

Passed Decem-
ber 24, 1810.

An ACT to authorise the filling up and extending of certain Lots on the south side of the Basin in the City of Baltimore.

WHEREAS Christopher Hughes, of the city of Baltimore, by his petition to this general assembly, hath set forth, that for the want of convenient wharfs on the south side of the Basin in said city, that part of the city, and persons trading by water to the said city, are deprived of many advantages which they would otherwise enjoy, and that his property is thereby materially injured, and hath therefore prayed that a law might pass, granting him, as the proprietor of certain water lots, permission to extend and wharf out the same; therefore,

II. BE IT ENACTED, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Christopher Hughes, and any other person or persons who now are, or hereafter may be, the proprietors of lots binding on, and entitled to the privileges of, the water on the south side of the Basin in the city of Baltimore, between Forest-street and Johnson-street, shall be and are hereby permitted to wharf out, extend and improve, the whole front of their several lots respectively, and for such distance as from time to time they may think fit, until they intersect a line extended eastwardly in a right line with and from the north side of Lee-street, provided that the whole front of each lot be extended, and no dock or vacant space left on part thereof, and the proprietors of said wharfs shall be entitled solely and exclusively to the emoluments arising from the wharfage thereof, and shall be subject to the rules and regulations prescribed by the mayor and city council of Baltimore respecting the wharfage thereof.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That William-street and Johnson-street shall be continued and extended their present width to the intersection of the said line extended eastward in a right line with and from the north side of Lee-street, or so far as the proprietors of the lots bordering on the said streets shall extend their said lots, and that the city of Baltimore be and they are hereby at liberty to make a good and sufficient wharf at the end of each of said streets, and to fill up the said streets, so extended, on or before the first day of January, eighteen hundred and thirteen, and if the said city, within the said period, shall not wharf and fill in the same, then the proprietors of the adjoining property, or any of them, may proceed to wharf and fill up the same as far as their lots shall have been wharfed or extended, and shall be allowed a reasonable compensation therefor, by a relinquishment of taxes, by having the mud taken from the Basin deposited under the direction of such person as may undertake to wharf and fill up said streets, at the usual and customary rates, or in such other manner as the mayor and city council of Baltimore shall deem most adviseable for said city, and the said streets, when made as aforesaid, shall be respectively deemed and considered for ever thereafter as public highways, and the mayor and city council, for the use of said city, shall be entitled solely and exclusively to the emoluments arising from the wharfage at the end of said streets.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the sheriff of Baltimore county, after having given at least ten days notice in one of the news-papers of the city of Baltimore, shall at any time before the first day of April next, summon twelve freeholders, inhabitants of the said city, not interested in the premises, who being first sworn to assess and value what damages shall be sustained by any person or persons whomsoever, or the corporation of the city of Baltimore, by reason of extending and wharfing out said lots, (taking all benefits and inconveniencies into consideration,) shall proceed to assess and value what damages may be sustained by the corporation of the city of Baltimore, or any person or persons whomsoever, by extending and wharfing out said lots, and shall also declare what sum of money each individual benefitted thereby shall respectively contribute and pay towards compensating the corporation of the city of Baltimore, or any person or persons injured by extending and wharfing out the said lots; and the names of the person or persons, and the sums of money which they shall respectively be obliged to pay, shall be returned, under their hands and seals, to the register of the said city, to be filed and kept in his office, and the person or persons benefitted by extending and wharfing out said lots, and assessed as aforesaid, shall respectively pay the sum or sums of money so charged and assessed to them, with interest thereon, at the rate of six *per centum* for the time limited for the payment thereof.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the sums of money assessed and charged to each individual benefitted by extending and wharfing out said lots, shall be a lien upon and bind all the property so benefitted thereby to the full amount thereof.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That in case the corporation of the city of Baltimore, or the person or persons injured by extending and wharfing out the said lots, shall not be paid the damages by him or them respectively sustained and assessed as aforesaid, he, she or they, shall and may institute