

C H A P. XXIII. sion of the legislature, without creating uses and demands, can produce it; and that it is a vain attempt, in a free government, to combat general opinion by laws. By opinion, applied to bills of credit, is to be understood a firm belief and persuasion, that they will be equal to, and answer all the purposes of specie. But from a general clamour for an emission, is by no means to be inferred this opinion; because that clamour may most probably proceed from an expectation of deriving an advantage from their depreciation. These few remarks, it is presumed, may be pardonable, but the nature of this work will not afford room for all the observations which suggest themselves on this fruitful and most important subject.

C H A P. XXIV.

An ACT to ascertain officers fees in special courts.

Allowance to judges of special courts, &c.

BE it enacted, by the general assembly of Maryland, That there shall be allowed to each judge of any special court of oyer and terminer and gaol delivery, twenty shillings specie per day for his attendance in court, besides the like allowance, if he lives out of the county in which such court shall be held, for each day's itinerant charges in going to and returning from such court; and that all ministerial officers, belonging to or attending such court, shall be entitled to the same fees as are or may be chargeable by law for the like services performed at the same time in the general court.

Continuance.

II. This act to continue three years, and to the end of the next session of assembly which shall happen thereafter.

Continued for three years, &c. by the act of 1784, ch. 83.

C H A P. XXV.

A further supplement to the act to raise the supplies for the year seventeen hundred and eighty-one.

Where persons have paid black state or continental state money, for the tax, they shall be credited for it at the rate of three for one. Officers of the revenue are allowed, upon affidavit, to pay in any of the old continental bills, received by them before the 20th of March last; and the red money, for taxes, duties, fines and forfeitures, is to be received at par.

Collection of tax on certain property suspended, &c.

XX. WHEREAS it is represented by the honourable le Chevalier d'Anmours, consul-general for his Most Christian Majesty for this and the four southern states, that the Americans settled in France enjoy the most unlimited liberty with respect both to their persons and properties, that not one of them is subject to any personal or pecuniary duty, and therefore he requested that the subjects of France, and their moveables, may be exempted from the payment of any taxes on such property, and from militia duty; **Be it therefore enacted**, That the collection of the tax on any personal property, *bonâ fide* belonging to any subject of his Most Christian Majesty, who hath or may come into this state for the purposes of commerce, or to be a temporary inhabitant only, and who shall be so certified by the consul-general of France for this state to the commissioners of the tax where such person shall reside, shall be suspended, until it be ascertained what privileges the subjects of this state shall be entitled to enjoy in France, and the general assembly shall take further order in the premises, and any such subject of France shall also be exempted from any fine for not performing military or militia duty, until the further order of the legislature.

C H A P. XXVI.

A Supplement to the act to continue and explain the powers vested in the special council appointed on the eastern shore.

The special council, without the control of the constitutional executive, may draw on their own treasurer for two fifths of any money or tobacco in his hands at the time of the draught, and apply it for the defence of their shore, by calling out the select or other militia, and fitting out and manning four barges lately built on their shore, which shall be officered by them, and be subject only to their command, for the defence of the state at large. In case of an invasion, or insurrection, or a well grounded apprehension of either, they may order out any part of either the select or other militia, and during an invasion, or insurrection, they may fill up any vacancy in militia offices, until the next session of assembly; and they are indemnified for all the expences they have already incurred.

The constitutional executive may fill up any vacancy in this council, each member of which is allowed 20/ for each day's attendance in council; and their clerk and door-keeper shall be allowed whatever they may think proper.

To continue until the end of the next session. Expired.