

C H A P.
XL.
Delegates to
subscribe the
confederation,
&c.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the delegates of this state in congress, or any two or three of them, shall be and are hereby empowered and required, on behalf of this state, to subscribe the articles of confederation and perpetual union between the states of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina and Georgia, signed in the general congress of the said states by the honourable Henry Laurens, Esquire, their then president, and laid before the legislature of this state to be ratified, if approved; and that the said articles of confederation and perpetual union, so as aforesaid subscribed, shall thenceforth be ratified and become conclusive as to this state, and obligatory thereon; and it is hereby declared, that by acceding to the said confederation, this state doth not relinquish, or intend to relinquish, any right or interest she hath with the other united or confederated states to the back country, but claims the same as fully as was done by the legislature of this state in their declaration which stands entered on the journals of congress, this state relying on the justice of the several states hereafter, as to the said claim made by this state; and it is hereby declared, that no article in the said confederation can or ought to bind this or any other state to guaranty any exclusive claim of any particular state to the soil of the said back lands, or any such claim of jurisdiction over the said lands, or the inhabitants thereof.

Passed 2d of
Feb. 1781.

C H A P. XLI.
An ACT to compel the payment of the taxes in Somerset county. Lib. TBH. No. 1. fol. 440.

C H A P. XLII.
An ACT for the building a gaol for the safe keeping of the disaffected and prisoners of war. Lib. TBH. No. 1. fol. 441.

C H A P. XLIII.
An ACT to procure recruits. Lib. TBH. No. 1. fol. 442.

C H A P. XLIV.
A Supplement to the act to procure recruits. Lib. TBH. No. 1. fol. 450.

Draughts may
be suspended,
&c.

BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That if cloathing and money can be obtained to encourage and promote the recruiting service, and there is a probability that nearly the number of recruits proposed by the act aforesaid to be raised can be procured by voluntary enlistment, the governor and council shall have full power and authority, and are hereby requested, to order the draught in the said act mentioned to be suspended, either generally, or in such counties as have heretofore exerted themselves in procuring recruits under the laws of this state, until the meeting of the next general assembly.

Persons re-en-
listing entitled
to a certificate,
&c.

II. AND, whereas many of the non-commissioned officers and privates who have served in the quota of this state of the continental army, and who have been discharged because their times have expired, may be inclined to enter again into the service; BE IT ENACTED, That in case any person, sufficient and proper to be passed as a recruit, who hath already served one year or more in the continental army, and hath been discharged, and shall enter as a recruit according to the act of this present session to procure recruits, shall not only be entitled to all the benefits proposed by the said act, but also to a certificate for the depreciation of the pay which became due to him whilst he was in service, between the first day of January, seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, and the last day of July last, as if he was in the quota of this state of the continental army at the time of passing the act of the present session to settle and adjust the accounts of the troops of this state in the service of the United States, and for other purposes.

C H A P. XLV.
An ACT to seize, confiscate and appropriate, all British property within this state. Lib. TBH. No. 1. fol. 451.

Other acts, ch. 49 and 51.

Preamble.

WHEREAS Great-Britain commenced an unjust war against the United States, and because of their defending themselves against her unprovoked and unjustifiable violence, declared the people of these states rebels, and out of the protection of her government, and now prosecutes the war against them on pretence of their being revolted colonies and in rebellion, and hath confiscated the property of some of the citizens of these states; the British army and navy, and other armed vessels,