

C H A P.
XVI.
Justices to levy money, &c.

XXIII. *And be it enacted*, That the justices of the said counties respectively, until the end of the year seventeen hundred and ninety, shall and they are hereby empowered and directed to levy annually, in the usual manner, in their respective county, exclusive of the money to be levied for the building and providing for the poor-houses, such sums of money as shall, to the trustees of the poor in said counties respectively, appear proper and necessary for the subsistence and accommodation of their poor, not exceeding three shillings and nine-pence in the hundred pounds; which said sums, when collected, shall be paid by the collector to the order of such trustees, or the major part of them, under their common seal, who are hereby authorized and required to receive and apply the same to the use and purposes as is directed to be done in the ninth clause of the above recited act.

C H A P. XVII.

An ACT concerning pardons.

Passed December 15

Preamble.

WHEREAS it hath been doubted whether conditions contained in pardons of offenders capitally convicted are effectual, nor is any provision made by law to reconcile the interest of the owner of a convicted slave with a conditional pardon on departing the state:

Governor may pardon on condition, &c.

II. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, and it is hereby declared*, That the governor of this state may, in his discretion, grant to any offender capitally convicted a pardon, on condition contained therein, and that such condition is and shall be effectual as a condition, according to the intent thereof.

Slaves being pardoned on condition, sheriff to take security, &c.

III. *And be it enacted*, That if such offender shall be a slave, and the condition of such pardon shall be on leaving this state, or on transportation, the governor may direct the sheriff, in whose custody such offender shall be, to contract and take proper security for the transportation of such slave, agreeably to the condition of his pardon; and the sheriff may either sell such slave subject to such condition, or empower some other person to sell him in the place to which he shall be transported, for the benefit of the state, and the owner of such slave shall be paid as if the same slave had been executed.

Persons pardoned may be arrested on returning, &c.

IV. *And be it enacted*, That if any person, pardoned on condition of leaving this state, shall return contrary thereto, such person may be arrested by warrant from any judge or justice of the peace, and if, on examination, it shall appear to such judge or justice, that there is reasonable ground to believe that the person arrested is the same person who was convicted and pardoned, and that he returned contrary to the terms of such pardon, he shall be committed to close custody in the prison of the county where arrested, and the sheriff shall bring him before the general court, or the county court, which shall first happen after such commitment, and if, on appearing, such person shall acknowledge himself to be the same person convicted and pardoned on condition of leaving the state, and that he returned contrary thereto, the court shall record such confession, and proceed to pass such judgment as the law requires for the crime committed, and if the person shall deny that he is the same person convicted and pardoned on condition, or that he returned contrary thereto, the court shall direct the fact to be tried by a jury with all convenient speed, and if they find against the person, the court shall pass such judgment as the law requires for the crime committed.

C H A P. XVIII.

An ACT for the relief of the poor of Cæcil county.

Passed December 16.

An alms-house to be erected, &c.

BE it enacted, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That an alms and work-house shall be erected in Cæcil county, at such place as the trustees hereafter named, or a major part of them, may direct; and, until money can be procured for erecting the necessary buildings, the said trustees, or a major part of them, may rent convenient buildings in said county for the purpose aforesaid.