

C H A P. LXXI.

An ACT respecting the claims of the Messieurs Vanstaphorfts against the state of Maryland. Passed December 30.

**B**E it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Thomas Johnson, Uriah Forrest, William Hemsley, and William Smith, of Baltimore-town, Esquires, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners for and in behalf of this state, to make and receive any propositions to and from the Messieurs Vanstaphorfts, of Amsterdam, or their agent duly authorized, for the final liquidation and adjustment of all claims or demands whatever of the said Messieurs Vanstaphorfts, on account of a loan by them negotiated with, and a contract or contracts entered into between, them, the said Messieurs Vanstaphorfts, and Matthew Ridley on the part of the state of Maryland, for recovery of which, and for damages for the non-performance of which, they have instituted a suit in the supreme federal court of the United States; and the said commissioners, or any three of them, shall be and they are hereby authorized and empowered finally to conclude and agree upon, with the said Messieurs Vanstaphorfts, or their agent duly authorized, the sum to be paid by the state of Maryland for the final liquidation and discharge of the said loan and contract or contracts, together with the claim for costs and damages, or any other demands whatever, of the said Messieurs Vanstaphorfts against the state of Maryland; and the agreement of the said commissioners, so concluded, shall be binding on the state of Maryland whenever a full relinquishment shall be legally made, and an entire release of all suits, claims or demands whatever, on the part of the said Messieurs Vanstaphorfts against the state. Commissioners appointed, &c.

II. And be it enacted, That the said commissioners, or any three of them, so agreeing, shall be and they are hereby authorized to propose to the said Messieurs Vanstaphorfts, or their agent duly authorized, to subscribe the evidences of their debt or demands, relinquishing the benefits of the act, entitled, An act respecting the creditors and debtors of this state, passed at November session, seventeen hundred and ninety, whenever the amount thereof shall be so finally liquidated and adjusted, as part of this state's quota of the domestic debt proposed to be assumed by the United States; provided, that congress shall extend the time heretofore limited for the completion of the same; and for them, the said Messieurs Vanstaphorfts, or their agent so authorized, to receive upon such terms as may be agreed upon, in discharge of their claims against this state, the stock of the United States, to be issued therefor; and provided congress shall not agree to extend the time for completion as aforesaid during their present session, then the said commissioners, or any three of them so agreeing, shall be and they are hereby authorized and empowered, at their discretion, to agree with the said Messieurs Vanstaphorfts, or their agent duly authorized, to receive in discharge of their claims on the state of Maryland, so as aforesaid adjusted, stock of the United States, bearing an interest of six *per centum per annum* from the first day of January, eighteen hundred and one, or stock of the United States bearing an interest of three *per cent. per annum*, at such prices and to such amount as shall be by them agreed on; and the said commissioners, so agreeing, shall be and they are hereby authorized to direct, by writing under their hands and seals, the trustee of the state to transfer such stock, and such amount, belonging to this state, and under his direction, to the said Messieurs Vanstaphorfts, or their agent duly authorized, upon a full and entire relinquishment and legal release of all claims and demands whatever on their part against the state of Maryland, and the said trustee is hereby directed to transfer the same accordingly; provided, that no transfer shall be agreed to be made of any stock bearing an interest of three *per centum per annum*, before the first day of July, seventeen hundred and ninety-two. Who shall propose to the Messrs. Vanstaphorfts to subscribe, &c.

III. And be it further enacted, That the sums now in the treasury arising on funds heretofore appropriated to the payment of the interest on the loan of the said Messieurs Vanstaphorfts, together with three thousand three hundred and forty-seven pounds currency, to complete the payment of the said interest up to the first day of September last past, shall be and remain in the treasury, subject Sums in the treasury to remain, &c.