

XI. And be it enacted, That the reward to the owner of every mill, for receiving any wheat hereafter delivered in discharge of taxes, and for grinding, bolting, packing, keeping and preserving the same for any time not exceeding two months, shall be one tenth of every bushel of wheat ground, bolted, packed, and kept for the time aforesaid.

C H A P.
LIV, LV.

Reward to
owners of
mills, &c.

C H A P. LV.

An ACT to prevent suits on certain debts for a limited time.

BE it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That no action or suit shall be commenced or prosecuted by any creditor against his debtor, for any debt, promise, contract, or agreement, created or made before the first day of September, seventeen hundred and seventy-six, or between that day and the twelfth day of June, seventeen hundred and eighty, for gold, silver, or sterling, before the first day of January seventeen hundred and eighty-four, unless the debtor shall refuse or neglect to pay the interest due or which shall become due annually on such debt, in gold or silver, or in bills of credit, agreeably to an act for calling out of circulation the quota of this state of the bills of credit issued by congress, and the bills of credit emitted by acts of assembly under the old government and by the resolves of convention, in thirty days after demand made, or hath removed, or shall be about to remove, himself or his effects out of this state, or shall refuse, on request of his creditor, to renew his obligation, promise, contract, or agreement, and with security, if required; and the court before whom any such action or suit hath been or shall be brought, shall enquire into the fact, and, *ex officio*, order such action or suit to be discontinued, if prosecuted contrary to this act; provided, that this act shall not extend to any action or suit commenced or prosecuted, at law or in equity, against any guardian, executor, administrator, or trustee.

Suits not to be
commenced
for debts, &c.

+ Oct. 1780. Cap

II. Provided also, and be it enacted, That if any debtor has for sale any wheat, Indian corn, oats, tobacco, pork, stock of any kind, slaves, or land, and his creditor or creditors offer to receive any of the articles above mentioned, in discharge of such debt, promise, contract, or agreement, at the real value of such enumerated articles, which valuation shall be ascertained by any two or more of the commissioners of the tax for the county where such debtor resides, and if such debtor shall refuse to discharge his or her debt with any of the aforesaid articles, having such for sale, or making sale of any of the aforesaid articles to any other person than his or her creditor, after such offer made as aforesaid (except so much as may be necessary to pay taxes or procure him or her the necessaries of life) that in all such cases the creditor of such debtor shall be at full liberty to commence or prosecute his or her suit or suits.

Proviso:

III. And be it enacted, That for all debts on open accounts, or promissory notes, created or made before the first day of September, seventeen hundred and seventy-six, the debtor shall be compelled to give bond and security, including interest, to commence on such account or promissory note at the expiration of twelve months after the same was created

Debtor to give
bond, &c.