

1793.

C H A P. LXVIII. discharge of such debtor or debtors shall not acquit any other person from such debt, damages or costs, or any part thereof, but that all such persons shall be answerable for the same in such manner as they were before the passing this act.

Proceedings to be recorded, &c.

XIV. And be it enacted, That all proceedings in chancery, under this act, shall be recorded by the register, who shall be entitled to the same fees as are fixed by law for services in other cases, which shall be paid at the time of obtaining the discharge.

Creditors to be consulted, &c.

XV. And be it enacted, That in all appointments of trustees under this act, by the chancellor, in the room of any person before appointed, the chancellor shall consult the creditors, and govern himself by the choice of a majority of them in value, unless upon notice being given by public advertisement, or in such other manner as he shall think reasonable, the said creditors shall neglect to make such choice.

When application is to be made, &c.

XVI. And be it enacted, That none of the said debtors who do not make application as aforesaid, on or before the first day of April next, shall have any benefit of this act.

C H A P. LXIX.

Passed December 28.

An ACT to erect Baltimore-town, in Baltimore county, into a city, and to incorporate the inhabitants thereof.

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is found by experience that the good order, health, peace and safety, of large towns and cities, cannot be well preserved, nor the evils and accidents to which they are subject avoided or remedied, without an internal power, competent to establish a police and regulations fitted to their particular circumstances, wants and exigencies; therefore,

Baltimore-town erected into a city, and its free white inhabitants constituted a body politic and corporate, &c.

II. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Baltimore-town, in Baltimore county, shall be and is hereby erected into a city, by the name of The City of Baltimore, and its free white inhabitants constituted a body politic and corporate, by the name of The Mayor and Common-Council of the City of Baltimore, and as such shall have perpetual succession, and by their corporate name may sue or be sued, emplead or be empleaded, grant or receive, and do all other acts, as natural persons, and may purchase and hold real, personal or mixed property, for the benefit of themselves and their successors, and may have a common seal, which may be broken or altered at pleasure: There shall be a common-council, mayor, council of electors, recorder and aldermen: The common-council shall be composed of two branches, called a First and Second Branch: The city shall be divided into eight wards, each ward to contain, as nearly as may be, an equal number of taxable inhabitants; the first division shall be made by five commissioners, or a majority of them, to be appointed by the governor and council; previous to the second election, the common-council shall direct a correct division, founded on the actual number of taxable inhabitants, which shall be repeated as often as the increase of inhabitants shall render it necessary; that is to say, when the city shall contain fifteen thousand taxable inhabitants, it shall be divided into ten wards; when twenty thousand taxable inhabitants, into fifteen wards; when thirty thousand taxable inhabitants, into twenty wards; when forty-five thousand taxable inhabitants, into twenty-five wards; and upon every subsequent increase of thirty thousand taxable inhabitants, the whole shall again be divided into twenty-five wards, in order to preserve as nearly as may be, an equal number of voters in each ward: The first branch of the common-council shall consist of as many members as there are wards, the second branch of two members from each ward: The residents in each ward, qualified as hereafter directed, shall choose one person for election of the first branch, and two persons for members of the second branch, and the persons so chosen to elect the members of the first branch, shall constitute the council of electors: No person, who is not of the age of thirty years, three years citizen of the state, and resident within the bounds of the corporation two years previous