

## CHAPTER MMCXIII.

## AN ACT DECLARING BIG SCHUYLKILL A PUBLIC HIGHWAY.

[Section I.] (Section I, P. L.) 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 Schuylkill, from the mouth of Norwegian creek, where it empties into said river, up to where the Catawissa road crosses the same, shall be, and the same is hereby, declared a public highway, for the passage of boats and rafts, under the limitations and restrictions hereinafter specified; and it shall and may be lawful for the inhabitants desirous of using the navigation of the said stream to remove all natural and artificial obstructions out of the same, from the mouth of Norwegian creek up to the said road, and to erect such slopes and locks at the mill-dams now built, as may be necessary for the passage of boats and rafts, provided such slopes and locks shall be so constructed as not to injure the works of said dams.

[Section II.] (Section II, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That nothing in this act contained shall be deemed, taken or understood to prevent any person or persons possessing lands on the said river, who, before the passing of this act, had authority under the laws of this commonwealth to erect a dam or dams, from erecting any such dam or dams that or she may think proper. Provided always, That such dam or dams be so constructed and kept in repair, with a proper slope or slopes, and a lock or locks, whereby the navigation of the said river will not be injured, nor the passage of fish prevented.