

Dec. Ses. 1823

their several subscriptions, and of all monies expended in the prosecution of their said work, and shall at least once in every year submit such accounts to a general meeting of the stockholders.

Dividends.

*And be it enacted,* That the said president, managers and company, shall also keep a just and true account of all the monies to be received by their several and respective collectors of tolls, and shall make a dividend of the clear profits and income thereof, all contingent costs and charges being first deducted, among all the stockholders in proportion to the number of shares by them respectively held, and shall on the first Mondays of January and July, in every year, publish the said yearly dividend to be made of the clear profits among the stockholders, and of the time and place, when and where, the same shall be paid, and shall cause the same to be done accordingly.

Exemption from tolls.

*And be it enacted,* That the proprietors of the said bridge shall in no case demand or receive toll for the passage of the troops in the service of this state, or of the United States, or for any public express or property whatever belonging to this state, — and whereas, it is necessary for the buildings of the said bridge, that provision should be made for condemning a quantity of land sufficient for the abutment and a toll house, as well as for a road to said bridge, if it should be located beyond the present road, — Therefore,

Land for abutments and road.

*Be it enacted,* That it shall and may be lawful for the said president and managers, or a majority of them to agree with the owner or owners of any land on which it is intended to abut the said bridge, and build a toll house, or through which it may be necessary to extend a road, for the purchase thereof, and in case of disagreement or in case the owner or owners thereof shall be a feme covert, under age, non compos, or out of the state, on application to a justice of the peace of Washington County, the said justice shall issue his warrant under his hand to the sheriff of Washington County, to summon a jury of twelve inhabitants of his county, not related to the owner or owners, nor in any manner interested, to meet on the land to be valued, at a day to be expressed in the warrant, not less than ten nor more than twenty days thereafter; and the sheriff upon receiving the said warrant shall forthwith summon the said jury, and when met shall administer an oath of affirmation to every juryman who shall appear, being not less than six in number, that he will faithfully, justly and impartially, value the land required by the company, according to the best of his skill and judgment, and that in such valuation he will not spare any person for favor or affection, nor any person give or receive for malice, hatred or ill-will, and the requisition thereupon taken shall be signed by the sheriff, and some six or more of the jury, and returned by the sheriff to the clerk of his county to be by him recorded; and upon such valuation the jury is hereby directed to describe and ascertain the bounds of the land by them valued, and the nature of the estate required by the company in the same, and their valuation shall be conclusive on all persons, and shall on demand be paid for by the said president and managers to the owner or owners of the land, or his, her or their legal representatives, and on payment, or tender of payment thereof, or deposit of the same in the Hager's Town Bank to the credit of the person or persons entitled thereto, the said company shall be seized of such land as of an absolute estate in perpetuity, as shall be described as aforesaid, as if conveyed by the owner or owners to them; *Provided,* that if the said bridge shall be abutted on the land of any person or persons now own-

Proviso.