

CHAP. 51. during the said respective periods, together with an exact account of the costs and charges of keeping the said roads in repair, and all other contingent costs and charges, so that the clear annual income and profits thereof may be ascertained and known; and if at the end of two years after either of the said roads shall be completed from the beginning to the end thereof, it shall appear from the average profits of the said two years, that the said clear income and profits will not bear a dividend of *ten per centum per annum* on the capital stock of the said company, so expended, then it shall and may be lawful to and for the said president, managers and company, to increase the tolls herein before allowed so much upon each and every allowance thereof as will raise the dividends up to *ten per centum per annum*; and at the end of every three years thereafter the said companies shall, on the oath or affirmation of the persons respectively employed to keep the accounts of the said company or companies, render such like statements to the general assembly; and if at the end of any such triennial period there shall be a surplus of tolls over and above satisfying the aforesaid *ten per centum* upon all or either of the said roads, the said court of inspection shall have power, and is hereby authorised, to receive such surplus, and to employ the same in purchasing out the stock of the said roads respectively.

Tolls to be subject to regulation of legislature on their paying cost of roads, &c.

30. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the general assembly of Maryland may, at any period after all or either of the roads shall have been completed, one year's notice being given to the stockholders, pay all or either of the said companies the amount of the cost of the road or roads of such company or companies, with such an interest thereon as shall make it equal, with the tolls received, to *ten per centum*, from the investments of their monies, and that thenceforward the tolls shall be subject to the regulation of the legislature.

Posts, boards and index hands to be erected—penalty for destroying the same.

31. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said companies shall cause posts to be erected and continued at the intersection of every public road falling into, and leading out of, the said turnpike roads, with a board and index hand pointing to the direction of such roads, on both sides whereof shall be inscribed, in legible characters, the name of the town, village or place, to which such road leads, and the distance thereof in computed miles; and the said companies shall cause mile-stones to be placed at the side of the said road or roads, beginning at the distance of one mile from the bounds of the city of Baltimore, and extending thence to the termination of each or either of the said respective roads, whereon shall be marked, in plain legible characters, the respective number of miles which each stone is distant from the city of Baltimore aforesaid; and at every gate or turnpike by them to be fixed on the said road, shall cause the distance from Baltimore, and the distance from the nearest gates or turnpikes in each direction, to be marked in legible characters, designating the number of miles and fractions of a mile on the said gates, or some other conspicuous place, for the information of travellers and others using the said road; and if any person shall wilfully destroy the said posts, boards, index hands or mile stones, or deface the same, or deface the directions made on the said gates or other conspicuous places as aforesaid, or shall, without permission of the acting superintendent of the said road,