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ART. I.—RIGHTS OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.

[We have been favored by a correspondent in Baltimore with the following opinion of Judge Archer. The decision is one of general interest, and is, as our correspondent justly observes, 'a happy application of our peculiar principles of political right and liberty to a case of private concern.']

Baltimore County Court, *March Term*, 1828.

Before the Hon. STEPHENSON ARCHER, Chief Judge of the Sixth Judicial District of Maryland.

Barron & Craig v. The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore.

THIS was an action on the case brought against the corporation of Baltimore for an injury done to the wharf-interest of the plaintiffs. Their wharf is on the Patapsco River, on navigable water within the harbor of Baltimore and the city limits. The wrong complained of was the diversion of certain streams from their natural channel to a point near the wharf in question, to which point a large deposit of sand and earth was carried down by the streams, and thus lessened the depth of water at the wharf, and materially impaired its revenue and permanent value. These streams were so turned from their natural and ancient course, under authority of ordinances of the City Councils of Baltimore, acting within the defined scope of their charter and of their municipal legislation. The right of establishing the grades of streets and regulating their paving, the care of the health of the city, and the superintendence and preservation of the navigation of the harbor, are all admitted