. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to extend to any ambassadors, ministers, consuls or agents of foreign governments arriving as passengers in the port of Baltimore.