

and uses to which the power so applied can be made applicable, and to fix, charge, collect and receive rates and tolls therefor.

Time
granted.

SEC. 12. *And be it enacted*, That the construction of the main line of said Frederick, Thurmont and Northern Railroad shall be commenced within five years, and completed within ten years from and after the passage of this Act.

Effective.

SEC. 13. *And be it enacted*, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 9, 1898.

CHAPTER 515.

AN ACT to create and sustain by taxation Public Libraries and Reading Rooms.

Public
library.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That the governing board of any municipality incorporated under the laws of this State, shall have power to establish and maintain a public library and reading room for the use and benefit of such municipality, and may levy an annual tax, not exceeding five cents on each one hundred dollars of an assessed valuation of taxable property. Such tax to be collected and levied in like manner as other general taxes of said municipality, and when collected, to be known as the "Library Fund;" provided, that before such tax be laid, or such library established, the decision of the said governing board be ratified by a majority of the votes cast at a regular municipal election.

Notice to be
given.

SEC. 2. Whenever the governing board of any municipality shall vote to establish a public library, they shall notify the proper officers that public notice may be given, that at the next municipal election a vote will be taken as to the ratification of such decision; and that on the official ballot at said election there shall be placed spaces headed, "For the establishment of a public library," and "Against the establishment of a public library."

Board of
directors.

SEC. 3. When any municipality shall have voted to establish and maintain a public library and reading room under this Act, the chief executive officer of such municipality shall appoint, with the approval of the municipal governing board, a board of nine directors for said library, chosen from the citizens at large with reference to their fitness for such office, and not more than one member of the said governing board shall be at any one time a member of said board of directors.