

1779.

L A W S of the S T A T E of

C H A P.  
IX.

take care of all public letters and packets, and expeditiously convey them, according to their respective directions, to the next sheriff or under-sheriff of the next adjacent county.

Allowance to  
sheriffs for  
their trouble,  
&c.

III. **And be it enacted,** That the several sheriffs shall receive as a reward for their trouble the several sums hereafter expressed, that is to say: To the sheriff of Anne-Arundel, who is hereby obliged to convey all such letters and packets as are directed and must go to the eastern shore, to Kent-Island, and deliver the same to the sheriff of Queen-Anne's county, or his deputy, two hundred pounds currency; to the sheriff of Queen-Anne's county, who is hereby also obliged to convey all such letters and packets as are directed to the city of Annapolis to the said city, one hundred and fifty pounds currency; to the sheriff of Talbot, seventy-five pounds; to the sheriff of Kent, seventy-five pounds; to the sheriff of Dorchester, seventy-five pounds; to the sheriff of Somerset, seventy-five pounds; to the sheriff of Worcester, twenty-five pounds; to the sheriff of Caroline, twenty-five pounds; to the sheriff of Cæcil, who is obliged to convey all such letters and packets as are directed to the northward to Christiana, or deliver the same to the sheriff of Newcastle county in the state of Delaware, seventy-five pounds; to the sheriff of Harford, seventy-five pounds; to the sheriff of Baltimore, seventy-five pounds; to the sheriff of Washington, seventy-five pounds; to the sheriff of Frederick, seventy-five pounds; to the sheriff of Montgomery, seventy-five pounds; to the sheriff of Prince-George's, seventy-five pounds; to the sheriff of Charles, seventy-five pounds; to the sheriff of St. Mary's, twenty-five pounds; to the sheriff of Calvert, twenty-five pounds; which said several respective sums of money shall be paid out of the public treasury of this state; in consideration whereof, the sheriffs of the said several and respective counties shall defray all such charges as shall accrue by reason of conveying all such letters or packets.

What are  
deemed public  
letters, &c.

IV. **And be it enacted,** That the following, and no other, shall be deemed public letters and packets, that is to say: All packets containing the laws passed at any session of assembly, the votes and proceedings of the senate and house of delegates, endorsed for public service and signed by the clerk of the council; all letters sent by the governor for the time being and endorsed on public service, and by the clerk of the council; all letters sent by the president of the senate, and endorsed by the clerk of the senate for public service and signed by him; all letters sent by the speaker of the house of delegates, and endorsed for the public service and signed by him; all certificates of assessments and books of proceedings of the commissioners of the tax, endorsed by the clerks of the several counties on public service and signed by them; all letters and packets sent by any judge of the general court, and endorsed on public service and signed by him, shall be deemed public letters and packets.

V. **And,** To prevent the negligence of the several sheriffs in forwarding public letters and packets:

Sheriff to give  
a receipt, &c.

VI. **Be it enacted,** That if any high-sheriff or his deputies receive any public letter or packet, he shall, if required, give a receipt for the same, shewing the day and hour when he received the same, and when he