

or the major part of them, shall see cause, and shall and may nominate and appoint another fit person to such office during the residue of the year, who shall have power to execute the same office according to the directions of this act on his taking the said oath of office.

XVI. **And be it enacted,** That before any of the said officers shall enter upon the execution of their respective offices, they shall take the several oaths to government appointed by law.

XVII. **And be it enacted,** That all and every the penalties and forfeitures in and by this act set and appointed, shall be recovered before a single magistrate as in case of small debts, in the name of the mayor, recorder and aldermen, of the town, and by them laid out and expended in mending the public streets in the said town.

XVIII. This act to continue and be in force for and during the term of seven years.

C H A P. XLVII.

An ACT to enable Thomas Handy Gillis, of Somerset county, to convey part of a tract of land therein mentioned.

WHEREAS it is represented to this general assembly, by the petition of Thomas Handy Gillis and Elizabeth Gillis, that captain Joseph Gillis, in his lifetime, sold and delivered possession of part of a tract of land called White Chapel, lying in Somerset county, but that no deed of conveyance, or bond for conveyance thereof, passed from the said Joseph Gillis to the said Eleanor Handy, now Eleanor Wilson: And whereas it is also represented to this general assembly, that only two of the representatives of the said Joseph Gillis are of age, and consequently no conveyance can be made until their arrival at age, and it appears that it would be for the benefit of the minors that a conveyance should be made; therefore,

II. **Be it enacted,** by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the said Thomas Handy Gillis be and he is hereby authorized and directed to make a deed or deeds of conveyance, in fee-simple, to the said Eleanor Wilson, for that part of White Chapel sold by Joseph Gillis, in his lifetime, to Eleanor Handy, now Eleanor Wilson; which said deed or deeds, when executed and recorded in due form of law, shall be of equal validity as if executed by the said Joseph Gillis in his lifetime.

C H A P. XLVIII.

An ACT in favour of Thomas, James, Baker, and Roger Johnson, and Josias Clapham.

WHEREAS the said Thomas, James, Baker and Roger, have, by their petition to this general assembly, set forth, that they have built, and now work, two iron furnaces and two iron forges in Frederick county, in Maryland, and that one of the furnaces is near Patowmack river, where they use in part ore from Virginia; and that they the said Johnsons, together with Josias Clapham, have jointly engaged in a scheme of erecting an iron furnace on Catoctin creek, on the side of Patowmack river in Virginia, where some of their negroes long used about iron-works might, for a time, be particularly useful; and have prayed that a law might pass, authorizing and empowering them to remove any slave or slaves employed, or who may hereafter be employed, at their iron-works in Virginia, to any of their said iron-works in this state, from time to time at their pleasure; and this general assembly thinking the prayer of the said petition reasonable, therefore,

II. **Be it enacted,** by the General Assembly of Maryland, That any male slave or slaves who may be employed at, or in the labour of or concerning, the iron-works of them the said Johnsons and Clapham in Virginia, or who may hereafter