

Arundel and Prince-George's counties respectively, and shall for ever be deemed a public road, and shall be kept in repair as other public roads.

C H A P.  
LXXX.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That each commissioner shall be allowed two dollars for every day he shall attend in discharge of the duties herein imposed.

Their allow-  
ance.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That where any person or persons shall require compensation for any damages sustained by reason of the said road passing through his, her or their land, the commissioners aforesaid shall and they are hereby directed to apply to any justice of the peace for the counties of Anne-Arundel and Prince-George's respectively, who shall issue his warrant, under hand and seal, directed to any constable of the said county, to command him to summon twelve freeholders, disinterested as to the lands, and not connected with any person through whose lands the said road shall pass, to appear at a place and on a certain day by him to be appointed, and after taking the following oath, or affirmation, as the case may be, to wit: "I, A. B. do swear, or solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will honestly and faithfully estimate and value the damage and injury sustained by C. D. by opening a road through the land of the said C. D. in pursuance of the directions of this act," shall proceed to ascertain and value what damages may be sustained by any person or persons through whose land the said road may pass, by opening and clearing the same, and shall return the damages by them assessed to the clerks of Anne-Arundel and Prince-George's counties respectively, and the damages so assessed shall be conclusive, and shall be levied by the levy courts of Anne-Arundel and Prince-George's counties respectively, and paid to the person or persons for whose use the same was levied, and after the valuation so made, the said commissioners shall proceed to open and clear the same; provided, that the said road shall not pass through any houses, gardens, yards, orchards, or meadows, unless with the consent of the owners thereof, if of age, and of the guardian or guardians where such person or persons are under age.

Where re-  
quired, da-  
mages to be as-  
certained, &c.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the justices of the levy courts of Anne-Arundel and Prince-George's counties respectively, at their next levy court, shall and they are hereby directed to levy upon the assessable property of the inhabitants of each county, a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars, for the purpose of defraying the expences of clearing the aforesaid road, and the said sum, when collected, shall be paid to the person or persons employed to carry this act into effect, who shall expend as much of the said money so levied as may be necessary on the road in each county respectively, and shall account for the expenditure of the same to the levy courts of the said counties.

Justices to levy  
money.

VII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That an act of assembly passed at November session, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, to lay out and establish a road from the city of Annapolis to the city of Washington, be and the same is hereby abrogated and repealed.

An act repeal-  
ed.

C H A P. LXXXI.

An ACT to alter and change the time for holding the county courts in Washington county.

Passed Jan. 16.

WHEREAS by an act of assembly, passed at November session, seventeen hundred and ninety-six, the courts in Washington county are to be held on the first Monday in April and January, and that the January court is found to be inconvenient; therefore,

Preamble.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That from and after the passage of this act the county courts for Washington county shall be held on the first Monday in April and December in every year.

When courts  
are to be held.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That so much of the act passed at November session, seventeen hundred and ninety-six, entitled, An act for the better administration of justice in the several counties in this state, as relates to the time of holding the courts in Washington county, is hereby repealed.

Part of an act  
repealed.

C H A P. LXXXII.

An ACT appointing commissioners to contract for and purchase the lands, commonly called the Choptank Indian Lands, in Dorchester county, and for appropriating the same to the use of this state, and to repeal the act of assembly therein mentioned.

Passed Jan. 18.

BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Henry Waggaman, William B. Martin, James Steele, Moses Lecompte and William Marbury, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners to promote the purposes herein after mentioned; and the said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall have full power and authority to execute and perform the several trusts and duties vested in and required of them by virtue of this act; and if any of the said commissioners shall refuse to act, resign, die, or remove out of the state, it shall be lawful for the remaining commissioners, or a majority of them, to appoint another skilful person or persons to supply such vacancies, and every person so appointed shall have the same power and authority as any of the commissioners appointed by this act.

Commissioners  
appointed, &c.

II. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said commissioners, or the major part of them, shall be and are hereby authorized and empowered, with all convenient speed after the passage of this act, to repair to the Indian settlement near Secretary's creek, in Dorchester county, and to contract, covenant and agree, in behalf of this state, with the Choptank Indians inhabiting the said settlement, for the purchase of the right, title and interest, of the said Indians, to all and singular the lands and tenements aforesaid, and to enter into such covenant and agreement on the part of this state, for enabling the said commissioners to obtain the right and title of the said Indians to the

Who shall re-  
pair to the In-  
dian lands, &c.