

rant of commitment, upon his or her prayer or petition in open court the first days of the term or session, to be brought to trial, shall not be indicted sometime in the next term or session after such commitment, the judges or justices of the said court shall, upon motion in open court the last day of the term or session, set at liberty the prisoner upon bail, unless it shall sufficiently appear to the said court that the witnesses of the state could not be produced the same term or session; and if such prisoner, upon his or her prayer or petition as aforesaid, shall not be indicted and tried the second term or session, he or she may, in the discretion of the court, be discharged from his or her imprisonment; *Provided*, that nothing herein shall extend to discharge out of prison any person charged with any other process, but that after he or she shall be discharged from his or her imprisonment for such criminal offence, he or she shall be kept in custody according to law for such other suit or cause.

Persons committed for treason or felony to be indicted at first term, or admitted to bail, &c.

Proviso.

CHAPTER 127.

AN ACT more effectually to secure the Collection of the Public Revenues.

WHEREAS it appears from the statements of the treasurers of the respective shores, that very considerable sums of money are due to this state under the several denominations of debts therein specified, and some of said debts appear to have been long since due, and in a very hazardous situation; and it being at all times not only the duty of the legislature to secure and protect the public revenue, but also to adopt such measures as may tend more effectually to collect the outstanding debts due to the state, and to bring the same as speedily and as far as possible into the treasury; therefore,

Preamble.

SEC. 2. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the treasurers of the western and eastern shores respectively, be and they are hereby authorized and required, to order and direct suit or suits to be brought immediately against such debtor or debtors for debts due to this state as they may deem necessary, right and proper, having a reference to the validity thereof, and also to prosecute, and to continue to final issue and determination, all such suit or suits already brought and still depending for debts due to the state, as they may think advisable and proper.

Treasurers to direct suits to be brought.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That if any clerk, sheriff or collector, of any county of this state, shall hereafter refuse or neglect to pay unto the treasurer of the shore to whom the same ought to be paid, any moneys of the said state in the hands of the said clerk, sheriff or collector, at the time limited by law for the payment thereof, and to render and settle his accounts with the said treasurer, it shall be, and it is hereby

To order suits on sheriffs, clerks, and collectors bonds, upon non-payment of moneys for three months.