

## BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND PROMISSORY NOTES.

**279.** It shall be lawful for banks and bankers in the City of Baltimore, to close their doors for business at twelve o'clock noon, on each and every Saturday in the year; and every Saturday in the year after twelve o'clock noon shall be a legal half-holiday, so far as regards the presenting for payment or acceptance, and the protesting and giving notice of the dishonor of bills of exchange, bank checks, drafts, promissory notes and other negotiable paper; and for these purposes shall be treated and considered as the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday; and all such bills, checks, drafts and notes presentable for acceptance or payment on Saturdays, shall be deemed to be presentable for acceptance or payment on the secular or business day next succeeding; *provided*, however, that all bills of exchange, drafts and promissory notes made after the passage of this Article, except those payable at sight or on demand, which shall be otherwise payable on any half-holiday Saturday, shall be deemed to be and shall be payable on the next succeeding secular or business day; and *provided* further, that for the purpose of protesting or otherwise holding liable any party to any bill of exchange, bank check, draft or promissory note, and which shall not have been paid before twelve o'clock at noon on any half-holiday Saturday, a demand of acceptance or payment thereof may be made, and notice of protest or dishonor thereof may be given on the next succeeding secular or business day; and provided further, that when any person shall receive for collection in said City of Baltimore, any bill of exchange, bank check or promissory note due, and presentable for acceptance or payment on any half-holiday Saturday, such person shall not be deemed guilty of any neglect or omission of duty, nor incur any liability in not presenting for payment or acceptance, or collecting such bill of exchange, bank check, draft or promissory note on that day; and *provided* further, that in construing this section every half-holiday Saturday shall, until twelve o'clock noon, be deemed a secular business day. Nothing in this section shall affect the provisions of sections 9 and 10 of Article 13 of the Code of Public General Laws applicable to any Saturday, whenever the same, under the provisions of said sections, shall be a legal holiday.