

C H A P.
V.
Deemed a
public act.

V. And be it also enacted, That this act shall be deemed a public act, and the same shall and may be given in evidence, in justification of or for any matter or thing done by virtue thereof, on the general issue, without specially pleading the same.

Proviso.

VI. Provided always, That this act, or any thing therein contained, shall not hinder, or be construed to hinder or prevent, the erecting, or causing to be erected, any bridge or bridges over the said river Monococy, with convenient arches for admitting of boats and other vessels of burthen passing through the same, with the least obstruction that may be.

C H A P. VI.

An ACT appointing new visitors for the public school in Frederick county, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

This act appoints seven new visitors, viz. Jonathan Wilson, Thomas Bowles, George Murdock, Major Joseph Wood, Thomas Price, Caspar Shaaff, and Charles Beatty. These visitors are empowered to purchase half an acre of ground in Frederick-town, and thereon to build a school-house; and the treasurers of the province are directed to pay them a dividend of county school duties, hereafter to be collected, or which may have been collected since September 29, 1763.

C H A P. VII.

An ACT for granting to the Nanticoke Indians a compensation for the lands therein mentioned.

Preamble.

WHEREAS the greatest part of the tribe of the Nanticoke Indians, have some years ago, left and deserted the lands in this province, appropriated by former acts of assembly for their use, so long as they should occupy the same; and the few that remain have, by their petition to this general assembly, prayed that they might have liberty to dispose of their right to the said lands, or that some compensation should be made them for quitting claim thereto, as they are desirous of totally leaving this province, and going to live with their brethren, who have incorporated themselves with the Six Nations; and that they have given a power of attorney to a certain Amos Ogden, to dispose of the said lands for them, and to execute a release and acquittance therefor, which power appears to be confirmed and approved by Sir William Johnson, his majesty's superintendent of Indian affairs for the northern department. And whereas Robert Darnall and Sarah his wife, Henry Steele and Anne his wife, and John Henry and Dorothy his wife, (which said Sarah, Anne, and Dorothy, are the co-heiresses of col. John Rider, deceased) have, by their petition, set forth to this general assembly, That one tract of land, called The Reserve, originally, on the fifteenth day of May, one thousand six hundred and sixty-five, granted to a certain John Anderton, for eight hundred acres; another tract called Handfell, on the thirteenth day of July in the same year, granted to a certain Thomas Taylor, for seven hundred acres; and one other tract called Bartholemew's Close, on the tenth day of November, one thousand six hundred and ninety-five, granted to a certain Thomas Hicks, for one hundred and sixty-four acres, lie within the boundaries of a large tract of land laid out for the said Indians, by virtue of an act of assembly, made in the year of our lord one thousand seven hundred and four, entitled, An act for ascertaining the bounds of a certain tract of land, to the use of the Nanticoke Indians, so long as they shall occupy and live on the same, and that the said three small tracts of land, became, by purchase and devise, the right of the said col. John Rider, and the reversion thereof is now in the said petitioners; and prayed, as the said lands had been heretofore taken from their ancestors for the public account, that the public money might be now applied to purchase a release of the Indians claim to the same for their use, which this general assembly have thought reasonable to grant. And whereas the said Amos Ogden hath, in behalf of the said Indians, offered to take the sum of six hundred and sixty-six dollars and two thirds of a dollar, for a release of right, and full acquittal of claim of the said Nanticoke Indians, as well to the aforesaid three tracts of land, as to three thousand acres lying on Broad creek, in Somerset county, by an act made in the year of our Lord seventeen hundred and eleven, entitled, An act to empower commissioners to appoint and cause to be laid out, three thousand acres of land on Broad creek, in Somerset county, for the use of the Nanticoke
Indians