

C H A P.
XX, XX

where such offender dwells, requiring such sheriff or other peace officer forthwith to apprehend the said offender, and bring him before him, or some other justice of the peace, who shall cause the said offender to enter into recognizance, with sufficient surety, to be and appear at the next county court, to answer the premises, and abide the judgment of the court: And for want of such security the said justice shall, and he is hereby enjoined to commit the said offender to the gaol of the said county, there to remain until he be legally discharged; which said recognizance, with such as shall be taken for the appearance of the witnesses, shall be duly certified by the said justice to the next county or general court, where such offender shall be proceeded against by indictment, as is usual in like cases.

And return
the names of
offenders, &c.

V. And be it enacted, That all and every the constables of the respective hundreds or districts in this state shall, and are hereby enjoined and required to return, on oath or affirmation, the names and places of abode of all persons in their several hundreds or districts offending against this act; which said oath or affirmation the justices in their respective counties are hereby enjoined to administer.

How for-
feitures are to
be collected
and applied.

VI. And be it enacted, That all forfeitures which may arise, in pursuance of this act, shall be collected by the respective sheriffs of the city or county where such forfeitures arise; and the said sheriff shall transmit one moiety thereof to the treasurer of his shire, to be disposed of by the general assembly, and shall pay the other moiety to the constable or other person or persons informing against the offender.

Commence-
ment.

VII. And be it enacted, That this act shall commence at the end of twenty days after proclamation shall be made by the governor and council that similar laws have taken place in the neighbouring states of Pennsylvania, Virginia and Delaware.

C H A P. XX.

An ACT directing the manner of suing public bonds, and to aid proceedings in the several courts upon such bonds.

Preamble.

WHEREAS since the establishment of the present government, it is doubted whether suits can be maintained upon administration, testamentary, sheriff's and other public bonds, in the name of the late proprietary, and it is also doubted whether suits now depending on such bonds can be prosecuted to judgment: And whereas the people of this state are much interested in such bonds;

Persons inter-
ested in bonds
may obtain
copies, &c.

II. Be it therefore enacted, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That it shall and may be lawful for any person or persons, who are or may be interested in such bonds, to obtain copy or copies thereof and to sue in his, her, or their own name or names, for the penalty of such bonds, in which suits it shall be sufficient to declare that such bond or bonds were made and passed to the obligee in such bonds named, whereby action accrued to the party suing the same, to have and demand from the obligor or obligors therein mentioned, the penalty in such bond mentioned, and such proceeding shall be had thereon as will
bring