

CHAPTER 70.

1811.

An act to regulate the inspection of Lumber.

Passed Dec 27,
1811.

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the council, shall immediately on the passage of this act, and in every year thereafter, appoint four or more inspectors of lumber for the city and county of Baltimore, and as many more in other parts of this state as may from time to time be necessary.

Governor and council shall appoint inspectors.

AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said inspectors hereafter to be appointed, before they enter upon the execution of their offices, shall take the following oath or affirmation, (as the case may be,) before some person authorised to administer the same, viz. "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully, truly and impartially, according to the best of my judgment, skill and understanding, execute do and perform the office and duty of an inspector of lumber, according to the true intent and meaning of the laws of this state, relative to the same, so help me God."

Inspectors oath.

AND BE IT ENACTED, That all planks, boards or scantling not exceeding eight inches square, that are sound, shall be measured by the rule of board measure, except boards under three fourths of an inch thick, which shall be measured on the surface, and marked and deemed merchantable; and all timber above eight inches square, to be measured, if required by the seller. All unsound, worm eaten, irregular sawed boards, plank or scantling; all wind-shaken boards and plank shall be deemed of inferior quality, and shall be condemned and marked with a round O and cross made thereon, the rotten parts shall not be included. All shingles shall be, in the opinion of the inspectors, of sufficient thickness, sound cypress or cedar wood, free from rot, splits or twist, of good merchantable quality; and all laths for plastering shall be put up and packed in bundles of one hundred each, and be of the following dimensions, to wit: All laths for plastering shall not be less than four feet in length, and not less than three-sixteenths of an inch in thickness, and not less than one inch wide, inspected, if required by the seller or purchaser.

Rules and regulations to be observed by the inspectors.

AND BE IT ENACTED, That no inspector of lumber shall appoint any deputy to purchase any lumber, except for his own use, nor sell any lumber whatsoever, on pain of forfeiting his office.

Inspectors shall not buy or sell lumber.