

C H A P. XIX.

An ACT to prevent distilling grain into spirit.

To be in force at the end of 20 days, after proclamation by the executive, that similar laws have taken place in Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Delaware; and the restriction is to prevail until the first of July next. But, by the act of March, 1779, ch. 1, the restriction commenced after the last day of that month, and prevailed the aforesaid limited time. It was afterwards revived by the act of July, 1779, ch. 1, to prevail from the 14th of August to the 15th of November.

C H A P. XX.

An ACT directing the manner of suing public bonds, and to aid proceedings in the several courts upon such bonds.

WHEREAS since the establishment of the present government, it is doubted whether suits can be maintained upon administration, testamentary, sheriffs, and other public bonds, in the name of the late proprietary, and it is also doubted whether suits now depending on such bonds can be prosecuted to judgment: And whereas the people of this state are much interested in such bonds;

Preamble.

II. Be it therefore enacted, by the general assembly of Maryland, That it shall and may be lawful for any person or persons, who are or may be interested in such bonds, to obtain copy or copies thereof, and to sue in his, her, or their own name or names, for the penalty of such bonds, in which suits it shall be sufficient to declare that such bond or bonds were made and passed to the obligee in such bonds named, whereby action accrued to the party suing the same, to have and demand from the obligor or obligors therein mentioned, the penalty in such bond mentioned, and such proceeding shall be had thereon as will bring the matter in dispute between the parties fairly to issue, and judgment shall be given for the sum justly due to the plaintiff.

Persons interested in bonds may obtain copies, &c.

III. And be it enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That all suits now depending upon such bonds, shall and may be proceeded on to judgment and execution, in the name or names of the plaintiff or plaintiffs in the original writs mentioned.

Suits may be proceeded on, &c.

IV. And be it enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That the several and respective officers, who may have the keeping of such bonds, shall deliver copies of the same under seal to any person or persons who may apply for the same, he, she or they, paying to such officer therefor, the sum of ten shillings current money. And no suit upon any such bond shall abate by the death of the late proprietary.

Officers to deliver copies, &c.

V. And be it enacted, That no plea of *non est factum* shall be received in any suit upon any administration, testamentary, sheriffs, or other public bonds, unless the same be verified by the affidavit of the party offering to plead the same.

No plea, &c. to be received, &c.

C H A P. XXI.

An ACT for amending and declaring the law in the cases therein mentioned.

WHEREAS by the act, entitled, An act causing grand and petit jurors to come to the provincial and county courts, and ascertaining their allowances, it is among other things provided, that no person having any matter of fact depending for trial in any court whatsoever, shall be admitted as a qualified juror, between party and party, during the sitting of such court that such matter of fact shall be, or shall be expected to be tried in:

Preamble.

II. Be it enacted and declared, by the general assembly of Maryland, That no verdict of a jury shall hereafter be set aside, nor judgment on any verdict stayed, arrested or reversed, by reason that any juror who tried the cause had a matter of fact depending for trial as aforesaid.

No verdict to be set aside, &c.

III. Provided nevertheless, That it shall and may be lawful, to and for the plaintiff or defendant, in any cause to be tried in any of the said courts, to challenge any juror by reason that such juror hath a matter of fact depending for trial

Proviso.