

CHAPTER 273.

An act to prohibit the payment of employees of certain corporations operating in Allegany county otherwise than in legal tender money of the United States.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That every corporation engaged in mining or manufacturing or operating a railroad in Allegany county, and employing ten or more hands, shall pay its employees the full amount of their wages in legal tender money of the United States; and that any contract by or on behalf of any such corporation for the payment of the whole or of any part of such wages in any other manner than herein provided, shall be and is hereby declared illegal, null and void; and that every such employee shall be entitled to recover from any such corporation employing him the whole or so much of the wages earned by him as shall not have been actually paid to him in legal tender money of the United States, without set-off or deduction of his demand for or in respect of any account or claim whatever.

Pay in legal tender.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent any such corporation from demising to any of its employees the whole or any part of any tenement in said county of any rent thereon reserved, or from contracting for or advancing money to supply him with medicine or medical attendance needed for himself or family, or smithing or fuel, and deducting from the wages of any such employee for and in respect of such rent, medicine, medical attendance, smithing or fuel, or money advanced as aforesaid.

How construed.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted,* That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to prevent the payment in whole or in part of the wages of any such employee in the notes of any bank payable to bearer on demand that shall be current at par in this State at the time of such payment, but all payments made in such notes with consent of such

How construed.