

LAWS OF MARYLAND.

collect the expense thereof of grading, paving, sewerage or otherwise improving the same, as directed in the next succeeding section.

File state-
ments.

SEC. 123. Whenever the Mayor and Council shall levy any sum of money on the owners of property in said town for grading, paving, sewerage or otherwise improving the streets, lanes or alleys in said town, or any of them, the sum so levied shall be a lien on said property; provided, said Mayor and Council shall, within sixty days after the completion of such grading, paving, sewerage or other improving, cause to be filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Garrett county, a statement showing the whole amount expended in such grading, paving, sewerage or otherwise improving, and the names of the persons against whom said sums have been apportioned, and the amount apportioned to each, and a general description of the land owned by each of said parties upon which such sums are intended to operate as a lien; and said statement shall constitute a lien on said property for the space of three years, and no longer, unless the same shall be revived and enforced by *scire facias*, as provided in the succeeding section.

Scire facias.

SEC. 124. Said lien shall be enforceable by *scire facias* issued out of the Circuit Court for Garrett county, in the same manner as mechanics' liens are now enforced by law; and upon such *scire facias* the defendant may rely upon any defence which would render the imposition of such tax void, or operate as a discharge thereof, and such *scire facias* may issue at any time within three years from the filing of the statement required by the last preceding section, but any defendant intending to dispute the validity of said tax, and wishing to test the same before the expiration of said time, may at any time after the filing of said statement, give notice to said Mayor and Council in writing, that he disputes the validity of such tax and wishes to test the same so as to free his