

1784.
 Summary mode
 established for
 ascertaining da-
 mages, &c.

SECT. XVIII. *Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the party injured by such accident or negligence, and claiming redress, shall and may apply to the President, or attending Member of the Board of Wardens, stating his claim of redress, and pointing out the person or persons from whom the same is demanded, which President or attending Member is authorized and required to appoint a time and place for the hearing and determination of such claim, of which notice shall be given in writing by the party claiming to the adverse party, at least twenty four hours before the time so appointed; and the said President or attending Member, calling to his assistance any two of the Wardens, shall form a competent Board for the business, and after due information by examination of witnesses, inspection, survey, or such other proper means as the case may require, shall adjudge and award such recompence for the damages sustained, as they, or the majority of them shall think just and reasonable, to be paid by one party to the other for the same, together with such reasonable expences as may have been incurred in obtaining such information; and such award certified under the hands of the Wardens who shall have made the same, shall be final and conclusive to the parties, and shall be taken and deemed to be sufficient evidence of a debt incurred to maintain and support an action in any court where the same may be cognizable, and the party injured may prosecute thereon accordingly, by summons or *capias* as the case may require, or by attachment of the vessel which occasioned such damages at his option:

Proviso.

SECT. XIX. *Provided always,* That nothing herein contained shall be deemed or construed to prevent the parties from settling and determining such matter by compromise, or in such other mode as they shall by mutual consent agree upon.

SECT. XX. AND WHEREAS it is just and reasonable that the said Wardens should receive a competent allowance for their time, trouble and services in the performance of the duties required of them:

Pay of the Wardens, &c.

SECT. XXI. *Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That in lieu of the fees and allowance mentioned in the third section of the act herein before recited and referred to, the President or other Warden, who shall be the attending Member for the time being as aforesaid, shall have and receive for every day he shall so attend, the sum of seven shillings and six pence; and each and every of the said Wardens shall have and receive the sum of five shillings for every day he shall be employed in any other of the duties and services of a Warden, to be paid by the Collector of the duties of tonnage out of the fund arising from the said duties, on warrants granted by order of the said Board of Wardens, and signed by the President at any of their quarterly meetings; and to the Clerk of the said Board shall be allowed and paid out of the said fund, on warrants to be issued in like manner, such reasonable sum as the said Board of Wardens shall certify is justly due, as an allowance for office rent, fire, candles, stationery and other proper