

JOSEPH KENT, ESQUIRE, GOVERNOR.

Dec. 25, 1825.

height and sufficiency aforesaid, then the owner or owners of such horses, cattle, hogs and sheep, shall be liable to make good all such damages to the owner of such enclosure, as shall be found and awarded by two respectable landholders, who may view the same, under their oath or affirmation made before some justice of the peace in said county; the said damages to be recovered in the same manner that is or shall be prescribed by law for the recovery of debts.

Persons joining fences and neglecting to keep in repair—proceedings.

2. *And be it enacted*, That whenever any person or persons have joined, or shall join fences for their mutual benefit and advantage, it shall be obligatory on each of the parties to keep up and in good repair, his, her, or their respective proportions thereof; and if any one of the owners or possessors, upon the request of the other, shall refuse to make or repair the said fence or fences, within twenty days after notice given, that then, upon proof thereof before a justice of the peace, it shall be lawful for the said justice to order the person aggrieved and suffering thereby to repair the said fence or fences, who shall be reimbursed his costs and expenses, to be recovered in the same manner as is, or shall be prescribed by law for the recovery of debts.

Damages for injury done to stock on lands not properly enclosed.

3. *And be it enacted*, That whosoever, not having their grounds enclosed with such sufficient fence as aforesaid, shall hurt, kill or do damage to any horse, sheep, hogs or any kind of cattle belonging to any other person, by hunting, or driving them out of, or from the said grounds, shall make good all such damages sustained thereby, to the owner or owners thereof, as shall be awarded by two respectable landholders under their oath or affirmation who may view the same; the said damages to be recovered in the same manner as is prescribed for the recovery of damages in the two first sections of this act.

This act subject to a vote of the people at next election.

4. *And be it enacted*, That this act shall not have the force and operation of law in Harford county, unless a majority of the voters, who may lawfully vote in such county at the election to be held for delegates on the first Monday in October next, shall by their votes with reference to this act, approve the same, which approbation shall be expressed by the words, "In favor of the act regulating fences," to be written or printed on the ballots that may be given at the election aforesaid; and of which votes the judges of election in Harford county, shall take an exact account and make complete returns thereof to the justices of the levy court of the county, who upon receiving the said returns shall cause the result thereof to be published; and in case the said act shall appear by the said returns to have been approved by a majority of the persons so voting in said county as aforesaid; then the justices of the levy court shall issue a public notice, declaring the said act to have then acquired the full force and virtue of a law, in and applicable to the county of Harford.

This act to be published.

5. *And be it enacted*, That the levy court of said county shall cause this act to be published in the Board of Union, a newspaper published in Belle Air, at least once a week for six successive