

confessed in the provincial and county courts of this province, but also out of courts, before a single magistrate, and executions have issued thereon, to the great damage of many people, who, in case *capias* had issued, and they had time to plead to such bonds, many good reasons might have been pleaded against the same; for prevention of which evils for the future, it is humbly prayed that it may be enacted,

No judgment to be confessed, &c.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted, by the right honourable the Lord Proprietary, 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 from and after the end of this session of assembly, it shall not be lawful for any attorney practising now, or who shall hereafter practise the law in any court of record within this province, or any other person whatever, to confess a judgment either in court, or before one or more justices of such court or courts out of court, for any sum or sums of money or tobacco, or other matter, by virtue of any power or powers of attorney, either separate or contained in any such bonds, commonly called judgment bonds, which shall be taken or executed after the end of this session of assembly; nor shall it be lawful for the justices of any court of record within this province to give judgment upon any such bonds, by virtue of any such power or powers.

SEC. 3, 4, 5. Relate to bonds taken for bills of credit issued by the state, and are therefore now inapplicable to its fiscal practice.

SEC. 6, 7, 8, 9. Are merged in 1825, ch. 167, to prevent the unnecessary accumulation of costs in civil suits.

MAY, 1748.—CHAPTER 7.

AN ACT to enable the several and respective County Clerks within this province to remove some of the County Records and Papers from the public offices.

Preamble.

WHEREAS at a session of Assembly, begun and held at the city of Annapolis the sixteenth day of May, *anno domini* seventeen hundred forty and seven, an act was made, entitled 'An act to remedy some proceedings in the court of Charles county, and to prevent the removal of the records from the public offices;' wherein among other things, it is enacted, 'that for the future no clerk or register within this province, (except parish registers,) shall at any time hereafter take, remove, or carry out of their respective public offices, or cause or suffer any person or persons to take, remove, or carry out of their respective public offices, any books, papers or other records, to their own houses, or to any other place, upon any pretence whatsoever, and the same to keep, or cause or suffer to be kept, out of their respective public offices, at any time between the hours of eleven at night and six in the morning, under penalty of ten pounds cur-