

CHAPTER 69.

A SUPPLEMENT to an Act, entitled, an Act concerning Crimes and Punishments, passed December session, eighteen hundred and thirty-five, chapter two hundred.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That in all cases wherein any free negro or free mulatto convict, shall be ordered to be sold without the limits of the state, pursuant to the provisions of the third section of an act of assembly, passed at December session, eighteen hundred and thirty-five, chapter two hundred, to which this is a supplement, there shall be allowed and paid, by the sheriff or other officer making said sale, out of the proceeds thereof, after defraying the expenses of the prosecution of the said free negroes or mulattoes, to the officer or officers apprehending and prosecuting said free negroes or mulattoes to conviction, one-fourth of the proceeds of said sale, and the balance shall be paid into the state treasury.

Case of sale of convict.

One-fourth of proceeds as compensation.

Balance to the treasury.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That of the moneys so paid into the state treasury, as provided for in the preceding section, the treasurer of the western shore shall apply so much as may be required for the payment of the interest on the loan hitherto contracted for the benefit of the Maryland Penitentiary, as the said interest may accrue; and the balance, if any, after the payment of the said interest, shall apply to the reduction of said loan, as far as said balance may avail; *And provided further,* that if for any cause the said loan cannot be reduced at that time, it shall be the duty of the treasurer of the western shore, after the payment of the interest as herein before provided, to invest the balance of said moneys in stocks of this state, to be set apart as a sinking fund, to meet the payment of said loan or loans, at the time or times fixed for the payment thereof.

Treasurer shall apply said proceeds to the payment of interest on loan to penitentiary.

Or principal

Or invest in state stock.

CHAPTER 114.

AN ACT to protect the Reputations of Unmarried Women.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That from and after the passage of this act, all words spoken maliciously touching the character, or reputation for chastity of a feme sole, and tending to the injury thereof, shall be deemed slander, and shall be treated as such in the several courts of law in this state.

Malicious words, &c.

Deemed slander.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That it shall and may be lawful for any feme sole of this state, whose character or reputation as a woman of chastity may be traduced or defamed by any person or persons, to sustain an action of slander against such person or persons, before a court and jury of the state, and to

Feme sole may institute suit.