

An ACT for the establishment and regulation of a night watch, and the erection of lamps, in Baltimore-town, in Baltimore county.

WHEREAS the ordering and regulating a watch, and en- Preamble.
lightening the streets, lanes and alleys, in the night time, in
Baltimore-town, in Baltimore county, is of very great impor-
tance for the preservation of the persons and properties of the inhabitants
thereof, and very necessary to prevent fires, burglaries, and other out-
rages and disorders,

II. Be it enacted, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That the com- Commission-
ers to meet,
&c.
missioners of Baltimore-town, or a major part of them, are hereby au-
thorised and directed, to meet at such times and places as they shall think
proper, and may, from time to time, during the continuance of this act,
contract with fit and proper persons to erect, put up and fix, any number
of lamps, in such parts and places in the said town as to them shall seem
meet and expedient, and to contract with any person or persons for the
lighting, trimming, snuffing, supplying, maintaining, and repairing them,
and shall likewise from time to time order, appoint, hire and employ, as
many watchmen as they shall judge necessary, and shall then and there
direct and order what wages shall be given them, and if any of the said
watchmen die within the time for which they were appointed, or shall be
negligent in their duty, or be guilty of any misbehaviour, it shall and
may be lawful for the commissioners aforesaid, or a major part of them,
at any intermediate time of the year, to remove any of the said watchmen
so appointed, and to employ, hire and appoint, one or more persons fitly
qualified in the room and stead of him or them so dying, neglecting his
duty, or misbehaving, as aforesaid.

III. And be it enacted, That each of the commissioners aforesaid for Their powers,
&c.
the time being, shall have all the powers and jurisdictions of a justice of
the peace within said town, and they, or a major part of them, shall
have full power and authority to appoint any number of persons of good
character, to be constables in said town.

IV. And be it enacted, That the commissioners aforesaid, or a major To appoint
stands for
watchmen,
&c.
part of them, shall, as soon as they conveniently can, direct and set down
in writing, at what stands it is fit for the said watchmen to be placed,
how often they shall go the rounds, and also appoint the rounds each
watchman is to go, and shall, from time to time, make such further and
other orders and regulations for the better government of the said watch-
men, as the nature of the case shall require.

V. And be it enacted, That a true copy of all orders, regulations, no- Orders to be
copied, &c.
minations and appointments, which shall from time to time be so made
for the better direction and government of the watchmen, shall be fairly
printed or written, and signed by the commissioners aforesaid, or a major
part of them, and shall be delivered to the watchmen aforesaid.

VI. And be it enacted, That one or more of the constables in said Constables to
attend, &c.
town, as by orders and regulations shall be thought necessary, shall attend
at the court-house, or some other convenient place to be appointed by the
commissioners, or a major part of them, aforesaid, shall appoint, and
keep watch and ward in manner following, to wit: From the tenth of
September to the tenth of March in every year, from eight in the even-
ing to six in the morning; and from the tenth of March to the tenth of
September