

C H A P.
VI, VII.

shall and are hereby required to take notice thereof, and cause the offender or offenders, if the offence be cognizable in the courts of justice, to be bound over, by bond or recognizance with good security, to answer for the same, and if the offence be cognizable before a single justice, shall cause the offender or offenders to give good security to appear at a day to be assigned him to answer for such offence, and in default of such security shall or may commit the person or persons offending to gaol, there to remain until delivered by due course of law. And if the offence be committed in the view of a justice of peace, and be by him cognizable, such justice shall and may, at his election, proceed to an immediate hearing, and may forthwith give judgment and order execution in manner aforesaid. And if any judge of the general court or justice of the peace shall neglect or refuse to do his duty according to the directions of this act, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of fifty pounds for every such neglect or refusal. And the justices of the several county courts shall, and they are hereby required, under the penalty of five pounds, to cause this act to be publicly read at their next March court, on the first Wednesday of such court, and shall and are hereby required, under the like penalty, to give the same in charge to the grand jury at August and November courts in the next year, and at every subsequent March, August, and November court, during the continuance of this act. The said penalty to be inflicted on each of the justices attending such court on the Wednesday above mentioned, and on the judge or justice giving the charge at any other court, or on the presiding justice, if no charge be given.

Continuance.

XVI. This act to commence the first day of February next, and shall continue and be in force for and during the term of three years, and unto the end of the next session of assembly which shall happen thereafter.

C H A P VII.

An ACT to raise the supplies for the year seventeen hundred and seventy-nine.

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is indispensably necessary, as well for defraying the current expences as to establish a fund for the punctual payment of interest accruing on loans, that the pound rate or assessment should be continued:

Five shillings
in the pound
to be set on
all property,
&c.

II. Be it therefore enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That a rate of five shillings in the pound on the annual value shall be set on all real and personal property within this state (real or personal property belonging to the United States, to this state, or to any church, county, or parish, or to any public or county school, provisions necessary for the use and consumption of the family for the year, and wearing apparel, only excepted) according to the value thereof, to be ascertained as hereafter mentioned, and that the same pound rate shall be assessed, paid, collected, and levied, for the year seventeen hundred and seventy-nine, in manner herein after directed, to-wit: For every hundred pounds worth of property, real or personal, within this state, there shall be set and assessed twenty-five shillings, and after that rate for every greater or lesser sum. Provided, that if any person shall be compelled