CHAP. 100.

CHAP. C.

Passed Jan 31 1820 Preamble

An Act to incorporate a Company to erect a Bridge over South River.

WHEREAS the convenience of the public would be greatly promoted by erecting a bridge over South river, and it is expedient to encourage private enterprize by acts of incorporation, the object of which is the advancement of the general good; therefore,

Books to be opened for subscription

1. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That it shall be lawful to open books at the city of Annapolis, under the direction of Henry Maynadier, Lewis Duvall, Richard Harwood, of Thomas, Daniel Murray, and Robert W. Kent, or any two of them; at Queen Anne, under the direction of Francis M. Hall, Richard Estep and John Contee, or any two of them; at Upper Marlborough, under the direction of John R. Magruder, Robert W. Bowie and William Hill, or any two of them; at Bladensburgh, under the direction of Samuel Sprigg, Richard Lowndes and Thomas Bowie, or any two of them; at George-town, in the District of Columbia, under the direction of John Mason, Washington Bowie and Francis S. Key, or any two of them; for receiving and entering subscriptions to the amount of twenty thousand dollars, for the purpose of erecting a toll bridge over South river, which sum shall be divided into one thousand shares of twenty dollars each; every person at the time of subscribing shall pay to some one of the commissioners one dollar upon each share subscribed, and the said commissioners shall pay over what they have respectively received to the president and directors herein after mentioned, so soon as they may be appointed.

To be opened on first Monday of May next

2. And be it enacted, That the books aforesaid shall be opened in the places aforesaid on the first Monday of May next, or at such other time as the said commissioners may deem best, at such particular houses in said places as the commissioners aforesaid in the places aforesaid may appoint by public notice, which books shall be continued open for three successive days and then be closed; and as soon as the books shall be closed in the respective places aforesaid, the several commissioners shall immediately send in to the commissioners aforesaid for the city of Annapolis, the amount subscribed for at the respective places aforesaid, with a list of the subscribers; and if it shall appear that ten thousand dollars or five hundred share's shall have been subscribed for, or whenever that amount and number of shares shall be subscribed for, the said subscribers and stockholders, and those who may thereafter subscribe, shall be and are hereby made a body politic and corporate, by the name and style of The South River Bridge Company, and as such may suc and be sued, implead and be impleaded, and shall have perpetual. succession as such.

When 500 shares have been subscribed, directors to be elected 3. And be it enacted, That if it shall appear to the said commissioners that the aforesaid sum of ten thousand dollars or five hundred shares have been subscribed for, or whenever that sum or that number of shares shall be subscribed for, then the said commissioners, or such of them as may act, or a majority of such of them as may act, shall give public notice for a meeting of the stockholders in the city of Annapolis, who shall in person, or by proxy duly authorised, proceed to elect nine directors to manage the affairs of said company until the next election herein after provided for, who from their own body shall choose a president, and shall appoint a treasu-