

VII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That when the said justices shall meet in session at their levy court, they, or a majority of them, shall, on application in writing, signed by two thirds of the inhabitants of any hundred through which any roads pass, to widen and streighten any old road laid out as a public road, shall appoint three discreet persons, freeholders in the said county, as commissioners, not holding any part of the lands through which the said road or roads may pass, nor related to the person or persons holding the land that may be affected by the running of the said roads, to view, survey and plot, the said road so applied for, and make a return thereof to the said court at their next meeting, who, on receiving such plot or plots, shall examine the same, and all the evidence that shall or may be offered for or against the said road or roads, as returned, and may reject or confirm the same as a public road, or may direct the said commissioners to alter and amend the said plot, and when so amended, may reject or confirm the same, and when confirmed, shall accordingly direct the commissioners to mark and bound the said road or roads, not exceeding thirty feet in width, clear of ditches, and direct a supervisor or supervisors to clear and improve the same, in the same manner, and on the same terms, as other roads, and upon completing the same, it shall be deemed a public road, and be kept in repair as all other public roads in said county are by this law directed; provided, that notice be set up in writing, by advertisement, at least three weeks, in the most public places in such hundred or hundreds, by some one inhabitant or inhabitants thereof, (previous to their offering a petition or petitions,) declaring their intention to apply to the justices of the levy court for the purposes aforesaid.

C H A P.
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On application,
to appoint persons,
&c.

VIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That whenever any old road shall be altered in its breadth or direction as aforesaid, the justices aforesaid may agree with the persons over whose land such road or roads may pass for the amount of the damages sustained, but if no agreement be made, they shall issue their warrant, directed to the sheriff of the said county, commanding him to summon and return a jury of twelve good and lawful men of the said county, not interested or related to the party or parties, to be and appear before one of the said justices on the premises, at a certain day in the said warrant to be expressed, which jury, on their oath or affirmation, shall inquire who is or are the owner or owners of the land over which any road or roads so widened or laid out shall pass, and what damages such owner or owners will actually suffer from the passage of such road or roads over the said land, the said jury taking into consideration all conveniencies and inconveniencies, advantages and disadvantages, if any, arising thereby or therefrom, by the improvement of said road, and the sheriff shall return the inquisition of the jury aforesaid, under his hand and seal, to the next levy court, and the amount of damages therein expressed, if any, shall be paid by order of the said court out of the monies to be levied as aforesaid, but no road shall be made to run through any building, enclosed yard, garden, meadow or orchard, without the consent of the owner, nor shall any field in which grain, hemp, flax, tobacco, or other cultivated articles, are growing, be laid open until after the season for collecting and securing the crop growing in such field.

And agree for
damages, &c.

IX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the warrants shall be made out for the supervisors by the clerk of the said county, and by him delivered to the sheriff of the county within ten days after they shall be ordered by the said court, under the penalty of fifteen dollars for each warrant so ordered and not delivered by the clerk, and the like penalty of fifteen dollars for each warrant received by the sheriff, and not delivered by him within ten days to the supervisor, to be recovered before a single magistrate, as in the case of small debts out of court, and applied towards clearing and amending the public roads.

Warrants to be
made out, &c.

X. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any of the said supervisors shall not sufficiently clear and amend the said public roads within his district, within a reasonable time after it shall be out of repair, or shall not streighten the said public roads, as marked and bounded by the commissioners, or shall suffer any fallen trees, or other obstruction, to remain in or across any of the said public roads, whereby any waggon, cart or other carriage, may be obstructed for two days together, he having notice thereof, or shall neglect to fall all dead trees on either side of the said public roads, whose limbs hang over, and may by their falling injure travellers, or lop or cut off all limbs or branches of trees hanging or projecting over the road, within fifteen feet above the surface thereof, or shall suffer any of the bridges or causeways to be out of good repair, or otherwise fail to perform the duties of a supervisor, he shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding fifteen dollars for every such offence, to be recovered and applied as aforesaid.

Penalty on supervisors for
neglect, &c.

XI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That any of the justices of the peace of the said county, who, upon his own view, or on the information, oath or affirmation, of one or more credible witnesses, shall discover or be satisfied that any bridge, road or causeway, is out of repair from neglect of duty of

Justice may issue his warrant,
&c.