

An ACT to establish a market at the market-house in Chester-town, in Kent county, and for the regulation of the said market. Lib. TBH. No. A. fol. 381.

Passed 22d of Jan. 1785.

Supplementary and other acts 1789, ch. 19, November, 1792, ch. 40, 1793, ch. 22, 1796, ch. 50, Preamble. WHEREAS it has been represented to this general assembly, that the inhabitants of Chester-town, and others, have erected, on the square appropriated for a market-place, a convenient market-house, and that if their market was under a proper regulation it might be rendered very useful to them, and the inhabitants of the said county and the adjacent county;

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That from and after the first day of January, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, two days in the week shall be set apart, appointed and held, as market-days, within the town of Chester aforesaid, to wit, Wednesday and Saturday; and that all victuals and provision whatsoever brought to the said town for sale, after the aforesaid first day of January, in the year aforesaid, (except fish and oysters that shall be brought by water, and beef by the quarter or larger quantity, and pork by the hog or hogs, all kinds of grain, flour and bread, butter in firkins, or other vessels exceeding twenty pounds net, and hogs, beef and pork in barrels or larger casks, live cattle, sheep and hogs, brought either by land or water, upon those or any other days, shall be carried to the public market-house of the said town, there to be sold at the market-hours, to wit, from any time in the morning to twelve at noon. Market-days, &c.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That no person shall presume to buy, or cause to be bought, of any person or persons bringing to the said town, and within two miles thereof, or having brought any kind of victuals or provisions whatsoever to the said town for sale, except as before excepted, either upon the above stated market-days, or any other days of the week during the time of the above stated market-hours, at any other place whatsoever but, at or in the said market-house, under the penalty of fifty shillings current money for every such offence. Penalty on persons buying out of market, &c.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any servant or slave shall, after the aforesaid first day of January, in the year seventeen hundred and eighty-five, buy any kind of victuals or provisions bringing to the said town for sale, and within two miles of the said town, or brought to the said town for sale as aforesaid, except as aforesaid, either upon the market-days above stated, or any other days of the week during the time of the above appointed market-hours, at any other place whatsoever other than the said market-house, the owner of the said servant or slave shall be fined the sum of twenty-five shillings for every such offence. On servants, &c.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That no person whatsoever, after the time aforesaid, bringing or sending, or having brought or sent, any provisions or victuals to the said town for sale, shall sell, or cause to be sold, the said victuals or provisions, so bringing or sending, or brought or sent, as aforesaid, to the said town, or within two miles thereof, either by land or water, except as before excepted, under the penalty of twenty-five shillings. On persons selling, &c.

By 1796, ch. 50, a provision is made against engrossing provisions.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any person shall hereafter presume to slaughter or butcher any cattle kind, sheep or hog, in or near about the said market-house, he or they, so doing, shall forfeit and pay ten shillings current money for every such offence. On slaughtering cattle, &c.

By 1789, ch. 19, all persons are restrained from slaughtering cattle, &c. within the vicinity of Chester-town, except in parts appointed by the orphans court.

VII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any person shall, after the time aforesaid, put their own or any other person's horse or horses, mare or mares, gelding or geldings, into or under the said market-house, on any pretence whatsoever, he, she or they, shall forfeit and pay five shillings current money for every such offence. On putting horses under market-house, &c.

VIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the justices of the orphans court for Kent county, or the major part of them, shall meet and assemble at the court-house of the said county, on or before the first day of January, in the year seventeen hundred and eighty-five, and yearly and every year thereafter in the month of October in such year, and there nominate and appoint a person of good repute and skill to be clerk of the said market; and in case the clerk so appointed shall die, resign, or refuse to act, Justices to appoint a clerk, &c.