making such consolidation to provide by contract between the companies thus consolidating, merging, leasing or selling, the one unto the other, for the exchange of stock or bonds, or both, or for the exchange of real, personal or mixed property in consideration therefor, in such manner as may not be inconsistent with the existing laws of the State; provided nothing in this Act shall be taken or construed to be a release or discharge of any existing rights for damages to property or persons inflicted by any of said companies, or an abatement of any suit or action in law or equity now pending, but that all of such rights and actions at law and in equity shall be and remain as if no such consolidation had taken place and no change in the name of any of said companies had been made, and all judgments or decrees recovered or rendered shall be as binding and effective as if this Act had not been passed.

SEC 7. And be it enacted. That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 5, 1900.

CHAPTER 197.

AN ACT to repeal Chapter one hundred and ten of the Acts of eighteen hundred and sixty, being an Act to incorporate the President and Directors of the Dover Bridge Company.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Mary-Repeal. President and land, That Chapter one hundred and ten of the Acts of directors of eighteen hundred and sixty, being an Act to incorporate the the Dover Bridge Co. President and Directors of the Dover Bridge Company be and the same is hereby repealed.

> Sec. 2. And be it enacted, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 5, 1900.

CHAPTER 198.

AN ACT to refund to George W. Hatcherson, of Kent County, in the State of Maryland, the sum of twenty-seven dollars and forty-seven cents for money paid by him in error for State taxes for twenty years from the year 1877 to the year 1896, inclusive, on private securities, which securities were improperly assessed, being paid before January 1, 1877.