

time be necessary for completing the said bridge and causeways, and after giving three months public notice in the George-town paper, to sue for and recover, in the name of the said company, such unpaid requisition, with all costs and charges incidental thereto, with legal interest thereon from the time the same became due; and the neglect or refusal to pay any such requisition, after three months notice in the George-town paper, shall have the effect to forfeit all previous payments made on the share or shares so neglected or refused to be paid, to the use and benefit of said company.

C. H. A. P.
XCII.

IV. BE IT ENACTED, That the said bridge company shall erect a good and sufficient draw to said bridge, not less than twenty feet wide, and shall keep a sufficient number of hands at all times ready for the purpose of raising the said draw, in order to admit vessels to pass through, without delay or interruption, for which no reward shall be demanded or received; and in case of any neglect, the directors for the time being may be indicted and fined in Prince-George's county court as for a common nuisance.

Company to
erect a draw,
&c.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That it shall and may be lawful for every proprietor to transfer his or her share or shares, by deed or deeds executed before two or more witnesses, and registered in the books of said company, and not otherwise, except by devise, which said devise shall also be registered before any such share or shares shall pass in virtue thereof.

Shares may be
transferred, &c.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That for and in consideration of the great risk incurred by said company, and of the great expence in building said bridge, and making said causeways, and of keeping the same in repair, the said bridge, and all its profits, shall be and the same are hereby vested in the said company, to be held as tenants in common, in proportion to their respective shares, to them, their heirs and assigns, for ever; and it shall and may be lawful for the said directors, at all times hereafter, for the term of fifty years, to receive such reasonable tax or toll as they may from time to time agree on and require, provided they shall not at any time exceed the present rates of ferriage at the ferries now used over the said Eastern Branch, which rates or tolls shall be made public, and not altered oftener than once in each year; and at the expiration of the term aforesaid of fifty years, the said directors shall receive such toll as shall be regulated by the legislature of this state, or of the United States, should the said bridge be erected within the jurisdiction of the United States.

Bridge vested
in the compa-
ny, &c.

C. H. A. P. XCIII.

An ACT to authorise the Patowmack company to receive tolls on produce carried through the canal at the Great Falls, and for other purposes therein mentioned. Lib. JG. No. 2. fol. 738.

Passed 20th of
Jan. 1798.

WHEREAS the Patowmack company have by their petition set forth to this general assembly, that they have at great expence removed most of the obstructions in the Patowmack river, from Savage river to tide water, except those at the Great Falls; that considerable quantities of produce are now brought down by boats to William's Port, Watt's Branch, and the Great Falls, by which much time, labour and expence, are saved to the owners of such produce; that many articles are now transported through the locks at the Little Falls without paying any toll whatever; that the company, to facilitate the transportation of produce down said river, have constructed an inclined plain from the lower end of the canal to the surface of the river below the Great Falls, by means of which machine all articles can be let down, and those not of great bulk or weight taken up, with security and dispatch; that a warehouse is also provided for storing such articles when found necessary, or when boats are not ready for transporting said produce down the said river; that those now navigating the said river receive great benefit from the improvement of the navigation by the labour and expenditures of said company, they conceive it to be just and reasonable that they should make some compensation for the benefits received; all which appears to be reasonable; therefore,

Preamble.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Patowmack company be and hereby are authorized and empowered to receive, at or near the mouth of Conococheague, the tolls payable at that place on articles transported thither, also the tolls payable at Watt's Branch and the Great Falls, upon all articles brought down to those places, or either of them, in the same manner as if the locks at the Great Falls were now complete, and also to receive the tolls upon such articles as are brought up the river to the Great Falls; provided that the said company, at their own expence, carry all produce brought to the said inclined plain down or up the same, as the case may be, and, if required, store the said produce, or deliver it along side the said boats in which it is intended to be carried down the river, at their own risk and cost.

Tolls may be
received at Co-
nococheague,
&c.

C c c c c 2

III. AND