

C H A P. VIII. Who shall levy money, &c.

II. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said commissioners, (or a major part of them,) shall have full power to levy, assess and take, by way of distress, (if needful,) from the inhabitants of said village, by even and equal portions, (agreeable to their property held in said village, and assessed by the county assessor,) a sum not exceeding five pounds current money, to defray the expense of surveying the said village, and for recording the certificate.

Swine, &c. may be secured, &c.

III. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That, it shall and may be lawful for any person or persons residing within the limits of the said village, after the first day of March next, to seize and secure any swine or geese that be found at large within the limits of the village aforesaid, belonging to any person residing therein, and the same retain in his, her or their possession, till the owner or owners thereof shall pay the sum of five shillings for every hog or half dozen of geese, (and a proportionable sum for every goose, so taken up, one half for the use of the person or persons taking up and securing the same, and the other half for the use of the poor in said county, and in case the owner or owners of swine and geese seized and secured as aforesaid shall not, within three days after notice of such seizure, pay the aforesaid sum of five shillings for every hog or half dozen geese, and in proportion for every goose, seized as aforesaid, to the person or persons seizing the same, in such case the whole of such seizure shall be absolutely forfeited for the use aforesaid, and it shall be lawful for the person or persons seizing to sell the same, by public vendue, in the said village, within five days, between nine and ten o'clock in the forenoon of the said day, and to apply the monies arising from such sale to the use aforesaid.

Fines to be paid over, &c.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any person or persons receiving fines or forfeitures under this act, shall not, within ten days after the receipt thereof, pay over to the trustees of the poor of Caroline county one half of the money so received, such person or persons shall forfeit the whole of the money so received, for the use of the poor of said county; which money, so forfeited, may be recovered by the trustees aforesaid, in the same manner as other debts due to the trustees may be recovered.

Penalty for taking swine, &c. by force, &c.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any person or persons shall, by violence or force, take swine or geese, or any of them, out of the possession of any person or persons seizing and securing the same by virtue of this act, without first paying as aforesaid, and shall be thereof convicted, either by confession or verdict, such person or persons shall be fined in the sum of ten pounds current money for every such offence.

General issue pleadable, &c.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any person or persons shall be sued or impleaded for any thing done by virtue of this act, the defendant may plead the general issue, and give this act and the special matter in evidence, and if the plaintiff shall be nonsuit, or discontinue his suit, he shall pay treble costs; and such damages as the court shall adjudge.

Passed 27th of Dec. 1791.

C H A P. IX. An ACT to revive and aid the proceedings of Harford county court, and for other purposes. Lib. JG. No. r. fol. 381. A Supplement 1791, ch. 47.

Preamble.

WHEREAS before the commencement of the act for the better administration of justice in the several counties of this state, the justices of Harford county court, at their meeting in the month of February last, omitted to adjourn the said court, whereby all causes, pleas, process and proceedings, both civil and criminal, in the same court depending, were discontinued;

Causes, &c. continued, &c.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That all causes, pleas, process and proceedings, both civil and criminal, (except as hereafter excepted,) which were depending, and undetermined in the said county court at their said meeting in February, shall be continued to the next county court, to be held for the said county on the second Monday in March next, and shall be adjudged and taken, to all intents and purposes, to be in the same state and condition, at the said term in March next, as if the said court had been adjourned as by law required, and the said causes, pleas, process and proceedings, regularly and lawfully continued from term to term; and that the justices of the said county court may, at their said next term, proceed to hear and determine, or further continue, and thereafter hear and determine, the said causes, pleas, process and proceedings, respectively, as the case may require, as fully and effectually as the same might or lawfully could have been done at their term in March last, if the said discontinuance had not happened; provided nevertheless, that in case any plaintiff or plaintiffs in any suit or suits so discontinued hath or have renewed his