

C H A P.
XVII.

river or canal well capable of being navigated, except in dry seasons, from Snow Hill to Mitchell's Bridge, by vessels and rafts drawing one foot water at the least.

Work to be begun within three years, &c.

XVIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That in case the said company shall not begin the said work within three years after the company shall be formed, that then the said company shall not be entitled to any benefit, privilege or advantage under this act; and in case the said company shall not complete the navigation from Snow Hill to Mitchell's Bridge within ten years after the said company shall be formed, then shall all interest of the said company, and all preference in their favour, as to the navigation and tolls at, to, through and from Snow Hill to Mitchell's Bridge, or through any other part of the said river or canal, be forfeited and cease.

Wears, &c. deemed nuisances, &c.

XIX. AND, whereas wears may be erected in and upon the said river or canal, when cut; and trees may be fallen in and across the said river or canal, and other obstructions made therein, to the great injury of the navigation of the said river or canal, BE IT ENACTED, That all wears hereafter to be made in the said river or canal, and all trees or other obstructions now across any part of the said river or canal, so as to stop the passage of any vessel, raft or timber, shall be deemed and are hereby declared nuisances, and the same may be removed and destroyed by the said president and directors, or any of them.

No person to put or place any wear, &c.

XX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That no person or persons, unless with the consent of the said president and directors, shall hereafter put, place or make, any wear, or fall any tree or trees, in or across the said river or canal aforesaid, so as to stop the passage of any vessel, raft or timber, as the case may be, any where in the said river or canal, under the penalty of ten pounds current money for every such offence, to be recovered by action of debt, in the name of the Pocomoke company, to be brought in the county court of the county in which the offence may be committed, one half to the informer, or person who will sue for or prosecute to effect for the same, and the other half to the use of the said Pocomoke company, to be applied towards the improvement of the navigation of the said river or canal, to be cut as aforesaid between Snow Hill and Mitchell's Bridge.

President, &c. may demand tolls, &c.

XXI. AND, whereas part of the said river or canal may be navigated by vessels and rafts before the expiration of the time limited for the completion of the said works, and before the whole extent of the said river or canal from Snow Hill to Mitchell's Bridge, or to the division line aforesaid, is made navigable: And whereas it is reasonable that the said company should receive tolls from those that make use of the part of the river or canal so cleared, and as the same will assist in effecting the above laudable undertaking, therefore, BE IT ENACTED, That it shall and may be lawful for the said president and directors, immediately after the formation of the said company, to demand and receive, at such place or places on the said river or canal as they shall hereafter adjudge and determine to be most convenient, for all merchandize and commodities brought down and carried up any part of the said river or canal from Snow Hill to Mitchell's Bridge, or the division line aforesaid, tolls according to the foregoing table and rates.

Proviso.

XXII. PROVIDED ALWAYS, That if the said company shall not complete the navigation of the said river or canal as aforesaid, from Snow Hill to Mitchell's Bridge, within ten years after the said company shall be formed, then all interest of the said company, and all preference in their favour to any part of the said navigation and tolls, on any kind of articles or commodities carried up or brought down any part of the said river or canal from Snow Hill to Mitchell's Bridge, or to the division line aforesaid, shall from thenceforth be forfeited and cease.

Directors may propose any scheme, &c.

XXIII. AND, whereas sound policy requires that the laudable design of those who may become adventurers in the aforesaid company should be patronised by legislative sanction, BE IT ENACTED, That in case a sufficient sum of money shall not be raised in manner aforesaid, for the purpose of completing the works above mentioned, that it shall and may be lawful for the said directors of the Pocomoke company, or a majority of them, to propose any scheme or schemes of a lottery for the raising a sum of money not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars, and to sell and dispose of the tickets therein; provided the said directors, or a majority of them, shall, before the sale or disposal of any ticket or tickets in such lottery, give bond to the state of Maryland, in the penalty of fifteen thousand dollars, conditioned, that they will well and truly apply the monies arising therefrom, within two months after the drawing thereof, to the payment of the prizes drawn by the fortunate adventurers in the said lottery, upon application being made by him, her or them, for the same, and the necessary expences incurred in the management thereof, and the residue to the uses of the company;

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