

An ACT to encourage the destroying of wolves.

WHEREAS it appears to this general assembly, that wolves are very numerous and mischievous in some of the counties of this state, and that they destroy great numbers of sheep: Preamble.

II. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That when and as often as any credible free person or persons shall bring before any justice of the peace, within any of the counties of this state, the head or heads of any wolf or wolves, and make oath (or affirmation if a quaker, menonist, or dunker) that the wolf or wolves, of which he or they produce the head or heads, were actually caught and killed within the limits of that county in which he or they pray for an allowance, and within six days next before the producing the same to such justice, that then such justice shall, and he is hereby authorized and directed to give such person or persons producing, a certificate for such head or heads produced and proved as aforesaid, and in such certificate to mention the oath or affirmation taken, and therein distinguish which or how many of the heads of the old or young wolves; and every justice, who shall have any wolves head or heads brought before him by any person or persons as aforesaid, shall be, and he is hereby, authorized and empowered to judge of the age of the said wolf or wolves, of which the said head or heads was brought before him; and if such justice shall believe the age of such wolf or wolves to exceed three months, that then he shall distinguish it in his certificate by the words old wolf or wolves, but if he shall believe the said wolf or wolves to be under the age of three months, that then he shall distinguish the same in his certificate by the words young wolf or wolves; and that every justice before whom any wolf's head is brought, and by whom a certificate shall be given as aforesaid, is hereby authorized and directed immediately to cause the ears to be cut off, and the tongue taken out, of and from the head or heads of such wolf or wolves, to prevent such head or heads from being a second time carried before a justice in order to obtain a certificate. Justices to give certificates, &c.

III. And be it enacted, That every person or persons, who shall produce a certificate as aforesaid to the justice of the county wherein the said wolf or wolves were killed, at the levy court shall, for every old wolf's head, be allowed six pounds current money, and for every young wolf's head be allowed three pounds current money, to be by the said justices assessed and levied in the county levy, together with the sheriff's salary for collecting the same, and to be paid by the sheriff to such person or persons as shall be entitled to the same, as aforesaid. Certificates to be allowed in levies, &c.

IV. This act to continue for three years, and to the end of the next session of assembly which shall happen thereafter. Continuance.

An ACT for the payment of the journal of accounts.

WHEREAS it appears, by the journal of accounts and list of debts, that there is now due from this state the sum of two thousand six hundred and seventy-three pounds four shillings and four-pence halfpenny current money: Preamble.

II. Be