

C H A P. XXXVI.

An ACT for the liquidation and payment of debts against persons convicted of treason.

WHEREAS citizens of this state may have claims against persons convicted and attainted of treason, and there is no mode by which such claims can be liquidated : Preamble.

II. *Be it enacted, by the general assembly of Maryland,* That every person, having any account, debt, claim or demand, against any subject of this state, convicted and attainted of treason, and whose property has been, or hereafter may be, sold by virtue of the act to dispose of certain confiscated British and forfeited property, may lay his account, debt, claim or demand, before the auditor-general, who is hereby empowered and directed to liquidate and adjust the same, and the balance, if any, shall be signed by the auditor, and being passed by the intendant, may be delivered by the claimant to the treasurer of the western shore, who is hereby directed to assign to him any bond or bonds taken for the sale of the particular estate of which he is a creditor, that may be lodged in the treasury, or he may receive the money therefor, or a certificate, which may be discounted in taxes, at the option of the claimant or creditor, provided the same do not exceed the amount of the forfeited property sold as aforesaid. How certain claims are to be settled, &c.

C H A P. XXXVII.

An ACT to suspend the collection of the tax from certain persons who have suffered by the enemy. *PR.*

C H A P. XXXVIII.

An ACT allowing a longer time to compound on old certificates, and making further regulations respecting the sale of vacant lands.

BE it enacted, *by the general assembly of Maryland,* That all persons having surveys made before the first day of March, seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, or having surveys since made by virtue of warrants granted before that time, may compound thereon on or before the first day of November next, after which day warrants may issue to affect the land not paid for before that day, to the person who shall first apply for the same ; provided always, that no warrant shall issue to affect any survey not compounded on within the time aforesaid limited, if the certificate has been lost or mislaid, or erroneous, or where the owner is an infant, or *caveat* remains in force against issuing grant, or default in payment has not been owing to the neglect of the owner, without the express licence of the chancellor ; and if any owner shall neglect to compound on such certificates, he may, at any time before application for a warrant to affect such land, obtain a grant, on paying for surplus or vacant land the sum of seven shillings and sixpence per acre, or for escheat lands two thirds of the actual value, and for improvements (if any) the full worth thereof, as in other cases. Persons may compound on surveys, &c.

II. *And be it enacted,* That all certificates returned or to be returned in virtue of warrants or orders granted before the first day of March, seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, shall lie in the office three months after the first day of July next ; and all certificates returned upon warrants granted in virtue of the act to appropriate certain lands to the use of the officers and soldiers of this state, and for the sale of vacant lands, or hereafter to be granted, shall lie in the office six months after they shall be compounded on, after which times respectively grants may issue, without notice, as required by the act of last session. Certificates to lie three months, &c.

III. *And be it enacted,* That no person shall act as a chain-carrier, unless he be first sworn or affirmed, faithfully, carefully and impartially, to carry the chain ; which oath or affirmation any surveyor or sheriff may administer ; and no surveyor shall execute any warrant from the land-office, or the general or any county court, unless the chain-carrier be first qualified as aforesaid, and it is declared to be the duty of every surveyor, diligently to observe the conduct of chain-carriers, and to take care that they faithfully execute their duty. Chain-carriers to be sworn, &c.