

## CHAPTER 51.

AN ACT for the protection of Sheep by taxing  
Dogs in Cecil county. Passed Mar.  
6, 1856.

SECTION. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That it shall be the duty of the commissioners of Cecil county, and they are hereby required to cause an accurate return to be taken annually by the collectors of the several districts within the said county, of all dogs upwards of two months old, owned or possessed by any person or persons within their respective districts, particularly noting the number owned or possessed by each person or persons and kept about the same House, and when the said commissioners shall have ascertained the number of dogs, they shall levy and cause to be collected the sum of one dollar for one dog, and fifty cents each for every additional dog kept, owned or possessed by such person or persons, to be collected from the owners of said dog or dogs by the collectors of the several districts at the same time and in the same manner as county and State taxes are now collected for which the said collectors shall be allowed the sum of six per centum on the amount so collected, and it shall be the duty of the county commissioners to keep a separate account of the money arising from the tax on dogs, and the said money shall be and hereby is appropriated as a fund for remunerating the inhabitants of said county, for any loss, they shall sustain after the passage of this act, by sheep being destroyed or injured by any dog or dogs and also to pay the awards already made, and on file in the office of the county commissioners of Cecil county under the act passed March ninth, eighteen hundred and fifty-four, chapter one hundred and twenty-nine.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That when any inhabitant of the county aforesaid, shall have any sheep destroyed or injured as aforesaid, he or she may apply to the nearest justice of the peace, who shall appoint three disinterested persons, who are hereby authorized and required to view and ascertain the damages sustained by the owner or owners of such sheep injured or destroyed as aforesaid, and they or any of them shall certify the same under their hands and seals to the commissioners of said county,

Duty of Commissioners.

Warrant to be drawn on the Treasurer of the county.