

CHAP. 323.**Exceptions.**

Any slave so brought is forfeited

and entitled to freedom.

On condition of leaving the state.

Must be committed &c.

Compensation to sheriffs.

Further penalty for the offence.

Negro to be sold for five dollars. Conditionally.

Or sold out of the state.

Report of sales required.

Disposition of proceeds.

Exception in favor of border land holders &c.

nothing herein contained shall be construed to alter or annul any of the acts now in force, in relation to the rights of non-residents to remove to or from, or employ their slaves upon their islands in the Potomac river; and any person or persons offending, shall forfeit for every such offence, any negro, mulatto, or other slave, brought into this State contrary to this act; and such negro, mulatto, or other slave, shall be entitled to freedom, upon condition that he consent to be sent to Liberia, or to leave the State forthwith; otherwise such negro, or mulatto, or other slave, shall be seized and taken and confined in jail by the sheriff of the county, where the offence is committed; which sheriff shall receive ten dollars for every negro, mulatto, or other slave so brought into this State, and forfeited as aforesaid, and seized and taken by him, to be recovered in an action of debt, in his own name, before any justice of the peace, as small debts are recovered from the person or persons so offending; moreover, said sheriff shall receive five dollars for such negro, mulatto, or other slave, actually confined by him in jail, and the usual prison fees now allowed by law; and any person or persons so offending under this act, shall be punished by indictment in the county court of the county where the offence shall be committed, and upon conviction thereof, the said court shall, by its order, direct said sheriff to sell any negro, mulatto, or other slaves so seized and taken by him under this act, to the colonization society, for said five dollars, and the prison fees of any negro, mulatto, or other slave, to be taken to Liberia; and if the said colonization society will not receive such negroes, mulattoes, or other slaves, for said five dollars each, and the prison fees of each, upon refusing, said sheriff shall, after three weeks public notice, given by public advertisements, sell any such negro, mulatto, or other slave, to some person or persons, with a condition that any such negro, mulatto, or other slave, shall be removed and taken forthwith beyond the limits of this State, to settle and reside; and said sheriff shall report any sale or sales made by him to the county court of the county in which he resides, and after deducting five dollars and prison fees for each and every negro, mulatto, or other slave, sold as aforesaid, which shall be settled by an account current, to be settled in said court, said sheriff shall pay over the balance of said sales to the treasurer of the shore where he may reside; *Provided*, That this act shall not be so construed as to prevent any person or persons residing in this or any adjoining State, and who hold in their own right or in right of any other persons, lands in both States within ten miles of each other, from removing their slaves to and from said lands, solely for