

At a SESSION of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
of MARYLAND, begun and held at the City of  
ANNAPOLIS, on Monday the eighth of June, in the year  
of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight,  
the following LAWS were enacted.

C H A P. I.

An ACT relating to prisoners and deserters from the British  
army and navy.

**B**E it enacted, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That every per-  
son who hath deserted, or shall hereafter desert, from the Bri-  
tish army or navy, shall be exempt from all militia duty within  
and without this state during the continuance of the present war with  
Great-Britain.

Deserters ex-  
empt from  
militia duty,  
&c.

II. And be it enacted, That all prisoners and deserters shall be, and  
they are hereby, disqualified from acting as substitutes in the militia,  
during the present war. And every contract hereafter made with such  
prisoner or deserter, for the purpose aforesaid, shall be void; and it  
shall and may be lawful for every prisoner or deserter, who shall here-  
after engage to act as a substitute, to appropriate to his own use all  
monies by him received from any person knowing him to be a prisoner  
or deserter as aforesaid, on such agreement.

Prisoners and  
deserters not  
to act as sub-  
stitutes, &c.

C H A P. II.

An ACT to aid the proceedings of the commissioners of the  
tax, and for other purposes.

**W**HEREAS it appears to this General Assembly, that the act  
of assembly passed the last session, entitled, An act to raise  
the supplies for the current year, was not transmitted to the  
commissioners of the tax for several of the counties, before the expi-  
ration of the time limited for the appointment of clerks and assessors,  
whereby the said commissioners have been prevented from appointing  
clerks and assessors, according to the directions of the said act. For  
remedy whereof,

Preamble.

II. Be it enacted, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That the said  
commissioners of the tax, appointed by the act aforesaid, shall meet  
together, at the place where the county court is usually held in their  
respective counties, on or before the first day of July next, and then  
and there proceed to the appointment of clerks and assessors, in the  
same manner as if they had met on the twentieth day of May last.

Commission-  
ers to meet,  
&c. on or be-  
fore the first  
of July, &c.

III. And be it enacted, That if any assessor, nominated or appointed  
by virtue of this act, shall make default at the time appointed for his  
appearance,

Fine on assessor  
refusing  
to serve, &c.