

at the most public square in the town, one-half of the purchase money to go to the person impounding such geese or swine, and the other half to the owner, and if no owner shall claim the said half on the day of sale, the whole to the person impounding.

176. If the owner of any geese or swine impounded under the preceding section, shall prove to the satisfaction of any justice of the peace residing in said town, that the said geese or swine did not go at large from negligence or want of care on his part, and that due diligence was used to prevent it, the owner shall have return of the property on paying all expenses of keeping and proving the same.

177. No swine belonging to the inhabitants of the town of Queen Anne, or the inhabitants of Prince George's county, living within one-quarter of a mile of said town, shall be suffered to go at large in said town or within one-quarter of a mile thereof; and any swine so found going at large may be killed or impounded by any person; if impounded, the person impounding shall immediately give notice, by advertisements set up at the most public places in said town, describing the swine so impounded, and if the owner shall not within five days after such notice prove his property and make compensation for the injury (if any) sustained by any inhabitants of said town or county, to be ascertained by any two disinterested persons residing therein, and pay for every swine twenty-five cents for every day it shall have been impounded, the person impounding may sell or kill the same for his own benefit.

178. If any person shall be sued for killing or selling any swine, under the preceding section, he may plead the general issue and give the special matter in evidence.

179. No person in the town of Nottingham, in Prince George's county, shall confine in any pen, sty, house, or other enclosure, any hog, except from the twentieth of October to the first of March in each year, under the penalty of forty dollars for each offence, to be recovered before a justice of the peace as small debts are, one-half to the informer and the other half to said county.