

C H A P.
XIV.

A sum not exceeding £. 7,500 sterling, is to be applied to the building a new stadt-house at Annapolis, and to the enlarging, repairing and enclosing, the parade. This house is to contain two rooms for the upper and lower houses of assembly, a room for the provincial court, two jury rooms, four committee rooms, and repositories for the records of the two houses, of the court of chancery, the court of appeals, the provincial court, the prerogative court, and the land-office. The parade is to be laid with stone or gravel, and enclosed with iron palisades, to be fixed on a good stone or brick wall; and the expence of all this is not to exceed £. 500 sterling.

The building is to be superintended by Daniel Dulany, Thomas Johnson, John Hall, William Paca, Charles Carroll, barrister, Lancelot Jacques, and Charles Wallace, the major part of whom is empowered to contract with workmen and to purchase materials. And to enable them to do this, they are authorized to draw on Charles Hammond, treasurer of the western shore, or his executors or administrators, on Edward Lloyd, the late treasurer of the eastern shore; or his representatives, and on the representatives of James Holliday, and Beddingfield Hands, late treasurers of the eastern shore, for all monies which these persons may have at the time of the draught subject to the orders of the general assembly, including the money received under the act for licensing ordinary keepers, &c. and if the money in the hands of such persons shall be insufficient, the balance is to be supplied by the commissioners out of the bills of credit. The superintendents are, from time to time, to lay fair accounts of their expenditures before the assembly. They are to cause the present stadt-house to be immediately demolished, and the materials either to be applied to the new building, or sold, at their discretion. And until the new stadt-house shall be completed, they are directed to procure convenient rooms for the public offices, and for the depositories of records.

Upon completion of the work, the house in which the council usually sits, and the conference chamber, are to be vested in the justices of Anne-Arundel county. The county and the mayor's courts are to be held in the house, and the county records are to be kept in the chamber. And a quantity, not exceeding 45,000lb. of tobacco, is to be assessed in November, 1771, for the purpose of fitting the said building agreeably to certain directions, and for roughcasting the walls of the house, and the walls of King William's school.

C H A P. XV.

A Supplementary ACT to the act, entitled, An Act for the direction of sheriffs in their offices, and restraining their ill practices within this province.

Preamble.

WHEREAS by the said act it was, among other things, enacted, that no sheriff or sub-sheriff within this province, after the publication thereof in their several and respective counties wherein they dwell, should take any bond, bill, or any other writing obligatory, of any person or persons, upon any pretence whatsoever, without endorsing the account on the back of the said bond, bill, or writing obligatory, for which the same was past; and that if any sheriff or sub-sheriff within this province should, during the time that he remained in his place or office, upon any pretence whatsoever, take any bill, bond, or writing obligatory, without endorsing the account on the back side of the said bill, bond, or writing obligatory, as aforesaid, by which it might appear upon what consideration the same was taken, the said bond, bill, or writing obligatory, should be void and of no effect, and the officer or officers that took the same should lose his debt, and for ever be debarred of suing any other action for the recovery of the same. And whereas it is found by experience, that the said provision hath been often eluded by sheriffs and under-sheriffs, their taking promissory notes and other written securities for fees by them illegally charged, without endorsing on such notes the account for which the sum mentioned in such notes became due, which hath been understood not to be within the provision of the said act above recited, to the great damage and injury of many of the good people of this province. For remedy whereof,

Sheriffs, taking any mortgage, &c. without endorsing thereon the account for which the same was taken, the same to be void, &c.

II. Be it enacted, by the right honourable the lord proprietary, by and with the advice and consent of his lordship's governor, and the upper and lower houses of assembly, and the authority of the same, That no sheriff or sub-sheriff within this province, after the first day of February next, shall take any mortgage, promissory note, or inland bill of exchange whatever, of any person or persons, upon any pretence whatsoever, without endorsing the account on such mortgage, promissory note or bill of exchange, for which the same was passed. And if any sheriff or sub-sheriff within this province shall, after the said first day of February next, during the time that he shall remain in his said office, upon any pretence whatsoever, take any mortgage, promissory note, or inland bill of exchange, without endorsing the account on such mortgage, note, or bill of exchange, by which it may appear for what consideration the same was taken, the said mortgage, note, or bill of exchange, shall be void and of no effect, and the officer or officers that took the same,