

C H A P. XVI.

An ACT for erecting a town in the county of Anne Arundel, and for securing the land whereon the court-house and prisons are built in the said county. Lib. L. No. 5. fol. 24.

Passed 4th of Nov. 1724.

N. B. A public court-house and prison having been erected in Joppa, at the county expence, and the right of the land being in a minor, who could not convey, although his father, colonel James Maxwell, had received full satisfaction for the same, it is therefore enacted, 1. That the land already allotted for the court-house and prisons, (not less than 250 acres,) and whereon they are built, shall be to the use of the county for ever. 2. Certain commissioners empowered to purchase, by agreement or valuation of a jury, twenty acres of land at Joppa, and cause the same to be surveyed and laid out into forty lots, to be erected into a town, so as the public buildings may be included therein, and the lots so laid out as not to affect the improvements of colonel James Maxwell and his son, already made there, with convenient streets, &c. and the lots to be numbered from one to forty. 3. The owner of the land to have his first choice of two lots, and then the remaining lots to be taken up by others, so that no person take up more than one lot during the first four months; but if not taken all up by inhabitants of the county within that time, then any other persons to have liberty of taking up the same, paying the owner proportionably. 4. Takers up of lots not building thereon within twelve months a house to cover four hundred square feet, and no house to have any chimney unless of brick or stone, it shall then be lawful for any other person to enter upon the lot so not built upon, paying the sum first set thereon to the commissioners, or persons by them appointed to receive the same, to the benefit of the town, to be called Joppa; and such second taker up building and finishing (within one year after such his entry,) such house as before limited and appointed, shall have as good estate therein as the first taker up, &c. 5. Lots not taken up during seven years after publication of this act shall revert to the owner of the land. 6. Debtors bringing their tobaccos to the said town, and paying the same to their creditors, or their receivers, shall be allowed thereout ten per cent. to be deducted out of the debt, or allowed of in bar or discount, of any action to be brought against such debtors by any creditors in any court within this province.

See a supplementary act, 1737, ch. 11.

C H A P. XVII.

A Supplementary act to the act, entitled, (a) An act for the trial of all facts in the counties where they have arisen and shall arise, the continuance of causes in the provincial court, and adjournment of that court. Lib. L. No. 5. fol. 26.

(a) 1723, ch. 3, which, together with this act, was farther continued by 1727, ch. 6, and both expired in 1731.

C H A P. XVIII.

An ACT for explaining a paragraph of the supplementary act to the act, entitled, An act directing the manner of electing and summoning delegates. Lib. L. No. 5. fol. 28.

1718, ch. 1.

C H A P. XIX.

An ACT relieving the inhabitants of this province from some difficulties they may lie under in paying their levies, and other just tobacco debts this year. Lib. L. No. 5. fol. 29. Expired.

C H A P. XX.

An ACT for the relief of Thomas Dent, of Charles county, gentleman. Lib. L. No. 5. fol. 34. A Private Act.

C H A P. XXI.

An ACT reviving and continuing the act for limitation of officers fees, and for supplying some defects therein, and for amendment thereof in some particulars, and restraining some ill practices of sheriffs. Lib. L. No. 5. fol. 37.

1723, ch. 24.

BE IT ENACTED, by the right honourable the Lord Proprietor, 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 an act of assembly, made at a session of assembly begun and held at the city of Annapolis the twenty-third day of September, *anna domini* seventeen hundred and twenty-three, entitled, An act reviving and continuing an act, entitled, An act for limitation of officers fees, and supplying some defects therein, be and is hereby revived and continued, to be and remain in force from and after the twenty-fifth day of September next, for and until the twenty-fifth day of December, which shall be in the year of our Lord seventeen hundred and twenty-five, and no longer.

Acts revived, &c.

II. AND, for that several complaints have been made to this assembly, that several sheriffs, merely to increase fees to themselves, have executed several persons for public and county levies and officers fees, and charged execution fees thereon, when they might have received their dues without such execution, although they have and are allowed a large commission for collecting the same; and for that the power of execution ought not to be used in oppression of the people, but only to enable the sheriff to get in and collect the public dues and officers fees with the greater facility; and for that persons whose goods are taken in execution for officers fees, are not expressly provided for by the act to restrain the ill practice used by sheriffs in taking goods by *fieri facias*, and selling them by *venditioni exponas*, although within the reason and intent thereof, which omission gives the sheriffs frequent opportunities of oppressing many of the poorer sort of people; for prevention of which inconvenience and evils, BE IT ENACTED AND DECLARED, That no sheriff shall be allowed any fee or reward

No fee allowed, &c.