

holders of a majority of the stock of such company, and if sanctioned at such meeting by such holders of a majority of the stock, shall be filed in the office of the secretary of State of this State; and provided further, that such agreement shall contain no provisions in conflict with the provisions of this article or which shall exempt such railroad so far as it lies in this State from the operation of the laws of this State, and nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the consolidation of any railroad companies owning or operating competing or parallel roads, or parallel lines of railroad, which is hereby declared to be unlawful and expressly prohibited without the special consent of the general assembly being first obtained therefor.

State use of *Dodson v. Balto. and Lehigh R. R. Co.*, 77 Md. 491.

1888, art. 23, sec. 179. 1876, ch. 242, sec. 23

266. Every railroad company in this State shall cause all its trains of cars for passengers to entirely stop upon each arrival at a station advertised by such company as a station for receiving passengers upon such trains at least one-half of one minute; and every company, and every person in the employment of such company, that shall violate, or cause or permit to be violated the provisions of this section, shall be liable to a forfeiture of not more than one hundred nor less than twenty-dollars, to be recovered in an action of debt, upon the complaint of any person before any justice of the peace of the county in which such violation shall occur; and in all cases in which a forfeiture shall occur under the provisions of this section, the company whose agents shall cause or permit such violation shall be liable for the amount of such forfeiture; and in all cases, the conductor upon such train shall be held *prima facie* to have caused the violation of this section which may occur upon the train in his charge; said forfeiture to be recovered in the name of the State of Maryland, for the use of the common schools.

Ibid. sec. 180. 1874, ch. 333, sec. 1.

267. Whenever freight, forwarded upon any railroad to any point in this State, shall remain unclaimed, and the legal charges thereon unpaid for the space of three months after its arrival at the point to which it shall have been directed, and the owner or person to whom the same is consigned, cannot be found upon diligent inquiry, or being found and notified of