

Dec Ses 1817. Lowndes, in the town of Bladensburgh, or such of them as will consent to act, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners, and they, or a majority of them, in each place, are hereby authorised and empowered to open subscriptions on the first Monday in May next, in each of the several places aforesaid, for stock not exceeding eight hundred thousand dollars, in shares of fifty dollars each, for the purpose of making a canal from the point on the Severn river, to the navigable water of Curtis's creek, or other more convenient tide water of the Patapsco, and also from a point on the Severn river to the Eastern Branch; and said commissioners shall give thirty days notice in the newspapers published in Baltimore, Washington and Annapolis, previously to the first Monday in May aforesaid, of the place where such subscriptions shall be received.

Bodies politic authorised to subscribe

Books to be open 3 days

Two and a half dollars on each share to be paid at time of subscribing.

Subscribers incorporated; style—effect in law.

President and directors, their powers.

2. *And be it enacted,* That all individuals and bodies politic and corporate, be and they are hereby authorised and empowered to subscribe for such amount of said stock as they may think proper.

3. *And be it enacted,* That the said commissioners shall keep the said subscription books open on the day which is herein before appointed, and for the two succeeding days, from ten o'clock in the morning till four in the afternoon.

4. *And be it enacted,* That every subscriber, at the time of subscribing, shall pay to the commissioners of the place at which he shall subscribe, on each share subscribed, the sum of two and a half dollars, for which the said commissioners shall give a certificate as the evidence of such subscription and payment.

5. *And be it enacted,* That the subscribers aforesaid, and such as may according to the provisions herein after contained become stockholders, and their successors, shall be and they are hereby made and declared to be a body politic and corporate, under the name of The President and Directors of the Washington and Baltimore Canal Company, and by that name shall be and are hereby made capable in law to have, purchase, receive, possess and enjoy, to them and their successors, lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods, chattels and effects, of what kind, nature or quality soever, and the same to grant, demise, convey and dispose of; to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended, in any court of record, or any place whatever; and also to make, have and use, a common seal, and the same to break, alter and renew at pleasure; and also to ordain, establish, and put in execution, such by-laws, ordinances and regulations, as shall seem necessary and convenient for the government of said corporation, and the management and conduct of their affairs, provided the same be not contrary to law and the constitution of the state.

6. *And be it enacted,* That the persons heretofore appointed to act as commissioners in the city of Annapolis shall, after the said subscriptions are closed, and the same are returned by the other commissioners, (which they are hereby directed to do as soon as it can be done) shall give eight days notice in the public newspapers in Baltimore, Annapolis and Washington, to the subscribers, to assemble at some place in the city of Annapolis on a day by them to be appointed, to elect twelve directors, which said directors shall, as soon after their election as may be, proceed to elect from among the stockholders a fit and proper person to be presi-