

pany, to be by them employed as labourers upon the public works of the said company on the Shenandoah, and elsewhere in the state of Virginia, and doubts having arisen whether the said slaves can, under the existing laws of this state, be brought back to this state, after a year's residence in the state of Virginia, without being entitled to freedom: And whereas it appears both reasonable and proper that citizens of this state should be allowed the privilege of hiring their slaves to the best advantage, when no injury to the state can result therefrom, and that every facility should be given to works of public utility; therefore,

G H A P.  
LXXXIX.

II. BE IT ENACTED, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That it shall and may be lawful for the Patowmack company to hire any male slave or slaves, the property of any citizen of this state, and to employ every such slave on any part of the works of which they may have the superintendence and direction within the state of Virginia, and that no slave now employed, or who may hereafter be employed, by the Patowmack company as aforesaid, shall in any manner be entitled to his freedom when brought back to the state of Maryland; provided nevertheless, that in case any slave or slaves thus employed and hired shall not be brought back to this state within the term of twelve months after the completion of such works, this act shall in no manner affect the rights of such slave to freedom.

Slaves may be hired, &c.

C H A P. XC.

A Further supplement to an act, entitled, An act relating to negroes, and to repeal the acts of assembly therein mentioned.

Passed January 19, 1805.

BE IT ENACTED, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That if any person shall apply, by petition in writing, to the county court of the county wherein such person shall reside, setting forth, that any negro or mulatto, to whose services he was or is entitled for a limited time or number of years, has run away or departed from the service of such person, during such time of servitude, it shall be lawful for such court, on being satisfied of the truth of the facts set forth in such petition, and that such departure from service hath not been caused by the ill treatment or misconduct of the petitioner, or person under whom he or she claims, to adjudge such negro or mulatto to serve the person petitioning, or his lawful assigns, such length of time after such negro or mulatto would have been entitled to freedom, or for such length of time after the date of the judgment, as justice and equity may require, and as the court, under all circumstances, shall think reasonable; provided, that no negro or mulatto so adjudged, shall be liable to be sold or assigned to any person residing out of this state.

Persons may apply in writing, &c.

C H A P. XCI.

An ACT to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road to lead from the cross roads near Richard Caton's limekiln, in Baltimore county, nearly in the direction of Jones's Falls, to the city of Baltimore.

Passed January 19, 1805.

WHEREAS it has been represented to this general assembly, that the inhabitants on Jones's Falls are not accommodated with a good road, affording an easy transportation for their produce to the city of Baltimore, and that a turnpike road would greatly add to the interests of the farmers generally; therefore,

Preamble.

II. BE IT ENACTED, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That a company shall be incorporated for making a turnpike road for the accommodation of the inhabitants on Jones's Falls, and the country adjacent, to be called The Falls Turnpike Road, and the following persons, to wit, John Taggart, William Clemm, senior, John Hosselbach, George Grandy and Edward Johnson, are nominated and appointed commissioners to mark and lay off the said road on or near the stream of Jones's Falls, beginning for the same at the ford by Messieurs Patterson and Stricker's mill, and running thence northerly on and as near to the said Falls as may be found practicable for a good road, passing over the Bare Hills, to the westward of Benjamin Bowen's house, until it reaches the bend, running westerly on or near to the land of Job Hunt, and from thence to the cross roads by the limekiln of Richard Caton; and the said road shall be laid off sixty feet wide, including a ditch on each side; and the said commissioners, in laying off the said road, shall not pass through any orchard, garden, meadow or grain-field, whilst the crop is thereon, without the consent of the owner; and for making the said road, a subscription shall be opened for a capital of thirty thousand dollars, in shares of one hundred dollars each, under the direction and management of John Hollins, William Cooke, James R. Boyd, Thomas Dickson and James Ellicott, in the city of Baltimore, who shall for this purpose,

Company to be incorporated, &c.