

the same should be done as soon as possible, Be it enacted, That out of the one fourth of the duties on imports to be collected in the years one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, and one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, there shall be advanced, appropriated and applied, (with the duty collected in virtue of this act,) one fourth part of the said duties, (or so much thereof as may be necessary,) towards paying the proportion of this state of the expence of building the said light-house, and placing buoys and erecting beacons, and the said money shall be subject to the order of the governor and the council for these purposes, and the money so advanced shall be replaced and returned to the treasurer of the western shore out of the duty imposed by this act, and which shall be collected after the said light-house on Cape Henry shall be built and completely finished, and furnished with all necessaries, and after buoys shall be placed and fixed in the waters of Chesapeake bay, and after beacons shall be erected on the shores and uplands thereof, as herein before expressed.

C H A P.
LXXV.
One fourth
appropriated,
&c.

VIII. And be it enacted, That if any citizen or inhabitant of this state shall, within or without this state, and if any person within this state shall, remove, injure or destroy, any buoy placed in the waters of Chesapeake bay or Patowmack river, such person, being thereof convicted in the general court of this state, shall be fined not exceeding five hundred pounds current money, or imprisoned not more than one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Penalty for in-
juring buoys,
&c.

IX. And be it enacted, That if any citizen or inhabitant of this state shall, within or without this state, and if any person within this state shall, wilfully and designedly, injure, cut down or destroy, any beacons, or bay or river marks, erected on the shores or uplands of Chesapeake bay or Patowmack river, such person, being thereof convicted in the general court of this state, shall be fined not exceeding two hundred pounds current money, or imprisoned not more than six months, or both, in the discretion of the court.

And beacons,
&c.

C H A P. LXXVI.

An ACT to alter and amend the laws respecting commerce and imposing duties.

Passed March
11.

BE it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That all vessels entirely owned by citizens of this state, and registered before the first day of September seventeen hundred and eighty-five, and navigated according to law, shall be deemed belonging to this state, and entitled, from the first day of January seventeen hundred and eighty-five, to all the privileges and benefits of vessels built in this state, and navigated as the law requires.

What vessels
shall be deem-
ed belonging
to this state,
&c.

II. And be it enacted, That vessels of or under forty feet keel, transporting dutiable articles into this state, or from one port to another within the same, after the first day of May next, shall be liable for the duties payable on such articles, until the duties be otherwise paid, or secured to be paid, according to law; and if any dutiable articles shall be put on shore, or discharged out of any such vessel, before paying or securing the payment of the duties, such vessel may be seized by any naval officer or his deputy, and the same shall be forfeited, one half to the use of the state, and the other half to the person making such seizure; provided, that nothing in this act be construed to prevent the removing in any such vessel, from one port to another within this state, any goods which have been landed and bought in any town in this state, under the value of one hundred pounds current money.

Vessels under
40 feet keel,
liable for du-
ties, &c.