

C H A P.
LXXXIII.Provision for
deficiency of
interest, &c.

XXIV. WHEREAS, the general assembly did engage to make a provision for the punctual payment of interest on the debts due from the public, *Be it enacted*, That so much of the money collected in virtue of this act, as may be necessary to make up any deficiency of interest which may be due to the creditors of the state, after applying to the payment thereof the interest received from the debtors of the state, shall be and hereby is appropriated to pay such deficiency.

Assessors to
take account
of inhabi-
tants, &c.

XXV. *And*, to ascertain the number of inhabitants in this state, *Be it enacted*, That every assessor, appointed in virtue of the act for the valuation of personal property within this state, before he acts, shall take an oath, (or affirmation) that he will diligently inquire and take a true account of the number of inhabitants in his district of each sex and every age, and every master and mistress of a family, and every person having the care of any servants or slaves, shall (when required by the assessor) inform him of every person in his or her family, or under his care, and on neglect or refusal shall forfeit twenty pounds current money; and the said assessors shall return to the commissioners of the tax of their county, an account, signed by them, of all the inhabitants in their districts, distinguishing in columns the number of free males between sixteen and fifty years of age, the number of free males under sixteen and above fifty years of age, the number of white females between sixteen and forty years of age, the number of white females under sixteen and above forty years of age, the number of slaves under eight years of age, the number of slaves between eight and fourteen years of age, the number of male slaves between fourteen and forty-five years of age, the number of female slaves between fourteen and thirty-six years of age, the number of male slaves above forty-five years of age, and of female slaves above thirty-six years of age, and the whole number of each description, and the number of all descriptions, and the said commissioners shall send a summary list of all the inhabitants in their county, distinguished in columns as aforesaid, before the first day of September next, to the clerk of the house of delegates, under the penalty of twenty pounds current money on each commissioner, in case of neglect to send such summary list as aforesaid.

C H A P. LXXXIV.

Passed March
12.

An ACT respecting executions against certain public debtors.

Preamble.

WHEREAS by the act, entitled, An act to establish funds to secure the payment of the state debt within six years, and for the punctual payment of the annual interest thereon, it was among other things enacted, that an indulgence should be given to the debtors of the state for confiscated property, (except on the bonds appropriated to redeem the two emissions of June seventeen hundred and eighty,) for five years from the first day of January seventeen hundred and eighty-five, and to enforce the payment of interest due from the debtors aforesaid annually, on the first day of September, during the said five years, it was by the said act directed, that after six weeks notice being given in the manner mentioned in the said act, that executions should issue to compel payment of the principal and interest; and it was declared by the said act, that out of the interest paid by the debtors of the state, the creditors of the state should be paid the annual interest due them, to commence on the first day of January seventeen hundred and eighty-six: And whereas the object and intention of the said recited act was to secure the punctual payment of annual interest from the debtors of the state, wherewith to pay annual interest to the creditors of the state: And whereas it may be prejudicial to many of those debtors who have not paid the interest, to levy the principal by way of execution, and it was the
intention