

quired to borrow money for the purpose of their carrying into effect within their respective districts the provisions of this act, and to pledge therefor any levy or assessment herein authorised to be laid or collected under their respective appointments or authority. Dec. Ses 1816.

10. *And be it enacted*, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to authorise the opening or extension of Pratt-street or Lombard-street, within the city of Baltimore, or to authorise the pulling down of any house or building now occupied as a dwelling, warehouse, store, work-shop, manufactory, or place of worship, without the assent in writing of the owner or owners first had and obtained. This act not to authorise the extension of Pratt or Lombard-streets.

CHAPTER 219.

An act to Suppress Duelling.

Passed Feb. 4,

WHEREAS experience has evinced that the existing remedy for the suppression of the barbarous custom of duelling is inadequate to the purpose, and the progress and consequences of the evil have become so destructive as to require an effort on the part of the legislature to arrest a vice the result of ignorance and barbarism, justified neither by the precepts of morality nor by the dictates of reason; Therefore, Preamble.

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That any person who shall hereafter wilfully and maliciously, or by previous agreement, fight a duel, or single combat, with any engine, instrument or weapon, the probable consequence of which might be the death of either party, and in so doing shall kill his antagonist, or any other person or persons, or inflict such wound as that the person injured shall die thereof within twelve months and a day thereafter, such offender, his aiders, abettors and counsellors, being thereof duly convicted, shall be sentenced to undergo a confinement in the penitentiary-house for a period not less than five nor more than eighteen years, any law, custom or usage, of this state, to the contrary notwithstanding. Persons fighting a duel to be confined in penitentiary.

2. *And be it enacted*, That if any person whatsoever shall challenge another to fight a duel with any weapon, or in any manner whatsoever, the probable issue of which may or might result in the death of the challenger or challenged, or if any person shall accept a challenge, or fight a duel with any weapon, or in any way whatsoever, the probable issue of which may or might terminate in the death of the challenger or challenged, such person shall be incapable of holding or being elected to any post of profit, trust or emolument, civil or military, in this state. Persons challenging, to be incapable of holding any office of profit or trust.

3. *And be it enacted*, That from and after the passing of this act, every person who shall be appointed or elected to any office or place, civil or military, in this state, shall, in addition to the oath now prescribed by law, take the following oath: "I do solemnly swear, or affirm, (as the case may be) that I have not been engaged in a duel, as principal or second, by sending, or accepting or carrying a challenge to fight a duel, or by fighting a duel, or in any other manner, in violation of the act, entitled, An act to suppress duelling, since the passage of that act, nor will I hereafter be so concerned, directly or indirectly, in any such duel; so help me God." Persons hereafter elected to office, civil or military, to take an oath.