

county court, shall forfeit and pay a fine, in the discretion of the court, not exceeding the sum of fifty dollars, according to the nature of the offence.

C H A P.
LXXXI.

XIX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That where any person or persons have built, or shall build, in the county aforesaid, a mill or mills on any branch or run where any public or main road crossed, or shall cross, and have erected, or shall erect, any dam for such mill or mills, such person or persons, as the owner, possessor or occupier of such mill or mills, shall and they are hereby obliged to make the top of the said dam twelve feet wide at the least, and make good and substantial bridges over the waste and race of the said mills and dams, and the same keep in good repair; and where any mill hereafter to be erected shall obstruct any public road, and it shall be thought convenient by the levy court where such mill is so erected, that the said public road shall pass below the dam of the said mill, or where such public road now passes below the dam of any such mill or mills, that then and in such case the owner or owners, possessor or occupier, of such mill or mills, shall and they are hereby required to raise and make a good and sufficient causeway or causeways across the branch or run on which the said mill is built, twelve feet wide at the least, and make a good and substantial bridge over the tail of the said mill, and the same keep in good repair; and if the owner or owners, possessor or occupier, of any such mill or mills, shall refuse or neglect to do what is by this act required, and shall be thereof legally convicted, he, she or they, shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding forty dollars for each neglect or offence; provided, that such person or persons, owner or owners, possessor or occupier, of such mill or mills, shall not be obliged to work upon, or send any of their labourers or hands who shall reside in the precinct of such public road to work on, any part of such road, except such mill-dam, causeway, race and waste, as aforesaid.

Top of dams to be made twelve feet wide, &c.

XX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That where any person or persons have built, or shall hereafter build or erect, any mill in the county aforesaid, on any branch or run below the places where public or main roads did or shall cross such branch or run, and by the building and erecting of such mill, or dam for the same, the public or main road which crossed, or shall cross, the branch or run as aforesaid, is or shall be any way affected or injured, or the passage therein any way obstructed or rendered difficult or incommodious, such person or persons, or the owner, possessor or occupier, of such mill or mills, shall and they are hereby obliged, by the last day of June next, where such mill or mills have already been built, or within one month after the building of any other mill or mills stopping or impeding the course of the water as aforesaid, to make good and sufficient bridges and causeways, twelve feet wide at the least, over the said branches or runs; at the places where the public or main roads crossed, or shall cross, such branches or runs as aforesaid, and the said bridges and causeways maintain and keep in good repair, under a penalty not exceeding forty dollars for each neglect or offence; provided, that such person or persons, owner or owners, possessor or occupier, of such mill or mills, shall not be obliged to work upon, or send any of their labourers or hands who shall reside in the precinct of such public road to work on, any part of such road, except on such bridges and causeways as aforesaid.

Persons building mills to make good bridges, &c.

XXI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That each and every overseer to be appointed by virtue of this act shall, if they accept of their said appointment, be exempted from serving on juries to the general court for and during the time they shall respectively serve as overseer.

Overseers exempt, &c.

XXII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That from and after the first day of July next, that the act of assembly passed at October session, one thousand seven hundred and four, entitled, An act for the making of highways, and making the heads of rivers, creeks, branches and swamps, passable for horse and foot, and the several supplementary acts thereto, the act passed at September session, one thousand seven hundred and twenty-three, entitled, An act directing the manner of recovery of fines for not appearing at the clearing of the highways, the act of assembly past at October session, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-three, entitled, An act for repairing public roads in this province, and the supplement thereto, the act passed at November session, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four, entitled, An act relating to public roads in this state, and to repeal the acts of assembly therein mentioned, and the supplements thereto, so far as they relate to Kent county, be and the same are hereby repealed.

Several acts repealed.

C H A P. LXXXII.

An ACT for appointing a wreck-master in Worcester county.

WHEREAS from the exposure of the south-east bounds of Worcester county to the Atlantic ocean, many vessels have been and may hereafter be stranded on the sea-coast in the county aforesaid, and the goods, or other property, belonging to such vessel or vessels may be embezzled and

Passed 3d of
Jan. 1800.
Preamble.