

C H A P.
LXV.

other proceedings, and management of the money committed to their trust, shall, when required, be laid before the general assembly for their examination and instruction.

C H A P. LXVI.

Passed De-
cember 30.

An ACT, entitled, An act to revive and continue an act, entitled, An act for the punishment of horse stealers and other offenders:

Act revived,
&c.

BE it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That an act of assembly, entitled, An act for the punishment of horse stealers and other offenders, passed at May session, one thousand seven hundred and forty-four, shall be and is hereby revived and continued until the twentieth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and three, and to the end of the next session of assembly which shall happen thereafter.

Court may
pass judge-
ment, &c.

II. **And be it enacted,** That the several courts of justice within this state before whom such offender shall or may be convicted, may pass such judgment as the law requires for such crimes, or they may, in their discretion, adjudge any such offender to serve and labour, agreeably to the directions of the act of assembly, entitled, An act for the more effectual punishment of criminals, passed at November session, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three.

C H A P. LXVII.

Passed De-
cember 31.

An ACT relating to negroes, and to repeal the acts of assembly therein mentioned.

Negroes not
to be import-
ed, &c.

BE it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That it shall not be lawful, from and after the passing of this act, to import or bring into this state, by land or water, any negro, mulatto or other slave, for sale, or to reside within this state; and any person brought into this state as a slave contrary to this act, if a slave before, shall thereupon immediately cease to be the property of the person or persons so importing or bringing such slave within this state, and shall be free.

Proviso.

II. **Provided nevertheless, and be it enacted,** That it shall and may be lawful for any citizen or citizens of the United States, who shall come into this state with a *bonâ fide* intention of settling therein, to import or bring into this state, at the time of his or her removal into this state, or within one year thereafter, any slave or slaves the property of such citizen at the time of his or her said removal, which slave or slaves, or the mother or mothers of which slave or slaves, shall have been resident of the United States, or some one of them, three whole years next preceding such removal, and the same to retain as slaves.

Persons not
to sell, &c.

III. **And be it enacted,** That nothing herein contained shall be construed to enable any person or persons, so removing as aforesaid, to sell or dispose of any slave or slaves imported by virtue of this act, or their increase, unless such person or persons shall have resided within this state three whole years next preceding such sale, except in cases of disposition by last will and testament, and dispositions by law for *bonâ fide* debts, or consequent upon intestacy.

Right not af-
fected, &c.

IV. **And be it enacted,** That nothing in this act contained shall be construed or taken to affect the right of any person or persons travelling or sojourning with any slave or slaves within this state, such slave or slaves not being sold or otherwise disposed of in this state, but carried by the owner out of this state, or attempted to be carried.

No slave ma-
nmitted to
vote, &c.

V. **And be it enacted,** That no slave manumitted agreeably to the laws of this state since the passage of the act, entitled, An act to prohibit the bringing slaves into this state, or made free under the said act, or who shall hereafter be manumitted or made free in virtue of this act, shall be entitled to the privilege of voting at elections, or of being elected or appointed to any office of profit or trust,