

Dec. Ses. 1824

Eastern and
western sec-
tions.

Time limited
for construc-
ting.

Forfeiture of
right.

Western sec-
tion.

Time limited
Forfeiture.
Repairs.

Lateral ca-
nal—States
rights reser-
ved.

20. *And be it enacted,* That the said canal shall be, and the same is hereby divided into two sections, to be denominated first and second, or eastern and western respectively; that the first or eastern section, shall begin at the District of Columbia on tide water, and terminate at or near the bank of Savage river or creek, which empties into the north branch of the Potomac, at the base of the Allegany mountain; that the second or western section shall commence at the said termination, and extend along the valley of Savage river or creek, so far as the same, or any branch thereof, as may reach some convenient point thereon, for connecting the eastern and western waters, by a tunnel through, or an open cut across the dividing ridge between the same, and thence after crossing the said dividing ridge, shall proceed to the highest steam boat navigation of the Ohio river, or of some one tributary stream thereof, in such direction as in the opinion of the said president and directors shall be best calculated for the attainment of the end set forth in the preamble of this act; that the said president and directors shall first construct the eastern section aforesaid, out of the capital stock herein before mentioned; and shall next proceed to construct with all possible dispatch, the western section thereof; in case the said company shall not begin the said work within two years after the company shall have been formed; or if the work, having been so begun, shall not be diligently prosecuted, so that one hundred miles of the said canal, with the adequate locks and incidental improvements, shall not be completed and in fit order for navigation, in the term of five years from the commencement of the work, then all interest of the said company, in the navigation and tolls, shall cease and determine, and their charter shall be thereafter taken to be null and void; and so in like manner shall the said charter be null and void, if the entire eastern section be not completed in the term of twelve years from the said commencement; and should the said company fail to begin the western section of the said canal, in two years after the time allowed as aforesaid for the completion of the eastern section; or having begun the western section, shall fail to complete the same in six years after such beginning, then all right, title and interest of the said company in the said western section, shall cease and determine; and the several states aforesaid shall have full authority to incorporate another company for the completion of such section, or to complete the same in any other mode that they may deem expedient; and if after the completion of the said canal and locks, the president and directors shall fail to keep the same in repair for twelve months at any time, then in like manner the interest of the company in the navigation and tolls shall cease, and their charter be forfeited.

21. *And be it further enacted,* That the right to the waters of the river Potomac, for the purpose of any lateral canal or canals, which the state of Virginia or Maryland may authorise to be made in connection with the said canal, is reserved to the said states respectively; that a similar right is reserved to the state of Pennsylvania in relation to the rivers and streams within the territory of that state, the waters of which may be used in supplying the western section of the said canal; that the government of the United States shall retain the power to extend to the said canal, in or