

C H A P. CXXXIX.

An ACT to authorise the Levy Court of Washington County to
straighten, open and amend, the Road therein mentioned.

Passed Decem-
ber 25, 1810.

WHEREAS it is represented to this general assembly, by the petition of sundry inhabitants of Washington county, that the road from Elizabeth-town to Hancock-town, which is the road to the western country, is in its present course circuitous, and in some places almost impassable, that the Conococheague creek, over which it must pass, is a very deep and rapid stream, often unpassable, over which it is difficult to erect a bridge that will be permanent, except in particular well selected points; that they believe the said road may be shortened, made to go over much better ground, and be brought to cross the Conococheague creek at a place where it may be secured from the waters of the same; therefore,

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the levy court of Washington county are hereby authorised and empowered to appoint three commissioners to straighten, open and amend, the road from Hagar's-town towards Hancock-town, if in their opinion the same be necessary and conducive to the public convenience of the inhabitants thereof, which commissioners, when so appointed, shall be empowered to straighten, open and amend, the aforesaid road from Elizabeth-town aforesaid, in the most suitable direction towards Hancock-town, until the same shall intersect Conococheague creek, at some point thereon where in their opinion a bridge may be erected secure from freshes and high waters, and from this point on the Conococheague, still in the most suitable direction to Hancock-town, to some point on Licking creek, where in their opinion a bridge may be erected secure from freshes and high waters, and from this place last mentioned to Hancock-town, having due regard, as far as is practicable, in the whole course of the said road, to shorten the distance, and to the practicability of making the said road at some future period into a turnpike road.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any of the commissioners appointed as aforesaid shall die or refuse to act, that the levy court of Washington county shall and may appoint another person or persons in his or their stead.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the commissioners appointed as aforesaid, or any of them, shall proceed forthwith to lay out, survey, mark and bound, the aforesaid road, not exceeding sixty feet in width, in the manner herein before directed, and shall execute, sign and seal, a plain plot of the same, with explicit explanations thereof, and such plots and explanations shall return to the justices of the levy court, who shall cause the same to be recorded among the land records of the said county in testimony of the same being established by law.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said commissioners, or any two of them, shall have full power to bargain and contract with any person or persons over whose lands the said road may pass, or adjudge the damages any person may sustain by said road, and make return of all contracts by them made for land or damages adjudged by them by reason of opening, straightening and amending, said road, to the levy court of said county.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the justices of the levy court for Washington county, at their next sitting after the first day of March next, and thereafter in the last court in the year annually, shall levy a sum of money, not exceeding the sum of twenty-five cents current money on every hundred pounds worth of assessable property in the said county, to be collected in the same manner, at the same times, and by the same persons, as other county taxes are collected, and shall be paid quarterly into the hands of a supervisor or supervisors to be appointed as in manner shall be hereafter directed.

VII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the justices of the levy court for the county of Washington shall and they are hereby required to appoint, at the time and in the manner that they appoint other supervisors for the public roads in their said county, a supervisor or supervisors for the road by this act established, within such divisions and districts as they shall think proper, and such supervisors, so appointed, shall give bond in like manner as is required by law of other supervisors of public roads, and in all respects to be governed by, and subject to, the same rules, regulations, penalties, fines, forfeitures and privileges, as are by law provided in the case of other supervisors for public roads in the county of Washington aforesaid.

VIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That it shall be lawful for any supervisor appointed in virtue of this act, and any person to be employed by him, to take and carry away any stones, gravel, or earth