

CHAP. 304. shall be committed, and shall also be subject to indictment in said court, and upon conviction of such offence, shall be punished by fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

Authority to
contract for
carrying mail.

Power to
make special
contracts.

May fix the
charge for
storage and
transportation
of merchan-
dise.

Start and run
cars at regular
times.

Bell or steam
whistle.

SEC. 23. *And be it enacted*, That the president and directors, or a majority of them, shall have authority to contract for the transportation of the mail of the United States, and for the transportation of persons and property for the use of the United States or State of Maryland; and the said company shall have power to make special contracts for the exclusive use of any car for a limited time or distance, and for the transportation of horses and other living animals, and of carriages, furniture, plate, jewelry, specie, and machinery of any description, on such terms as may be agreed on by the parties; and that they may fix from time to time the price to be charged for receiving, weighing, delivering and storage of merchandize, produce and other articles, and for the transportation of single articles not exceeding two hundred and fifty pounds in weight, and further, that the said company shall be entitled to charge for the transportation of any parcel or article any distance whatever, fifteen cents, and a like sum for taking up and setting down any person who shall travel a distance not exceeding eight miles, in addition to a charge of three cents per mile for the conveyance of such person.

SEC. 24. *And be it enacted*, That said company shall start and run their cars for transportation of passengers and property, at regular times, to be fixed by public notice; and shall furnish sufficient accommodations for the transportation of all such passengers and property, as shall, within a reasonable time previous thereto, be offered for transportation at the place of starting, and at the usual stopping places established for receiving and discharging way passengers and freight for that train, and shall take, transport and discharge such passengers and property, at, from and to such places, on the due payment of the freight or fare, legally authorised therefor; and shall be liable to the party aggrieved, in an action for damages, for any neglect or refusal in the premises.

SEC. 25. *And be it enacted*, That a bell be placed on each locomotive engine, and rung at the distance of at least one hundred rods from the place where the rail road shall cross any travelled public road or street, and be kept ringing until it shall have crossed such road or street, or a steam whistle shall be attached to each locomotive engine, and be sounded at least one hundred rods