

or in such proportion as aforesaid, so far as the sale of the individual estate; which said certificate shall be paid as other public creditors, or discountable in taxes, at the option of the owner. C H A P.
XXIV, XXV,
XXVI.

C H A P. XXV.

An ACT proposing to the citizens of this state, creditors of congress on loan-office certificates, to accept this state for payment, on the terms therein mentioned.

W H E R E A S about three million of continental dollars were loaned by citizens of this state to congress, and this government is desirous of discharging, as far as in its power, its proportion of the interest of continental loans in America, and to make payment first to its own citizens: Preamble.

II. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That any subjects of this state, creditors of congress on loan-office certificates, may bring them to the auditor-general, to be adjusted by him, agreeable to the scale laid down by congress, and order may thereupon issue by the governor and council to the treasurer of the western shore, who may grant the owner a state certificate, bearing an interest of six per cent. and this state will thereupon become debtor for the sum expressed in such certificate, and the interest to accrue thereon, and do hereby engage to pay one half of the interest annually, during the war, in coin, and after the war to discharge the residue of the interest, or add it to the principal, and to pay the whole interest thereof annually in coin, and to pay the principal as soon as possible. Auditor to
adjust certifi-
cates, &c.

III. Provided, and it is hereby enacted, That nothing in this act shall be construed or taken to extend to any continental certificates assigned to the citizens of this state by the citizens of any other state. Proviso.

C H A P. XXVI.

An ACT for the defence of the bay, and to impose certain duties on imported articles.

B E it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the governor and the council be requested to procure the galley or ship, now building for this state by Mr. Stephen Steward, to be finished as soon as possible, and to be fitted out before the first day of May next, and armed and manned (with not less than thirty seamen and seventy watermen and marines, if to be procured, besides officers) and provided in every respect for a cruise within the bay and the sea coast of this state, until the first day of January seventeen hundred and eighty-four; and the governor and the council are also requested to fit out the new barge called the Somerset, lately built at Salisbury, and the three barges called the Terrible, the Fearnought, and the Defence, with sails, oars, cannon, and swivels, and cause them to be well manned, and in every respect provided for a cruise within the bay or inlets, and in concert with the said ship or galley, if so directed, until the said first day of January; and the governor and the council are authorized and requested to appoint and commission a captain and first Galley to be
finished, &c.