

"Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the clerk of the court of common pleas, of Baltimore city, and the clerks of the circuit courts of the several counties of this State, may issue licenses for selling and trading in oysters in the shell.

"Sec. 2. A license shall contain the names of not more than two persons, and no more than one boat or vessel, and shall specify the length, breadth and general description of said boat or vessel, where the said boat or vessel shall not be regularly enrolled or licensed; but where said boat or vessel is regularly enrolled or licensed, then said enrollment or license shall be deemed sufficient for the purposes of this act.

"Sec. 3. The person or persons obtaining a license, shall pay for the same at the following rates, that is to say: for all batteaux, canoes or other vessels of not more than five tons, the sum of five dollars; over five tons and less than ten tons, the sum of ten dollars; and for all vessels over ten tons, at the rate of one dollar per ton; provided, however, that any person or persons not residents of this State, shall pay for said license double the rates named in this section.

"Sec. 4. No person shall sell or trade in oysters (in the shell) either directly or indirectly, without having first obtained a license for said purpose; and any person so offending shall be fined not less than twenty dollars nor more than one hundred dollars for every offence, one-half for the use of the State, the other half for the use of the person prosecuting for the same. Nothing in the above section shall apply to vessels purchasing oysters for direct transportation beyond the limits of the State.

"Sec. 5. The Governor, on or before the 30th day of April next, shall appoint one person—to serve till the 30th day of April, 1864, unless sooner removed, and biennially thereafter, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, on or before the 1st day of March,—as inspector of licenses; to be located and stationed in the city of Baltimore, whose duty it shall be to examine the licenses of all vessels which he may have reason to believe are engaged in selling or trading in oysters; and a refusal of the captain or owner to show said license, when called upon by said inspector, shall be deemed sufficient evidence of the violation of this act, and may subject such captain or owner to prosecution for the same; and the said license inspector shall receive the sum of eight hundred dollars per annum, to be paid quarterly, out of the funds accruing from the sale of said licenses.

"Sec. 6. This act shall take effect from the 30th day of April next."