

No. 177.

AN ACT

Declaring Big Sugar creek, in Venango county, and Muddy creek, in Crawford county, public highways.

SECT. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That from and after the passing of this act, Big Sugar creek, in Venango county, from the mouth thereof, and up the said stream, as far as the mouth of Proper's run, and Muddy creek, in the county of Crawford, from the mouth of Hutchin's run, up said creek, so far as the east line of donation tract, number one hundred and twenty-one, of five hundred acres, be and the same are hereby declared public highways, and it shall and may be lawful for any person or persons desirous of improving, or using the navigation of said streams to remove thereout, all obstructions, except mill dams already built, on which dams any such person or persons as aforesaid, shall have full power to make slopes, such as are hereinafter described, and to keep the same in repair for the passage of boats, rafts, and other crafts: *Provided,* Proviso. Such slopes shall not injure said dams.

SECT. 2. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That nothing contained in this act, shall be deemed, taken or understood to prevent any person or persons, owning or possessing lands, on or adjoining said creeks, who, independent of the passage of this act, would have a right, under the general laws of this commonwealth, to erect a dam or dams across the said streams, from erecting such dam or dams: *Provided nevertheless,* That every such dam or dams, be constructed with a proper slope or slopes, erected in the most convenient parts thereof, so that boats, rafts, and other crafts, may not be obstructed in passing down the said creeks, which slope shall be at least thirty feet wide, and placed so as to be one foot lower than the other parts, of the said dam, the surface of which slope or slopes, shall be composed of wood, or other materials, well compacted together, so that none of the water may be lost in passing down the same, and for every foot said slope or slopes shall be in height, it shall extend fifteen feet down the stream.

FREDK. SMITH,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

WM. G. HAWKINS,

Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED—The second day of April, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one.

GEO. WOLF.