

CHAPTER 162.

AN ACT to protect the rights of property in Dorchester county.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That whenever any kind of Stock shall be impounded for trespass in Dorchester county and any person or persons shall take away the same without the knowledge and consent of the party trespassed upon, or his lawful agent, the party so trespassed upon, shall have the right to procure said stock and have the same returned to his custody by making affidavit to the facts before a justice of the peace of the district in which he resides, who shall thereupon issue his warrant to a constable to levy upon and bring such stock before him upon a day named in the warrant, and shall at the same time issue a summons to the person or persons so alleged to have taken away the same, notifying him or them to appear before him and show cause why said stock shall not be returned to the party making such affidavit, and either party shall have the right to summons witnesses, and trial shall be had and judgment given for the return of said stock or the dismissal of the complaint, together with the costs of the case, as justice may require.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That if judgment be given in favor of the plaintiff, the said stock shall at once be delivered to him, and his duties under the law of impounding for trespass shall begin anew from such date; provided, that either party shall have the right of appeal as in other cases, but execution of the judgment to go on, unless stayed by bond as in other cases of appeal.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That the constable making such levy shall be entitled to two dollars therefor, and reimbursement for his actual expenses in keeping said stock in custody, in addition to his fees for serving process, as is now or may hereafter be allowed by law.

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted,* That if any person or persons shall take away stock after being impounded