

CHAPTER 158.

AN ACT for the protection of workmen, by an inspection of scaffolding, ropes, blocks, pulleys and tackle used in the construction, repairing or painting of buildings.

UNSAFE SCAFFOLDING.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland,* Whenever complaint is made to the commissioner of police or to the marshal, or other persons in charge of the police force of any city or town in this State, that the scaffolding used in the construction, altering, repairing or painting of any building within the limits of such city or town, is unsafe and dangerous to the life and limb of any person, it shall be the duty of such police commissioners, marshal of police, or other persons in charge of the police force, to immediately detail a competent police officer to inspect such scaffolding forthwith, with instructions to prohibit the further use of such scaffolding, if after proper examination he may find the complaint well founded, to require that it be altered or reconstructed in such manner as to render it no longer dangerous of life or limb. It shall be the duty of the officer making the examination to attach a notice to such scaffolding, stating that he has made such examination, and that he has found it safe or unsafe, as the case may be. If he declares it to be unsafe, he shall at once, in writing, notify the person or persons responsible for its erection, of the fact, and warn them against using it, or permitting or suffering any person or persons to use it, and such notice may be served upon the responsible person or persons, or by conspicuously affixing it to the scaffold declared to be unsafe; after such notice is served or affixed, it shall be the duty of the persons responsible therefor, to immediately remove such scaffolding, or to alter or strengthen it in such a manner as to render it safe, in the discretion of the officer who has condemned it, or of his superiors.

DUTIES OF POLICE FORCE.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the police commissioners, marshal of police, or other persons in charge of the police force of any city or town of this State, when complaint is made to them, or any of them, that the slings, hangers, blocks, pulleys, stays, braces, irons, or ropes, of any swinging or stationary scaffolding used in the painting, cleaning or pointing of any building within the limits of such city or town, are unsafe or liable to prove dangerous to the life or limb of any person, to detail a competent police officer to examine, and, if