

C H A P. III.

An ACT for the protection of our bay trade, and to defend our citizens exposed to plunder by the enemies barges.

This act orders four large barges immediately to be procured, and fitted with sails, oars, cannon and swivels, and to be well manned and provided in every respect for a cruize within the bay, until the 1st of January. It likewise appoints an honourable ambassador or agent to repair to the capital of Virginia, and consult with the legislature or executive of that commonwealth, on the most effectual measures for protecting the trade of Chesapeake; and to assure our sister state of our sincere wishes to live with her on terms of the strictest harmony, and in an interchange of friendly offices.

The act also contains, amongst a great number of provisions, the following equitable and humane law:

XIII. **And be it enacted,** That if any officer, seaman, waterman or marine, shall lose a limb, or be otherwise maimed or hurt, so as to be rendered incapable of procuring a livelihood, such officer, seaman, waterman or marine, shall be entitled to receive the same provision and support, as is or shall hereafter be established by this state for its officers and soldiers in the service of the United States.

Officers, &c. disabled, to be provided for, &c.

C H A P. IV.

An ACT for the building a new court-house and gaol in Queen-Anne's county, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

A majority of seven persons, named in this act, is authorized to purchase four acres of land, at or near the head of Corfica creek; and if they cannot agree with the proprietor for the price, it must be ascertained in the mode prescribed on a similar occasion by the act of November, 1781, ch. 10. A certificate of this ground is to be made out by the surveyor of the county, and enrolled by the clerk amongst the county records. The commissioners are to pay for the ground out of the money which they are authorized to raise from the sale of the old court-house and prison. The residue of that money they are to apply to the building of the new prison. And until the court-house and prison be built at the said place, or buildings convenient for holding court, &c. be erected there, the justices are required to procure convenient places near Chester mill, for the meeting of the court, for a repository of the records, and for the custody of prisoners. But no provision is hereby made for building the court-house.

C H A P. V.

An ACT to prevent the exportation of bread and flour not merchantable from George-town in Montgomery county, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted, by the general assembly of Maryland, That the act to prevent the exportation of bread and flour not merchantable, and for other purposes, made and passed at a session of assembly, begun and held at the city of Annapolis, on Monday the fifth of November, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one, have full force and operation, and apply in the same degree and manner to George-town in Montgomery county, as if made for said town, after the first day of August ensuing.

Act to apply to George-town, &c.

II. **And,** whereas there is a difference between the size of the Pennsylvania and Virginia flour casks, and the flour casks established by the aforesaid act, by which means the exportation of Pennsylvania and Virginia made flour from this state is prevented: Therefore, **Be it enacted,** That it shall and may be lawful to export Pennsylvania and Virginia flour, packed in Pennsylvania and Virginia casks, of a size and make conformable to the regulations of the laws of the said states, from the ports of Baltimore and George-town aforesaid, provided that the flour is merchantable agreeable to the regulations of this state, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Pennsylvania and Virginia flour may be exported, &c.

III. This act to continue and be in force for and during the term of the act to prevent the exportation of bread and flour not merchantable, and for other purposes.

Continuance.

C H A P. VI.

An ACT to authorize the commissioners for the preservation and sale of confiscated British property, to convey certain lands to William Winder.

C H A P. VII.

An ACT declaring that the causeway leading through Pocomoke swamp to Snow hill, be repaired and maintained at the charge of Worcester county.

And it shall serve as a public highway; and the court shall appoint an overseer to keep it, at the county's expence, in good order for travellers, their beasts, carriages and burthens.