

III. And be it enacted, That the said respective clerks shall, on or before the first day of May in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-nine, and on or before the same day in every year thereafter, return to the treasurer of their respective shore a list of all the marriage licences granted by them during the preceding year; and each and every of the said clerks shall forthwith pay to the said treasurer the sum of twenty-five shillings current money for each and every licence which shall have been before delivered to him in blank, unless the said respective clerks shall entitle themselves to an allowance, by producing such of the said blank licences as the said clerks may not have granted; and if any of the said licences shall be returned in blank to the said treasurer, then the said respective clerks shall only pay the sum of twenty-five shillings for each and every of the said blank licences as shall not be so returned on the settlement of their account as aforesaid.

C H A P.
XXXVIII.
Clerks to return a list, &c.

IV. And be it enacted, That if any of the said clerks shall not annually apply to the treasurer of their respective shore for blank marriage licences on or before the said first day of May, in the manner directed by this act, every such clerk so neglecting or refusing to apply, shall forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred dollars for every offence.

Penalty for neglecting to apply, &c.

V. And be it enacted, That if any of the said clerks, so having received blank marriage licences as herein before directed, shall refuse or neglect to return to the treasurer of their respective shore, on or before the first day of May annually, a list of all the marriage licences granted by them respectively during the preceding year, and account for and pay to the said treasurer the sum of twenty-five shillings current money for each and every licence by them so granted, the said treasurer shall forthwith charge the clerk or clerks so neglecting or refusing with the whole amount of blank licences which shall have been before delivered to such clerk or clerks, at the said rate of twenty-five shillings for every of the said blank licences, and shall immediately thereafter prosecute a suit at law against such clerk or clerks for the same, in which it shall be sufficient to declare for so much money had and received for the use of the state, and the receipt of such clerk shall be competent evidence to entitle the state to a recovery, and a trial shall be had at the appearance term, unless the court shall be fully satisfied that the defendant ought in justice to have an imparlance.

And for not returning a list, &c.

VI. And be it enacted, That the governor and council shall from time to time cause blank marriage licences to be printed and delivered to the said respective treasurers, so as to keep them provided with a sufficient number for the use of the several counties of this state in every year hereafter.

Blank licences to be printed, &c.

VII. And be it enacted, That from and after the said first day of May next, so much of the act, entitled, An act concerning marriages, as directs a different mode of granting and accounting for marriage licences, be and the same is hereby repealed; provided nevertheless, that until the said day the respective clerks shall issue licences of marriage in the manner directed by the said act, and shall then account to the respective treasurers for all licences by them granted before the said day, and since their last returns.

Part of an act repealed, &c.

C H A P. XXXIX.

An ACT for the benefit of Nicholas Slubey, merchant, of the city of Baltimore.

Passed January 20.

WHEREAS it is represented to this general assembly, by the petition of Nicholas Slubey, of Baltimore county, that by a variety of losses and misfortunes in trade as a copartner with Joseph Smith, of Great-Britain, he has been rendered unable immediately wholly to satisfy the debts for which he is answerable; and that a part of his creditors are resident in foreign countries, and have become bankrupt, whereby assent to his release cannot be obtained; and that others of his foreign creditors have no known agents in the United States; and that from the peculiarity of his situation it

Preamble.