

C. H. A. P. XXI

stoned, Forty Feet wide; except the said Road leading to Annapolis, which shall be cleared, grubbed, and stoned as aforesaid, Thirty Feet wide, and shall cause necessary Bridges and Causeways to be made, and convenient Trenches and Ditches to be cut for draining and leading off the Water from the said Roads, and shall also cause large Posts to be well set up, in the Middle of the said Road, from Watts's Branch to George-Town; or until it intersects the said Road leading from Frederick-Town to George-Town, in Sight of, and not exceeding One Hundred Yards Distance from each other.

Proviso, in Case of the Road's passing through improved Grounds;

V. Provided always, and be it enacted, That if the said Supervisors, or any Two of them, shall deem it necessary, and that it would greatly conduce to lessening the Distance that the Road should pass through any improved Ground in their respective District, (Buildings, Yards, Gardens, and Orchards, excepted) in such Case the same Supervisors, or any Two of them, may agree with the Owners for the Purchase of Forty Feet or Thirty Feet in breadth, as the Case may require, through the same, not exceeding the Rate of Sixty Dollars per Mile, and in case the Owner or Owners of such Land shall refuse to make Sale thereof, at a reasonable Price, or be under any Disability of making such Sale, then the said Supervisors, or any Two of them, may, and they are hereby authorized and required to issue their Warrant to the Sheriff of their County, commanding him to summon and return a Jury of the best and most substantial Freeholders, not less than Twelve, Inhabitants of the said County, to be and appear before the said Supervisors on the Premises, at a certain Day in the said Warrant expressed; which Jury upon their Oath to be administered by any one of the said Supervisors, who is hereby authorized to administer the same, shall enquire who is or are the Owner or Owners of the Land, and what Damages such Owner or Owners will sustain by Occasion of carrying the said Road through such improved Ground; and the said Supervisors shall return the Inquest of the Jury, or a Certificate of the Sum to be paid by Agreement, to the Justices of their County, who shall assess and levy the Money agreed to be paid, or by the Jurors assessed, at the Time of laying their next County Levy, on the taxable Inhabitants of their County, to and for the Use of the Owner of the said Land, together with the Sheriff's Salary of Five per Cent. for Collection; which said Assessment the Sheriff shall collect and levy in the same Manner, and at the same Rate, as the County Levy may by Law be collected, and may be paid and discharged at the same Rate, in Money, as the County Levy; and the said Sheriff shall be answerable for, and pay the same to the Owner and Owners of such Land.

Or Fields in actual Cultivation.

VI. Provided always, and be it enacted, That where by Agreement and Consent, or otherwise, any of the said Roads shall be carried in other Places than they now pass, through Fields or Grounds in actual Cultivation, that such Field or Grounds shall not be laid open or used as a public Road, till after the usual Time of taking off and securing the Crop, then growing thereon. And to enable the said Supervisors to accomplish the said Work, they, or any Two of them, are hereby empowered, in and for their respective District aforesaid, after they shall have carefully surveyed the said Roads, and agreed on the necessary Alterations therein, either to employ Labourers to do the said Work, or to contract with others to do the Work aforesaid, on convenient Parts of the said Roads; and the Supervisors of the respective Districts aforesaid, or any Two of them, are also empowered at any Time or Times before the First Day of January next, to draw their Order or Orders on the

Supervisors to employ Labourers or contract with others to do the Work, and draw their Orders on the Commissioners for