

**BRIDGE AT CHESTERTOWN.**

P. L. L., (1860,) art. 14, sec. 31. 1888, ch. 376.

**43.** The county commissioners of Kent county and the county commissioners of Queen Anne's county, or a majority of them, respectively, are authorized and empowered to negotiate with the stockholders of the Chester river bridge company, or their duly constituted agent, and purchase the capital stock of said bridge company at a price not exceeding the par value thereof, and provide for the payment thereof in one, two and three annual instalments, as may be agreed on, by levies on their respective counties in the proportions said respective boards of commissioners may agree upon between themselves as properly chargeable to their respective counties; and upon the purchase and payment thereof, said commissioners shall have prepared and executed a deed from said bridge company for all the property, rights and franchises of said company to said Kent and Queen Anne's counties in the proportions of ownership, as shall be agreed on and established by their several boards of county commissioners in the purchase thereof, to be taken, held and perpetuated as a free bridge and public thoroughfare between said counties.

Ibid.

**44.** There shall be a keeper of said bridge, who shall be appointed for a term of two years by the joint action of the county commissioners of Kent and Queen Anne's counties, at a salary that may be agreed on between them; and the said bridge shall be kept in good repair, and the said keeper shall attend the draw thereof so as to admit the passage of steamboats, vessels and other water-craft through said draw-way at all proper hours; and said keeper may be appointed supervisor for the repair of said bridge or to superintend the repair thereof, under the direction and authority of said county commissioners; and all the expenses of salary and repair as aforesaid shall be borne by said counties in the proportion of their respective ownerships in said bridge; and the amount necessary to keep said bridge in repair, and to pay the keeper's salary, shall be annually levied by said respective commissioners upon their respective counties in the proportions as aforesaid; and the liabilities of said respective counties for damages received shall be also in the proportions as aforesaid.