

by sheriffs in taking goods by fieri facias, and selling them by venditioni exponas, although within the reason and intent thereof, which omission gives the sheriffs frequent opportunities of oppressing many of the poorer sort of people; for prevention of which inconveniency and evils, *Be it enacted and declared*, That no sheriff shall be allowed any fee or reward for executing for any public or county levies, or any other public dues or officers' fees; and if the sheriff shall transgress this act, he shall be liable to the same pains, penalties and forfeitures, that officers are liable to by the laws in force for taking more fees than are allowed, any usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

SEC. 3. Repealed, as the act to which it refers was repealed by 1803, ch. 36.

SEC. 4, 5. Inapplicable, as public dues are not now payable or collected in tobacco.

OCTOBER, 1725.—CHAPTER 8.

AN ACT declaring probats of deeds, or other matters, and acknowledgments of deeds taken before two magistrates of the city of Annapolis, to be good and valid in law.

See 1715, ch. 47.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted, by the right honourable the Lord Proprietor, by and with the advice and consent of his lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the authority of the same*, That all probats of any deeds, or other matters, made either in the mayor's court, or before two of the magistrates of the city of Annapolis, and all deeds of lands lying within the precincts of the city of Annapolis, acknowledged either in the mayor's court, or before two such magistrates as aforesaid, shall be, and are by this act declared, as good and available in law in all respects, as if made or acknowledged in the same manner before any one justice of the provincial court, or two justices of a county court, any law, statute, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Certain
probats
good, &c

OCTOBER, 1727.—CHAPTER 2.

AN ACT directing the payment of fees arising due on the prosecution of white servants which shall hereafter be imported into this province.

FORASMUCH as it is evident to this present general assembly, that the charges of late arising to the public, and several of the counties within this province, on the prosecution of servants, have been a very great burthen to the public: And whereas it is manifest that several felonies, and other offences, have been frequently committed by servants, which might have been prevented by their masters, by taking care to keep them in due order and subjection, and sometimes servants have been induced by the encouragement, and sometimes by the severity of their masters, to commit felonies and other crimes, the masters

Preamble.