

C H A P.
XXIV.
To meet four
times a year,
&c.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That there shall be four meetings of said wardens in every year; that is to say, on the second Mondays in March, June, September and December, respectively, and at such other times as the chairman, or in his absence two other wardens, may think necessary, on application made to him or them for that purpose; which meetings shall be called by his or their order issued to the clerk, directing him to summon all the said wardens to meet, on twelve hours notice, to hear and determine whatever shall or may come before them; and that the chairman shall receive, for each day he shall attend or be employed, the sum of seven shillings and six pence, and every other warden the sum of five shillings, and no more.

To take an
oath, &c.

VII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That before the said wardens take upon themselves the office of wardens, each and every of them shall take an oath or affirmation, that he will well and faithfully, to the best of his skill, understanding and judgment, perform, do, execute and discharge, the office and duty of a warden, according to the directions of this act; which qualification any justice of the peace is hereby authorized and enjoined to administer.

To make a
survey, &c.

VIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said wardens, or a majority of them, shall and may order and make, as soon as conveniently may be, an exact survey and chart of the said basin, harbour, and river Patapsco, and shall and may ascertain the depth and course of the channel of the same, and if necessary affix buoys or water-marks, for facilitating and rendering more safe the navigation thereof.

Wharfs not to
be made, &c.

IX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That no wharf or wharfs shall be run out, made, altered, enlarged or extended, from and after the publication hereof, so as to divert the course of the said channel, obstruct the harbour or basin, or to the injury of the same; and that no person or persons shall make, alter or extend, a wharf or wharfs, from and after the publication hereof, without laying before the said wardens a plan of his or their intended wharf or wharfs, and without consent first obtained, under the seal of the board, to carry the same into effect; and in case any person or persons shall make, alter or extend, a wharf or wharfs, without such permission, it shall and may be lawful for the said wardens to recover, by warrant, before a magistrate, a sum not exceeding one hundred pounds, as in cases of debts not exceeding five pounds, and forthwith to cause the same to be demolished; provided that this act is not meant to extend to the demolition or removal of wharfs already made, built and extended.

Basin to be
cleansed, &c.

X. AND BE IT ENACTED, That said wardens shall and may cause the basin and harbour, or such part or parts thereof as to them shall seem meet, as soon as enabled to carry the same into effect, to be cleansed, scoured, cleared and ballasted, and all obstructions and annoyances in and upon the said basin, harbour and river, whether from vessels sunk or any other cause, to be removed; and, towards defraying the charges and costs thereof, to impose on every vessel entering or clearing at said port one penny (a) per tun; which sum is to be collected and paid to the naval-officer for said port, which officer is to draw the same commission upon said collection as on collections made for the state; and the naval-officer is hereby enjoined to collect and receive the rate aforesaid, and to pay the same from time to time, deducting the commission aforesaid, or four times each year, to said wardens; said rate to continue till a sufficient sum shall be raised for defraying the expence aforesaid; and in case of refusal, it shall and may be lawful for the said wardens to recover the same before a magistrate, as in cases of debt not exceeding five pounds.

(a) The power of imposing this duty is repealed by 1791, ch. 60, which imposes a duty not exceeding two cents per tun. The act of 1791 was not to operate until ratified and confirmed by an act of the congress of the United States; this was done by an act of the first session of the fourth congress, ch. 24, passed the 12th of May, 1796, to continue for three years, and to the end of the next session of congress thereafter.

No warden to
sit, &c.

XI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That no warden shall sit in judgment in the execution of this act, or any of the powers herein contained, where he is anywise interested or concerned.

Wardens may
make regulati-
ons, &c.

XII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said wardens, or a majority of them, shall, and they are hereby authorized, to make such regulations and ordinances, from time to time, respecting wharfs and wharfage, and the keeping them in repair, so as to prevent their injuring the harbour or basin, and for preventing vessels from casting out filth or ballast, or any other cause, whether from vessels, wharfs, or the land or earth, or soil, contiguous to the basin or harbour, being thrown into the same, that may serve to fill up the said harbour or basin, or obstruct the navigation thereof; and to impose fines for every breach of said rules, regulations or ordinances, not exceeding fifty pounds, to be recovered before a magistrate, as in debts not exceeding five pounds; and all fines, penalties or awards, the recovery of which is not specially mentioned, to be recovered in same manner as in cases of debts not exceeding five pounds.

XIII. PROVIDED