

ANTEBELLUM ROAD UPKEEP

Edwin Eugene Ott, 20161027

An Ordinance to Raise Supplies for the Town of Laurensville for the year 1860, Section 1, published in the Laurensville Herald on June 22, 1858, stated that:

"Whereas all male white citizens between the ages of 16 and 50 years, and all slaves between the ages of 16 and 60 years are required by the laws of the State, to work on the roads full twelve days in each and every year. Be it therefore ordained, that each and every person so liable to work on the roads and streets of said town, may and shall be exempt from the performance of such duty, upon the payment to the Town Clerk of Two Dollars and Fifty Cents, within the time prescribed by said Clerk or, shall, when summoned to work on said roads and streets, be required to work full three days in each and every quarter, under the direction of overseers appointed for that purpose. And, if any person shall refuse or neglect to work on the roads and streets when summoned, such person or persons shall be fined not less than Two Dollars for each and every day that he or they shall refuse or neglect to work as aforesaid. And it shall be the duty of the Clerk to report all defaulters under this section."