

sonal estate, and shall be exempt from the imposition of any tax or burthen by the state's assenting to this law, except upon that portion of the permanent and fixed works of said company, which may lie within the state of Maryland; and that any tax which shall hereafter be levied upon said section shall not exceed the rate of any general tax, which may at the same time be imposed upon similar real or personal property of this state for state purposes.

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Personal estate.
Exempt from tax.
Except.

Sec. 20. *And be it enacted*, That the said president and directors shall, annually or semi-annually, declare and make such dividend as they may deem proper; of the nett profits arising from the resources of the said company, after deducting the necessary current and probable contingent expenses; and that they shall divide the same amongst the stockholders of said company, in proper proportions to their respective shares.

Dividends.

Sec. 21. *And be it enacted*, That if any person or persons shall wilfully, by any means whatsoever, injure, impair or destroy any part of any rail road constructed by said company under this act, or any of their necessary works, buildings, carriages, vehicles or machinery of said company, such person or persons so offending, shall, each of them, for every such offence, forfeit and pay to the said company, a sum not exceeding three hundred dollars, which may be recovered in the name of the said company, by an action of debt in the county court of the county wherein the offence shall be committed, and shall also be subject to indictment in said court, and upon conviction of such offence, shall be punished by fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.

Penalty for injuring road, &c.

Sec. 22. *And be it enacted*, That as soon as this act shall have been passed by the legislature of Maryland, books may be opened, subscriptions received and the said company organised; and that when organised, the said company, and the president and directors of the same, shall have all the powers, rights and privileges granted by this act, and shall be subject to all its regulations, in construction or repairing any of the said rail roads, or other necessary works or buildings which can or may be constructed within the limits of the state of Maryland, and in transporting persons, goods, merchandise, or property of any description, along any of said roads, and that the provisions of this act shall be wholly in force as to all the property of the company, which may be situated, or may be within the state of Maryland, and which said company is permitted to hold under this act.

Operation of this act.

Sec. 23. *And be it enacted*, That full right and privilege is hereby reserved to the citizens of this state, or any com-

Right to connec reserved.