

C H A P. XCI.

An ACT to provide for the erection of a new court-house for Baltimore county.

Passed 27th of
January, 1806.

WHEREAS the existing court-house of Baltimore county is in a state of ruinous decay, and the public records therein deposited considerably endangered; therefore,

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Thomas M. Elderry, Thomas Rutter, Thomas Dixon, Alexander M. Kim, John M. Kim, junior, William C. Goldsmith, Robert Stewart, Henry Payson and William Jessop, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners to contract for and superintend the building of a new court-house on the public ground now belonging to said county, situated at the north end of the dwelling occupied by John Hollins, Esquire, upon such terms, and in such manner, as to them shall seem most advantageous to the community.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the levy court of Baltimore county be and they are hereby authorised and required to assess and levy upon the assessable property of said county, in five successive equal annual instalments, the sum of fifty thousand dollars, the first instalment to be assessed by the said court at their first session after the passage of this act for the purpose of laying the county levy, and to be collected by the collector of said county.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That it shall be the duty of the levy court to take bond and sufficient security, in the name of the levy court of Baltimore county, for the collection and payment of the said sum of money to the commissioners aforesaid, or their assignees, at the time the public levy of Baltimore county is by law directed to be collected and paid; and in case the said bond shall be forfeited, it shall and may be lawful for the levy court of said county, and they are hereby directed and required, to order suit or suits to be instituted against the said collector and his securities, or either of them, for the purpose of enforcing the said collection agreeably to the provisions of this act.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That it shall and may be lawful for the levy court of said county to contract and agree with the corporation of the city of Baltimore, for the accommodation of the said corporation in one or more rooms of the said court-house, for the transaction of the business of the said corporation, upon such terms, and upon the payment of such sum of money, as the said contracting parties shall agree and stipulate.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That it shall and may be lawful for the levy court aforesaid to abate the several levies hereby directed in proportion to the amount stipulated to be paid by the said corporation.

VII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said commissioners, or a majority, shall be and they are hereby empowered to borrow, from time to time, such sum or sums of money as they may conceive to be necessary, not exceeding fifty thousand dollars, at an interest not exceeding six *per centum per annum*, which said loan or loans shall be appropriated and applied by them to the erecting of the said court-house; and to insure the repayment of the said sum or sums of money, with the interest thereon, the said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall be and they are hereby authorised to assign and transfer to the lender or lenders thereof, any part or parts of the before-mentioned assessments to be annually collected as aforesaid, which lender or lenders shall, in such case, have all the rights and privileges in enforcing the payment to them of the said assessments, that the commissioners would have had if such transfer had not been made.

VIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the commissioners aforesaid shall annually render to the levy court of Baltimore county a particular account of the receipts and expenditures of all monies intrusted to them, and also the progress and state of the building.

IX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That when the said court-house shall be completed and finished, the said commissioners, or a majority of them, may pull down the old court-house, and sell the materials of the same, the proceeds of which may be applied to discharge any debt contracted for the building the new court-house, over and beyond the sum herein before mentioned.

X. AND BE IT ENACTED, That in case any of the said commissioners shall refuse to act, shall die, resign, or remove out of the county, or be incapable to act, the remaining commissioners, or the major part of them, shall fill up such vacancy.