

122. The supervisor of any district (or his deputies) in which any free negro may reside, may call on such negro not being under the age of eighteen nor over forty-five years and not employed by the year by any taxable inhabitant, to labor for one day in each year upon the public roads.

123. If any free negro, called upon by a supervisor or his deputy, shall refuse or neglect to attend at the time and place appointed, or upon attending shall neglect to perform the duties required of him, he shall pay a fine not exceeding fifty cents, to be recovered at the instance of such supervisor in the name of the State before a justice of the peace, and paid to the county commissioners for the use of the public roads in said county.

124. If any person shall alter or change any public road in said county, or cut down, destroy or injure any of the bridges, causeways, boundaries, marks or directions therein or thereon, he shall, on conviction thereof in the Circuit Court for said county, be fined not exceeding one hundred dollars, according to the nature and degree of the offence.

125. Any citizen of Talbot county, or any person owning land therein, may keep gates on the public roads in said county, (except those roads that the United States Mail passes over,) for his own private use and convenience.

126. Every owner of a gate kept upon the public road shall have the same hung on good and substantial posts, with good and sufficient iron hinges, and shall keep the same in good repair, so as to impede as little as possible persons travelling with carriages or burthen.

127. If any person shall cut down, destroy, take away or remove any of the said gates, he shall, upon conviction thereof before a justice of the peace, forfeit and pay the owner of such gate a sum not less than one nor more than ten dollars.

128. If any slave shall cut down, destroy, injure or wilfully leave open any gate on the public roads, he shall, on conviction before a justice, be whipped in the discretion of the justice not exceeding ten lashes; but no person shall be fined or punished in any case where such gates shall be found carelessly open, not hung upon iron hinges, or otherwise in bad order or repair.