

abating the interest that has accrued, or any proportion thereof, or any part of the principal debt in his discretion, so as to best subserve the interest of the State, and shall grant discharges to the said parties and their securities, upon the payment into the treasury of the amount required by him to be paid in the settlement as aforesaid; provided, the Comptroller shall be satisfied after thorough examination into the claim, that the same could not be collected for the State by legal process, and further, that the Governor and Treasurer, for the time being, shall each approve in writing any such abatement before the same shall be effective; and provided further, that no discharge or acquittance under this section shall be effective, unless the party or parties to be benefited by the same shall first pay the attorney who shall have the case in hand the legal fees, and all fees of clerks or sheriffs.

ARTICLE XXI.

CONVEYANCING.

Conveyances in General.

1. What estate shall not pass without deed duly acknowledged. Power of unmarried woman between 18 and 21 years of age to make deed of trust of her property. Proviso.
2. Acknowledgments within county or city where real estate lies
3. Acknowledgments within the State, but out of county or city where real estate lies.

Mortgages.

- 39 A. Recording of release or assignment, or of mortgage or deed of trust. Proceedings to sell mortgaged property, how to be recorded in the counties. Section not applicable to Baltimore city.

Bills of Sale.

42. Acknowledgment within the State of bills of sale or chattel mortgages.

Defective Conveyance.

82. Conveyances defectively executed since Act of 1858, chapter 208, made valid. Saving in favor of creditors and purchasers.
- 82 A. Mortgages defectively sworn to since March 27, 1896, made valid.

Conveyances and Devises Binding on Streets and Highways.

88. Conveyances and devises of land binding on streets or highways to pass title to the centre of such streets or highways unless otherwise expressly declared.