

Dec. Ses. 1817

ing a reasonable compensation to their surveyor and clerk, whom they are hereby authorised to employ, and of the expenses incurred in pursuance of an act, entitled, An act for the opening and extending Pratt-street, in the city of Baltimore, passed at November session eighteen hundred and eleven, which shall be paid to the parties respectively entitled to receive the same, of which said sum one-third shall be paid by the mayor and city council of Baltimore, and they shall then proceed to assess the residue of the said sum upon the property benefited by the opening and extension of the said street, having regard to all circumstances; and having completed the said estimate and assessment, the said commissioners shall make a full and particular report thereof, under their hands and seals, to Baltimore county court, designating precisely the property ascertained to be injured, and the property assessed as benefited, and the names of the proprietors of both species of property, as fully as they can ascertain the same, and the relative or respective rights of such proprietors.

If any person conceives himself aggrieved, judges to decide.

5. *And be it enacted*, That the clerk of Baltimore county court shall publish notice of the report being returned as aforesaid, within five days after the said return, in all the newspapers printed in the said city; and if any person or body corporate shall conceive himself, herself or themselves, aggrieved by the award in such report, he, she or they, may petition the judges of Baltimore county court to review the same, who thereupon shall proceed to examine fully the subject, and for that purpose they are hereby authorised and empowered to summon witnesses, to call for papers, and to hear the representations of parties, and finally to decide upon the subject matter, and to alter, modify and correct the said report, in all or any of its parts, as to them shall seem just and equitable, giving to all parties affected by any proposed modification, reasonable notice; the said court shall allow costs against the parties controverting the said report, to the clerk, in their discretion; and after all applications for a review shall have been disposed of, and the report of the commissioners shall have been finally approved of and passed by the said court, they shall order the said report, as finally acted on, to be recorded by their clerk, at the cost of the city, authenticated copies of which shall be good evidence in all the courts of this state and elsewhere; provided that all petitions for a review shall be lodged in writing with the clerk within thirty days after his first publication of the report being returned; and the said court shall decide finally thereon, within ninety days from the day on which the said report is returned.

Street to be opened and extended.

6. *And be it enacted*, That at the expiration of ninety-five days after the report of the commissioners as aforesaid shall have been decided on by Baltimore county court, the city commissioners and port wardens of the city of Baltimore, shall proceed to open and extend Pratt-street in the manner prescribed in the first section of this act, and conformably with the plot returned by the commissioners aforesaid, with as little delay as practicable; and they shall have full authority to remove all buildings and obstructions in the way of the said street between Light-street and Franklin Lane aforesaid, or lying south thereof, and may dispose of the materials of the buildings so to be removed, for the benefit of the city, unless the commissioners shall have otherwise disposed of them in their