

1799. NOVEMBER.

L A W S O F M A R Y L A N D.

C H A P.
LXXX.

the agent, or unless made to the clerks and sheriffs of the several counties, in the cases where the said clerks and sheriffs are by law authorized to receive the same.

Agent to take
back property,
&c.

VIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the agent shall have full power and authority, by and with the advice of the governor and council, in all cases of uninstalled debts, to take back any property heretofore purchased by any person and not yet paid for, in cases where the person so having purchased, and his securities, are not capable of paying for the same, and to compromise the same upon terms and principles of equity and justice, by and with the advice and consent aforesaid; and the agent is hereby required to lay a particular statement of his proceedings under this section before the next session of assembly.

And may com-
promise, &c.

IX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the agent, with the approbation and consent of the governor and council, be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to compromise any suit depending in chancery with any state debtor, upon any terms in their judgment calculated to promote the interest of the state, and to obtain the speedy receipt of the sums due.

Property taken
back may be
sold, &c.

X. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if, under the terms of any compromise made as aforesaid, the property heretofore purchased should be taken back and reposed in the state, the same may be sold by the agent, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to sell the same at public sale, giving thirty days notice, on a credit of two years, payable, one half of the principal, and the whole interest annually, on the first day of December in each year; and the bonds, when taken, shall be returned to the treasury of the western shore, and reported to the general assembly at their session next ensuing the taking of such bonds.

Agent to call
on the attorney-
general, &c.

XI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That all cases in chancery, where no compromise under this act is effected, shall be placed under the direction of the agent, who is hereby authorized and required to call on the attorney-general to prosecute or defend the same to immediate final decision; and the governor and council are hereby authorized and empowered, at the request of the agent, in cases of difficulty, to aid the attorney-general, by employing any person to attend to surveys where necessary, or otherwise to assist in the prosecution or defence of said suits, which person or persons are to be paid out of the contingent fund of five hundred pounds; and the names of the persons so employed, together with the sum allowed for their services, to be laid before the general assembly at their next session.

Debtors may
be sued, &c.

XII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any bond debtor to the state for confiscated property purchased, or otherwise, shall neglect to make payment, agreeably to the condition of his bond, and sundry resolves of the general assembly, the said agent shall cause process to issue for the whole principal and interest then due, or shall proceed on any execution already issued, and served and suspended, as occasion may require, or, under the directions and with the approbation of the governor and council, he is hereby authorized to delay any execution as long as they may think expedient and necessary.

Agent to super-
intend the col-
lection, &c.

XIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said agent be authorized to superintend the collection of all balances due on bond taken for taxes due before the first day of January, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three; and the said agent shall also superintend the collection of all balances due on bonds installed, or otherwise, for the emissions of paper money of one thousand seven hundred and sixty-nine, and one thousand seven hundred and seventy-three.

No process to
issue, &c.

XIV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That no process shall issue against any of the public debtors, unless by the direction of the said agent.

Agent to fix
days, &c.

XV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said agent shall have power to fix such days of sale of property taken by *feri facias*, at the suit of the state, as he may think proper, always taking care to give at least twenty days public notice thereof, and the said agent shall also have power to suspend the sales, from time to time, as he may think most to the advantage of the state.

And pay specie.

XVI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said agent shall pay into the treasury, in specie, the amount of all specie by him received in the discharge of the duties of this act.

Bonds to be a
lien.

XVII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That in all cases where bonds shall be taken in virtue of this act, the bonds shall be a lien on the real property of the obligors from the date thereof, or on so much of the said real property as the governor and council shall think sufficient, to be particularly