

expressed in the aforesaid plot, and return the said plot, when amended, to the clerk's office of Baltimore county, to be recorded as evidence of the true location of said road.

C H A P.
LIX.

C H A P. LX.

An ACT for the benefit of John Shewman, of Washington county.

Passed 3d of
Jan. 1800.
Preamble.

WHEREAS it is represented to this general assembly, that a negro man named Aleck, the property of a certain John Shewman, of Washington county, was, in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-seven, committed to the gaol of Washington county, (on suspicion of having committed a rape,) that he made his escape therefrom, was retaken, and at the January term, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, was indicted for the said supposed offence, tried and acquitted, but died within two days after his trial, in consequence of having been frostbitten during his escape; and as it is reasonable and proper that the said John Shewman should receive some compensation for the loss of his said slave,

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the justices of the levy court of Washington county shall be and they are hereby empowered and directed to assess and levy on the assessable property of Washington county such sum of money, not exceeding two hundred dollars, as the said justices in their judgment may suppose the said slave to have been worth, to be collected in the manner that other county charges are collected, and when collected, to cause the same to be paid to the said John Shewman, his executors, administrators or assigns, as the case may require.

Money to be
levied, &c.

C H A P. LXI.

An ACT for the punishment of horse-stealers, and other offenders.

Passed 3d of
Jan. 1800.
Penalty for
stealing horses,
&c.

BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That all and every person and persons who shall hereafter feloniously take or steal any horse, mare, gelding, colt, jack, jenny or mule, within this state, and all aiders, abettors and accessories, either before or after the fact of any such takers or stealers, and all and every person and persons who shall buy, take or receive, any stolen horse, mare, gelding or colt, jack, jenny or mule, knowing the same to be feloniously taken or stolen, and shall be thereof convicted by confession or verdict, or will not upon arraignment answer directly according to law, or shall wilfully and of malice stand mute, or shall peremptorily challenge above twenty of the jury, shall, for every such offence or offences as aforesaid, suffer death as a felon, without benefit of clergy.

II. AND BE IT ENACTED, That any person or persons who shall, after the publication of this act, maliciously, wilfully and designedly, burn any ship or other vessel, sloop, shallop or boat, of seventeen feet keel or upwards, whether laden or empty, and the aiders or abettors of such offender or offenders, being thereof convicted by due course of law, shall suffer death as a felon or felons, without benefit of clergy.

And for burn-
ing ships, &c.

III. 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.

Courts may
pass judgment,
&c.

C H A P. LXII.

An ACT to authorise and empower the justices of the levy court of Prince-George's county to pull down the repository of the records of the register of wills in said county.

Passed 3d of
Jan. 1800.

WHEREAS it has been represented to this general assembly, by the justices of the levy court of Prince-George's county, that the repository in Marlborough is in so ruinous a condition that it is with much difficulty the papers can be kept secure, and that the spot on which it stands is the most eligible situation on which the new court-house can be erected, and that an office will be contained in the new court-house for the register of wills; and they have prayed that a law may pass, authorising the said justices to pull down the repository aforesaid, sell the materials of the same, and apply the money towards the erecting of a new gaol; and the prayer of the petitioners appearing reasonable and just, therefore,

Preamble.