lay out a public road not less than twenty feet nor more than forty feet wide, in CHAP. fuch direction and place as they, under all circumstances, shall think proper, from the said town to Cow Landing aforesaid (except through buildings or orchards); and that the commissioners aforesaid, or a majority of them, shall ascertain and value what damage may be occasioned to any person or persons by fuch road passing through his, her, or their lands.

XXIV.

III. And he it enacted. That the inhabitants of the town of Talbot aforesaid Inhabitants to shall raise, by subscription or otherwise, such sum or sums of money as will be &c. fufficient to lay out, make and complete, the faid road in the first instance, and shall, within the term of twelve months, and before the said road shall be opened, pay the sums which shall be ascertained as aforesaid to the person or persons who shall be entitled to receive the same.

IV. And he it enacted, That the said commissioners, or a majority of them, A sair plot to Thall make, or cause to be made, a fair plot or survey of the said road, and return be made, &c. the same, with their proceedings, to the next June county court of Talbot county aforesaid, which shall be received by the clerk of the said county, and be recorded amongst the records of said county; and the said road, when completed, shall be received by the justices of the said county, and shall be for ever thereafter deemed and taken a public highway.

V. And be it enacted, That the said commissioners shall have full power to Commissionemploy a furveyor to lay out the faid road and make a plot thereof, who shall be ers may emallowed the sum of fifteen shillings per day for every day he shall be employed veyor, &c. on the business aforesaid; and the said commissioners shall be allowed the sum of ten shillings per day each for every day they shall be employed on the said business, to be paid by the inhabitants of the said town within three months from the return of the plot as aforesaid directed.

C H A P.

An ACT giving a more speedy remedy against delinquent subscri- Passed December 17. bers to the Patowmack company.

THEREAS it hath been represented to this general affembly, that the Preamble. opening of the navigation in Patowmack river hath been retarded by the failure of many of the members of the company instituted for the purpose of effecting the same to pay their respective subscriptions: And whereas the mode of recovery now established by law, hath been found wholly inadequate thereto, and a work of such general utility, to which the state hath already advanced several sums of money from time to time, ought not to be frustrated by the delinquency of individuals:

II. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That if any sub-President, &c. scriber to the Patowmack company now is, or hereafter shall be, in arrear for may recover money due, any fum or fums of money called for in pursuance of an act, entitled, An act for &c. establishing a company for opening and extending the navigation of the river Patowmack, it shall and may be lawful for the president and directors of the Patowmack company, or a majority of them, in the name of the faid company, to recover any such sum or sums of money from such subscriber in the general court, or in the county court of the county in which he shall reside, at any additional or other session of such respective court, together with all legal costs, by way of motion to the court, provided the person against whom such motion may be made hath ten days previous notice thereof; provided also, that if the person against whom such motion may be made, or his attorney, shall desire a jury to be empannelled, the court shall direct a jury to be immediately charged to try whether he did assume to pay, and whether he hath paid, but the said president and directors shall not be required to prove that he did so assume, until he shall first have made oath that he did not so assume; and it shall be lawful for the said court to direct judgment to be entered on the verdict rendered, with costs, and execution shall issue thereupon returnable to any day of the session of the same court, which the faid court shall direct.

C H A P.