L A W S of MARYLAND.

1796.

CHAP: thereafter, pay to the said bailiff for every day of the impounding of any goose XVIII. the sum of one shilling current money, and for every day of impounding any swine the sum of three shillings and nine-pence current money, it shall and may be lawful for such bailiff to sell the same at public sale, and to pay the balance to such owner or owners, after deducting three shillings for every goose, and eleven shillings and three-pence for every swine, so impounded as aforesaid, all and every of which sum or sums of money shall be paid by the bailiff to the commissioners of the said town, for the use of the said town.

How penalties, &c. are cd, &c.

XV. And be it enacted, That all the penalties, fines and forseitures, which to be recover- may be incurred by any person or persons in virtue of this act, and all other monies arising in virtue of this act, shall be recovered, by and in the name of the said commissioners, before a single magistrate, as in case of small debts, and the said penalties, fines and forseitures, and all other monies arising in consequence of this act, shall be appropriated by the said commissioners to the use and benefit of the faid town, in such manner, and at such times, as the said commissioners shall judge proper.

A majority , necessary, &c.

XVI. And he it enacted, That not less than a majority of the whole commissioners for the time being shall be sufficient to constitute a board for the transacting of any business, except that of adjournment; and the said commissioners shall have full power and authority to remove any of the officers appointed in virtue of this act at any time they may think proper, and to appoint others in their places.

Persons sued may plead, &c.

XVII. And be it enacted, That if any suit or action be commenced against any person or persons for any thing done in pursuance of this act, such person or persons may plead the general issue, and give this act in evidence, any law, custom or usage, to the contrary notwithstanding.

> C H A P. XIX.

Passed December 30.

An ACT to authorise and empower the president and directors of the Patowmack company to contract the breadth of the locks at the Great Falls of Patowmack.

Preamble.

THEREAS by an act of the general assembly, passed November selsion, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, entitled, An act for establishing a company for opening and extending the navigation of the river Patowmack, it is, amongst other things, provided, that the tolls therein established shall be payable only on condition the said Patowmack company shall make the river well capable of being navigated, in dry seasons, from Payne's Falls to the Great Falls, by vessels drawing one foot water, and from the Great Falls to tide water, and shall, at or near the Great Falls, make a cut or canal twenty-five feet wide, and four feet deep, with sufficient locks, if necesfary, each of eighty feet in length, fixteen feet in breadth, and capable of conveying vessels or rafts drawing four feet water at the least: And whereas it is represented to this general assembly, by the president and directors of the Patowmack company, that the breadth of the locks as above directed is unnecessarily great, and that the contraction of the same to the breadth of fourteen feet would render the said locks more complete, and considerably lessen the expence of sinishing the same;

President, &c may contract the locks, &c.

II. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the president and directors of the said Patowmack company, or a majority of them, be and they are hereby authorised and empowered to contract the locks at the Great Falls of Patowmack to any breadth they may think proper, provided the same be not of less breadth than fourteen feet; and that when the said locks are completed of the breadth hereby authorised, the said company be entitled to all the tolls, benefits and advantages therefrom, which by law they would be, provided the said locks had been completed of the breadth of sixteen seet, any thing in any act to the contrary notwithstanding.