

An ACT for emitting bills of credit to the value of five thousand four hundred pounds sterling; for the convenience of change, and issuing them in exchange for the bills of equal value now in circulation.

Preamble.

**W**HEREAS it is thought necessary, that there should be bills of credit to the value of five thousand four hundred pounds sterling issued for the convenience of small change, in exchange for bills of equal value now in circulation :

Governor and  
council to  
cause bills of  
credit to be  
printed, &c.

II. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That it shall and may be lawful for the governor and council, and they are hereby authorized and requested, to cause bills of credit of the following denominations, viz. forty-five thousand bills of one fifteenth of a dollar, forty-five thousand bills of one tenth of a dollar, forty-five thousand bills of one sixth of a dollar, and forty-five thousand bills of one fifth of a dollar, amounting in the whole to the sum of five thousand four hundred pounds sterling, estimating each dollar at the rate and of the value of four shillings and six-pence sterling, to be printed and struck, with all convenient speed, under the care and direction of two persons, to be appointed supervisors by the governor and council, in the manner and form following, to wit: This bill of one of a dollar shall entitle the bearer hereof to receive specie or bills of exchange, at the rate of four shillings and six-pence sterling per dollar for the said bill, with an interest of five per cent. according to an act of assembly of the state of Maryland, made the seventeenth day of October seventeen hundred and eighty; and the said bills of credit shall be struck on such plates and printed with such devices and marks to prevent counterfeits as the governor and council shall direct; and the printer and all his apprentices and servants employed in the printing the said bills, shall severally first take an oath faithfully and honestly to perform their duty, and that they will not advisedly print or stamp a greater number of blank bills, or of any other denomination, than directed by this act, except only such sheets as may be blotted, unfair, or imperfect, in the printing or striking thereof, and unfit for use; which blotted, unfair and imperfect sheets shall be immediately destroyed.

Bills not to be  
printed but in  
presence of a  
supervisor,  
&c.

III. *And be it enacted,* The printer shall not, by himself, his servants, or any other person employed, print or strike, stitch or bind, the said bills, or any of them, but in the presence of one or both the persons appointed supervisors; and in every intermission of the work, the supervisors shall safely and securely lock up the presses and stamps with which the work shall be performed, and the impressions which shall be then made, in the room in which the printing and binding shall be done, and the keys of such room shall keep in their possession; and when all the said bills shall be struck, the plates shall immediately be delivered by the printer to the treasurer of the western shore, to be by him safely kept; and the said supervisors shall, from time to time, as the said bills shall be printed, struck, stitched, and bound, deliver the same to the treasurer of the western shore, to be by him delivered out to the signers, in such quantity as he shall think proper.

IV. *And*