

cil may apply such sums as they may think proper of the bills of credit to be emitted in virtue of the act of this session, * not exceeding in the whole three thousand pounds, in defraying the expence of expresse, and satisfying the just claims of the most distressed of the public creditors, already arisen for, or principally for, their personal labour.

C H A P.
XXXVI.
Chapter 23.

LX. AND, whereas by the further supplement to the act to raise the supplies for the year seventeen hundred and eighty-one, * the bills of credit of this state already emitted, and the continental bills of credit emitted in this state, in the future payment of taxes, fines, forfeitures, and so forth, are to be paid at the rate of three dollars of the said emissions for one silver dollar, and there is now great reason to expect the said bills of credit will appreciate; BE IT ENACTED, That in case the said bills of credit should appreciate, and become of more value than at the rate of three dollars of those emissions respectively for a silver dollar, the governor and council may, and they are requested, from time to time, to ascertain the value of the said bills of credit respectively, compared with specie, and to cause the same to be made as public as possible; and the said bills of credit shall thereafter be accordingly received in payments at such value, instead of three for one as directed by the said act.

* Chapter 25.

Governor, &c.
to ascertain the
value, &c.

C H A P. XXXVII.

An ACT to dispose of certain confiscated British and forfeited property. Lib. TBH. No. A. fol. 59.

Passed 27th of
June, 1781.

BE IT ENACTED, That the commissioners for the time being to preserve confiscated British property, shall be and are hereby empowered to sell and dispose of the lands belonging to the persons commonly called the Principio Company on Whetstone Point, and the two hundred acres near Harris's creek, excepted by the act of the present session for the emission of bills of credit not exceeding two hundred thousand pounds, on the security of double the value in lands, to defray the expences of the present campaign, in the manner herein after directed; that is to say, that the said commissioners, with the assent of Thomas Russell, who is one of the partners in the said company, and with the assent of any other subject or subjects of this or any other of the United States, who appear to them to be entitled in the said lands as a partner in the said company, lay out the said lands in such small and convenient parcels as they may think proper, or divide and lay off the shares or parts of the said Thomas Russell, and such other subject or subjects aforesaid, in severalty, or if they will not agree as aforesaid, cause the same to be laid off in severalty by a jury, in like manner as they are empowered to do as to other of the lands of the said company by the said act, and with the approbation of the governor and council, sell the said lands hereby directed to be sold, or any part or parts thereof, at auction, on four weeks notice in the Annapolis and Baltimore newspapers, for ready money or short credit, payable in money only; or if the said commissioners shall judge it most for the advantage of the public, they may, with the approbation of the governor and council, dispose of the same, or any part thereof, reserving and laying out on Whetstone Point two acres on the best water, and most proper for ship-yards and warehouses, and four other acres from the water, for the use of the public, and also reserving for the public the land whereon the fort is erected, and as much else as may be necessary for the use thereof, by way of lottery; and if the shares or parts of the said Thomas Russell, and such other subject or subjects aforesaid, shall be sold at auction or disposed of by way of lottery, the said commissioners shall deliver over to them their just proportion of the net produce, and the residue of the money produced by the sale, in any manner aforesaid, shall be paid to the treasurer of the western shore, and be subject to the orders of the governor and council.

Lands on
Whetstone
Point to be
sold, &c.

II. PROVIDED, AND BE IT ENACTED, That the land on Whetstone Point, recovered by verdict in the late provincial court by William Lux, deceased, against the Principio company, shall not be laid out in any manner aforesaid as the lands of the said Principio company, but that the same shall remain in the same state as if this act had not been made.

Proviso.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the commissioners aforesaid shall and are hereby empowered to sell and dispose of any negroes, or other personal property of British subjects, which they may judge indisputably such, and not immediately useful or profitable to this state, or which they may be apprehensive will otherwise be lost, or endangered or damaged.

Personal pro-
perty to be
sold, &c.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said commissioners shall take into their possession all forfeited property of persons convicted or outlawed for treason, and may sell the same, in such parts or parcels as they may judge most for the public advantage, at auction, after public and convenient notice; and the said last mentioned sales shall be for specie, at the value of seven shillings and six-pence per

Commissioners
to take posses-
sion, &c.

Spanish