

to elect or choose delegates or burgesses to sit in the general assembly of this province as representatives of the said town; BUT IT IS HEREBY ENACTED, That the commissioners, or the inhabitants of the said town, shall not elect or choose any delegate or delegates, burgess or burgesses, to represent the said town in any general assembly of this province.

C H A P.
XXI.

The provisions contained in the third and succeeding sections of this act have been altered by a variety of acts, and are not now in force.

C H A P. XXII.

An ACT for repairing and amending the public and county gaol in the city of Annapolis. Lib. BLC. fol. 422.

Passed 11th of July, 1747.

C H A P. XXIII.

An ACT to prevent evils arising from the entering up judgments upon bonds, commonly called judgment bonds, to direct the manner of issuing executions on loan-office bonds, and to regulate certain fees therein mentioned. Lib. BLC. fol. 422.

WHEREAS it has been the practice to take bonds, with power contained in the condition of such bonds upon non-payment, to any attornies practising in any court of record within the dominion of Great Britain, to confess judgment, and thereupon, without any previous process, judgments have not only been confessed in the provincial and county courts of this province, but also out of courts, before a single magistrate, and executions have issued thereon, to the great damage of many people, who, in case *capias* had issued, and they had time to plead to such bonds, many good reasons might have been pleaded against the same; for prevention of which evils for the future, it is humbly prayed that it may be enacted,

Preamble.

II. AND 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 from and after the end of this session of assembly, it shall not be lawful for any attorney practising now, or who shall hereafter practise the law in any court of record within this province, or any other person whatever, to confess a judgment either in court, or before one or more justices of such court or courts out of court, for any sum or sums of money or tobacco, or other matter, by virtue of any power or powers of attorney, either separate or contained in any such bonds, commonly called judgment bonds, which shall be taken or executed after the end of this session of assembly; nor shall it be lawful for the justices of any court of record within this province to give judgment upon any such bonds, by virtue of any such power or powers.

No judgment to be confessed, &c.

III. AND, whereas by an act, entitled, An act for emitting and making current ninety thousand pounds current money of Maryland in bills of credit, it is, amongst other things, therein enacted, that the said commissioners or trustees, or any two of them, may take bonds or other obligations; of able and sufficient persons, for any of the said bills of credit, at the interest of four pounds *per cent. per annum*, and so in proportion for a greater or lesser sum, payable at such time as shall be agreed on; which bonds or obligations shall be payable to the commissioners or trustees, or their successors, and shall be of the same force and effect to all intents and purposes, as statutes merchant, or of the staple, and shall and may be proceeded on accordingly, whereby it is evident, that there need no judgments be entered up, or confessed upon such bonds, which makes the expences thereof burthensome and grievous to the parties; for prevention of such evil for the future, BE IT ENACTED, by the authority, advice and consent aforesaid, That from and after the end of this session of assembly, when any person or persons, who have passed, or shall, during the continuance of the act aforesaid, pass, any bond or bonds for any sum or sums in the said bills of credit, to the said commissioners heretofore, or for the time being, and fail in payment, and need may require suing any such bond or bonds for the better securing the sums due, it shall and may be lawful for the said commissioners or trustees for the time being, to cause the clerk of the provincial court to enter such bond in the records of the said court, and thereupon make an order, signed by them the said commissioners or trustees for the time being, to said clerk, to make out such execution as they shall judge proper, against the body, goods or chattels, lands and tenements, rights or credits, of such debtor or debtors, their surety or sureties, which order likewise shall be entered with such bond in the records aforesaid by the said clerk; and the clerk of the provincial court for the time being shall, and he is hereby obliged, authorized and directed, to enter such bond and order, and immediately thereupon to make out such execution as shall be required under the hands of the said commissioners for the time being, and directed to such sheriff, coroner, or other officer or officers, as the case may require, and such sheriff or sheriffs

Commissioners &c. may order a suit, &c.