

county or city therein, nor to take away, modify or restrict the powers of the said local authorities in said Baltimore City, or any other city or county in the State, as such powers existed prior to April 18, 1918, with regard to the imposition of terms and conditions for the grant of any right in, or upon giving their assent to the use of, any portion of any public highways of this State.*

273.

This and the following section held to afford the City of Baltimore ample protection if a new street railway company (not provided for by the act of 1906, chapter 566, dealing with the United Railways and Electric Company) should come into the annexed portion of said city. *Baltimore v. U. Rwys. & E. Co.*, 126 Md. 49.

274.

See notes to sections 269 and 273.

280.

Assuming that this section applies to electric railways, an automobile accident may not be attributed to the absence of the sign provided for by this section where the plaintiff and the chauffeur knew of the proximity of the tracks and did look and listen for a car. *Glick v. Cumb. & W. Elec. Ry. Co.*, 124 Md. 318.

1904, art. 23, sec. 265. 1888, art. 23, sec. 178. 1876, ch. 242, sec. 22. 1890, ch. 553. 1916, ch. 664.

283. It shall be lawful for any Railroad Company heretofore or hereafter incorporated under the Laws of this State to consolidate with any other Railroad Company incorporated under the Laws of this State, or any other State, or of the United States, whose railroad within or without this State shall, either directly or by means of intervening line of railroad, connect with or form a continuous line with the railroad of the Company so consolidating upon such terms as may be agreed upon; provided, however, that the agreement for such consolidation shall be submitted to the stockholders of the Railroad Company incorporated under the laws of this State at a special meeting called for considering the same, and shall be sanctioned by the holders of a majority of the stock of such Company, and if sanctioned at such meeting by such holders of a majority of the stock, shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of State of this State; and provided further, that such agreement shall contain no provisions in conflict with the provisions of this Article, or which shall exempt such railroad so far as it lies in this State from the operation of the laws of this State, and nothing in this Section shall be construed to authorize the consolidation of any Railroad Companies owning or operating competing or parallel roads or parallel lines of railroad, which is hereby declared to be unlawful and expressly pro-

*Section 2 of the act of 1918, chapter 307, provides that any railroad company which avails itself of said act "shall be deemed thereby to have surrendered any exemption from taxation which it may have."