

of in favour of American prisoners, many of whom were cloathed and fed by his bounty, their sufferings alleviated, and their lives preserved: And whereas it appears to this general assembly, by authentic testimonials of persons eminently distinguished by their love of liberty and unshaken attachment to the freedom of the United States of America, that the facts contained in the said memorial are true, and that the said William Russell did, by the strongest and most unequivocal acts, manifest a firm attachment to this and the other United States: And whereas the general assembly, by an act passed in October session seventeen hundred and eighty, entitled, An act to seize, confiscate, and appropriate, all British property within this state, did declare, that all British subjects, who have manifested their attachment to this state, should be excepted out of the said act, and their property, or the value thereof, restored to them, on application before a certain day therein expressed; and also that the general assembly, by an act passed in May session seventeen hundred and eighty-one, in consequence of the memorial of the said Thomas Russell, stating the right and claim of the said William Russell, did direct, that bonds to the amount of one-eighth part or eleven-twelfth parts of the property of the Principio company, ordered to be sold, should be set apart in the treasury, subject to their future disposition, with an intention to cause the said bonds, or an equivalent, to be given to the said William Russell, if it should thereafter appear that he was within the exception comprised within the said act for the confiscation of British property; and it appearing to this general assembly, by the most indubitable and satisfactory proof, that the said William Russell is fully and clearly comprehended within the said exception, and is most justly and deservedly entitled to every benefit and advantage to be derived therefrom:

C H A P.
IV, V.

II. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the said William Russell is entitled to and shall receive his proportionable part of the clear amount of the sales of all the property which did belong to the Principio company, with interest, to be computed from the times of said sales respectively, and that the treasurer of the western shore be, and he is hereby empowered and directed to deliver, to the said William Russell or his agent, any of the bonds taken for the said property and deposited in the treasury, which the said William Russell or his agent may select to receive, not exceeding his one-eighth part of eleven-twelfth parts of the said sales, and that the said William Russell or his agent give a receipt to the said treasurer therefor.

W. Russell to receive a proportion of sales, &c.

C H A P. V.

A bill, entitled, An A C T to authorise and empower David Brown and Henry Wilson, of Baltimore county, executors of the last will and testament of John Cornthwaite, late of the same county, deceased, to sell and dispose of the real estate therein mentioned.

W H E R E A S John Cornthwaite, late of Baltimore county, on or about the tenth day of January seventeen hundred and eighty-two, did make and execute, under his hand and seal, a certain instrument of writing, purporting to be his last will and testa-

Preamble.

ment,