

tors of the Penitentiary, and that they have power to appoint the keeper of the penitentiary, and to remove him at pleasure, and also to appoint at their pleasure, all such deputies and assistants to said keeper, and such other officers and agents, as they may deem necessary for the wholesome and effectual administration of the concerns of the penitentiary, and also to hire and employ, at pleasure, from time to time, such and so many guards as they may deem necessary, and to fix and regulate the salaries and compensation of said keeper, and all such persons as they shall from time to time appoint, hire, or employ; *Provided*, that the salary for the said keeper shall not exceed thirteen hundred dollars, the salary of the clerk and agent shall not exceed eight hundred dollars each, and the salary of the deputy keepers and guards shall not exceed, for each assistant keeper and guard so employed, the sum now allowed by law; *And provided also*, that no perquisite shall be allowed to the said keeper, or other persons employed in conducting the affairs of the said penitentiary, beyond the salaries aforesaid; which said salaries shall be paid as heretofore.

Dec Ses 1817.

Provisos.

2. *And be it enacted*, That convicts confined in the penitentiary shall be admitted as witnesses in all cases where any person confined in the penitentiary may be accused, or on trial, for any offence whatever, committed while thus confined in the penitentiary, both for and against such accused persons, any law, custom or usage, to the contrary notwithstanding.

When persons confined are accused convicts to be admitted as evidence.

3. *And be it enacted*, That hereafter no coloured person shall be sentenced to confinement in the penitentiary, on conviction in a court of justice, for any offence, for any time less than one year, but that in all cases, where the time prescribed by law for the punishment of any offence by confinement in the penitentiary is less than one year, or the court in the exercise of their discretion shall deem the punishment of confinement in the penitentiary for one year or more to exceed the limits of justice, they may sentence the party to such fine, public whipping, and if in the city of Baltimore, at the prison yard thereof, or imprisonment in the gaol of the county, or both, as in their discretion may be right and proper.

No coloured person to be sentenced for less than one year.

CHAPTER 73.

An act to regulate the Charges on Tobacco in Prince-George's County.

Passed Jan 29

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland* That from and after the first day of April eighteen hundred and eighteen, there shall be paid for tobacco inspected in Prince-George's county, the sum of one dollar for each hogshead, which sum shall be paid to the inspector on the delivery thereof.

One dollar per hhd. to be paid for inspection.

CHAPTER 74.

An act authorising the Levy Court of Somerset County to levy and assess a sum of money for certain purposes therein mentioned.

Passed Jan 30

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That the levy court of Somerset county be and they are hereby authorised and required, to levy and assess on the assessable property of Somerset county, such a sum of money as they may deem sufficient,

Levy to erect a building.