

C H A P.  
XV.

lance at that time, and empowering them to indemnify themselves, as far as possible, by means of the estate of the said Nichols; and that upon such bond being given, the petitioner, and the other securities of the said Nichols, be released and discharged: And whereas this legislature are disposed, as far as may be consistent with the public interest, to grant relief to those who are, by an act of benevolence, made answerable for the failure and mismanagement of another:

Securities  
may appoint  
a collector,  
&c.

II. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Robert Peter, John Murdock, William Deakins, junior, Bernard Oneale, Edward Burgess, Walter Smith and Richard Thompson, of Montgomery county, or a majority of them, be and they are hereby empowered to appoint a collector of the residue of the public assessment now remaining due and unsatisfied in the said county for the year seventeen hundred and eighty-four, in the room of the said John Hayman Nichols; and such collector is hereby fully authorized and empowered to receive and collect, by execution or otherwise, all arrears and balances of the said public assessment due the said John Hayman Nichols as collector of the county aforesaid for the year aforesaid, in as full and ample manner as the said John Hayman Nichols might or could have received or collected the same during the time of his being collector in the said county, and no payment made to the said John Hayman Nichols of any sum due for the public assessment, after notice of this act shall be of any avail.

And call on  
all deputies,  
&c.

III. *And be it enacted,* That the said Robert Peter, John Murdock, William Deakins, junior, Bernard Oneale, Edward Burgess, Walter Smith and Richard Thompson, or a majority of them, are hereby invested with full power and authority to call on all deputies, agents, receivers, collectors, or persons so appointed by the said John Hayman Nichols, and acting as such, for a final settlement of his or their books and accounts with the said John Hayman Nichols, so far as respects the said public assessment, which said deputies, agents, receivers, collectors, or persons acting as such, or who were in any manner concerned in the receipt or collection of the said public assessment during the year aforesaid, or afterwards, under the said John Hayman Nichols, or in his name, or by virtue of his authority, shall, when he or they are thereunto required by the said Robert Peter, John Murdock, William Deakins, junior, Bernard Oneale, Edward Burgess, Walter Smith and Richard Thompson, or a majority of them, respectively produce, shew, explain to, and lay before them, all books, accounts, papers, memorandums and vouchers, whatsoever, of the said deputy, agent, receiver, collector, or others so concerned as aforesaid, and make and deliver to them, upon their respective oaths, true and perfect copies, and extracts thereof, for the purpose of settling and adjusting all accounts, claims and demands, relative to the arrearages aforesaid, and to enable the said Robert Peter, John Murdock, William Deakins, junior, Bernard Oneale, Edward Burgess, Walter Smith and Richard Thompson, or a majority of them, to make a full and perfect collection of the said public assessment arising in the year aforesaid, and still remaining due in the county aforesaid.

Upon neglect  
of any deputy,  
&c. commis-  
sioners may  
adjust their  
accounts, &c.

IV. *And be it enacted,* That upon the neglect or refusal of any deputy, agent, receiver, collector, or person so appointed or acting as such during the year aforesaid, or afterwards, under the said John Hayman Nichols, or in his name, or by virtue of his authority, to fulfil and comply with the directions of this act, the commissioners of the tax for Montgomery county, be and they are hereby empowered, on hearing (or default to appear on notice) to adjust the accounts standing between the said John Hayman Nichols as collector aforesaid, and all and every his said deputies, agents, receivers, collectors, or persons acting as such during the year aforesaid, or since, and may order the balance to be paid to the said Robert Peter, John Murdock, William Deakins, junior, Bernard Oneale, Edward Burgess, Walter Smith and Richard Thompson, or a majority of them, either immediately, or by a short day to be limited, and may carry such order into effect by their warrant directed to the sheriff to levy the sum due, in the same manner as by *feri facias*, on the lands, goods or chattels, of the said deputy, agent, receiver or collector, or person acting as such during the year aforesaid,