

C H A P.
VII.

act, after the rate of twenty-five shillings for every hundred pounds of the principal money, tobacco, or other commodity, which he, she, or they, shall be so indebted, at the time he, she, or they, shall be respectively so assessed, by his, her, or their creditor or creditors, out of one year's interest so as aforesaid by him, her, or them, owing as aforesaid, and in the same proportion for a shorter time than one year; and may and hereby are enabled to deduct, retain, and discount the same, any agreement, bond, condition, provision, or other obligation, to the contrary notwithstanding; and all and every person or persons who are or shall be entitled to such interest, are hereby required to allow such deduction; and if any creditor shall refuse to allow and discount the same out of the interest due to him, and shall endeavour to compel payment without making such deduction, he shall, upon any suit brought to recover the same, be nonsuited, and forfeit the interest due on his debt.

Debts not liable to be taxed, &c.

XXXIX. And be it enacted, That debts shall be excepted and not liable to any assessment or tax otherwise than herein directed in the hands of the debtor.

Assessors may accept the oaths of persons who think themselves over rated, &c.

XL. And be it enacted, That where any person shall think himself over rated by any assessor, he may offer to declare the real and actual value of his property on oath, which the assessor may if he pleases administer and accept as sufficient evidence of the property of such person, and rate him accordingly.

Persons having offices of profit, &c. to be assessed 12/6 for every 100l. &c.

XLI. And be it enacted, That all and every person or persons within this state, having or exercising any public office or employment of profit, and all and every their clerks, agents, substitutes, deputies, and registers, and other inferior ministers whatsoever (hired clerks, who do not act by commission, in respect of the wages they receive for their hire only, and such military officers who shall be in the pay of the United States, or of this state, in respect of such military employment, only excepted) shall be assessed twelve shillings and six-pence for every hundred pounds of the clear annual amount and profit of such office or employment; and that all and every person or persons within this state, having an annuity, stipend, or other yearly payment, payable or secured to be paid by any person or persons within this state (except such as are issued out of lands, tenements, and hereditaments, or chargeable upon the same) shall be assessed twelve shillings and six-pence for every hundred pounds or the value thereof in any species or commodities whatsoever, which he, she, or they, do receive in one year by virtue of such annuity, stipend, or other yearly payment respectively.

Tobaccoes in warehouses to be valued by the assessors in whose hundreds such warehouses be, &c.

XLII. And be it enacted, That all tobaccoes in the several warehouses at the time of assessment shall be valued by the several assessors in whose hundreds such warehouses shall respectively be, and the rate of assessment shall be notified to the several inspectors, who are hereby authorized and required to receive such assessment before the tobaccoes be delivered out, except only in case of tobaccoes purchased for the use of this state, the United States, or any of them, or where it shall appear, by oath or affirmation of the party, or the testimony of some indifferent witness, that the same tobaccoes have been already assessed in the present assessment; and in case any inspector or inspectors shall deliver out