C H A P. XXI.

An Act for the Relief of John Powell, John Nowell, Samuel Stevens, Mary Gordon *and* Thomas Price, *languiſhing Priſoners in* Ann-Arundel *County;* Thomas Hill *and* James Ward, *languiſhing Priſoners in* Talbot *County;* Richard Edwards *and* Nathaniel Wright, *languiſhing Priſoners in* Queen-Ann's *County;* Chriſtopher Bonfield *and* Clarina Gilly, *languiſhing Priſoners in* Calvert *County;* Kennith Mackenſey, *a languiſhing Priſoner in* Charles *County;* Peter Bromfield, *a languiſhing Priſoner in* Prince-George's *County;* and Abel Van Burkelo, *a languiſhing Priſoner in* Cæcil *County. Lib.* L. N° 5. *fol.* 235. *PR.*

C H A P. XXII.

Ditto.
An Act for the better Regulating the Pariſhes in St. Mary's *and* Charles *Counties. Lib.* L. N° 5. *fol.* 242.

N. B. By this Act, certain Commiſſioners were appointed for regulating the ſeveral Pariſhes in the ſaid Counties, and dividing the ſame, by natural or artificial Boundaries, &c. and to return their Proceedings to the next General Aſſembly, for their Inſpection and Approbation. And an Act was paſſed 1729, *ch.* 14, in purſuance thereof; but Diſſented to by his Lordſhip.

C H A P. XXIII.

Ditto.
An ACT to prevent the Abuſes of concealing convicted Felons, and other Offenders, imported into this Province, and for the better Diſcovery of them. *Lib.* L. N° 5. *fol.* 244.

Preamble.

Recital of the Britiſh Stat. 4 Geo. I.

WHEREAS by the Statute of the Fourth Year of the Reign of his late Majeſty King GEORGE the Firſt, (of glorious Memory) entitled, *An Act for the further preventing Robbery, Burglary, and other Felonies, and for the more effectual Tranſportation of Felons, and unlawful Exporters of Wool; and for to declare the Law in ſome Points relating to Pirates,* it is Enacted and Provided, " That where any Perſon or Perſons ſhould be " convicted of Offences (within the Benefit of Clergy) and liable to be " Whipt, or Burnt in the Hand, or ordered to any Work-houſe; or that " ſhould be Convict of Grand or Petit Larceny, or any Felonious Stealing, or " taking of Money, Goods, or Chattels, either from the Perſon, or the Houſe " of any Perſon, or any other Manner, and who, by the Law, ſhould be en- " titled to the Benefit of Clergy, and liable only to the Penalties of Burning in " the Hand, or Whipping; (except Perſons convict for receiving or buying " Stolen Goods, knowing them to be Stolen) it ſhould and might be lawful " for the Court before whom they ſhould be convicted, or any Court held at " the ſame Place with the like Authority, if they ſhould think fit, inſtead of " ordering ſuch Offender to be Burnt in the Hand, or Whipt, to order and " direct that ſuch Offenders, as alſo ſuch Offenders in any Work-houſe as " aforeſaid, ſhould be ſent as ſoon as conveniently might be, to ſome of his " Majeſty's Colonies and Plantations in *America,* for the ſpace of Seven " Years : And that Court before whom they ſhould be convicted, or any " ſubſequent Court, held for the ſame Place, with the like Authority as the " former, ſhould have Power to convey, transfer, and make over ſuch Of- " fenders, by Order of Court, to the Uſe of any Perſon or Perſons, who " ſhould contract for the Performance of ſuch Tranſportation, to him or " them, his or their Aſſigns, for the Term of Seven Years. And where " any Perſon was convicted before the making the ſaid firſt recited Act, or " did then ſtand attainted of any Offence whatſoever for Death by Law, " ought to be inflicted, or where any Offenders ſhould be thereafter convicted " of any Crime whatſoever, for which by Law they ought to be excluded " the Benefit of Clergy; and his Majeſty, his Heirs or Succeſſors, ſhould " be graciouſly pleaſed to extend Royal Mercy to any ſuch Offenders, upon " Condition of Tranſportation to any Part of *America,* and ſuch Intention of " Mercy ſhould be ſignified by one of his Majeſty's principal Secretaries of " State; it ſhould and might be lawful for any Court, having proper Autho- " rity, to allow ſuch Offenders the Benefit of a Pardon, under the Great " Seal, and to order and direct the like Transfer and Conveyance to any Per-
" ſon