

EDWARD LLOYD, ESQUIRE, GOVERNOR.

NOV. 1809.

CHAP. CXXVII.

CHAP. 127.

An Act more effectually to secure the Collection of the Public Revenues.
Lib. TH. No. 2, fol. 305.

Passed Jan 6, 1810
Preamble.

WHEREAS it appears from the statements of the treasurers of the respective shores, that very considerable sums of money are due to this state under the several denominations of debts therein specified, and some of said debts appear to have been long since due, and in a very hazardous situation; and it being at all times not only the duty of the legislature to secure and protect the public revenue, but also to adopt such measures as may tend more effectually to collect the outstanding debts due to the state, and to bring the same as speedily and as far as possible into the treasury, therefore,

Treasurers to direct suits to be brought.

2. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the treasurers of the western and eastern shores respectively, be and they are hereby authorised and required, to order and direct suit or suits to be brought immediately against such debtor or debtors for debts due to this state as they may deem necessary, right and proper, having a reference to the validity thereof, and also to prosecute, and to continue to final issue and determination, all such suit or suits already brought and still depending for debts due to the state, as they may think advisable and proper.

3. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any clerk, sheriff or collector, of any county of this state, shall hereafter refuse or neglect to pay unto the treasurer of the shore to whom the same ought to be paid, any monies of the said state in the hands of the said clerk, sheriff or collector, at the time limited by law for the payment thereof, and to render and settle his accounts with the said treasurer, it shall be, and it is hereby expressly declared to be, the duty of the said treasurer, within three months thereafter, to order and direct suit or suits to be instituted and commenced on the said clerk's, sheriff's and collector's bond, respectively, for the recovery of all monies so due and owing.

To order suits on sheriff's, clerks, and collectors bonds, upon non payment of monies for 3 months.

See 1800, ch. 82, s. 4.

4. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the treasurer of the western or eastern shore respectively, upon the ordering any such suit or suits, may appoint any attorney to such suit or suits so directed to be brought, prosecuted or continued, as aforesaid; *Provided*, that all monies to be recovered in said suits shall be paid to the treasurer of the western or eastern shore, and to no other person or persons whatsoever.

May appoint attorneys to suits.

Proviso.

5. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any clerk of any county court upon whose bond judgment shall be entered as aforesaid, and execution shall be issued, shall not pay the monies due thereon to the respective treasurer for two successive terms to which said execution shall be returnable, such default shall be, and the same is hereby declared to be, misbehaviour in office, within the meaning of the constitution, and shall be prosecuted as such; and it shall be the duty of the respective county courts to give the same in charge to the grand jury of their counties respectively.

Clerk on whose bond judgment has been entered, not paying money for two terms, is declared guilty of misbehaviour in office.

See 1800, ch. 82, s. 5.

6. AND BE IT ENACTED, That a statement of the proceedings of the said treasurers respectively, in pursuance of this act, be annually, laid before the legislature.

Treasurer to lay a statement annually before legislature.