

stances, which are well known, continued in the liability for two years longer; and this occurred without any default on their part. The law operated against them with great severity, but it was enforced.

Opinion of the Court, per Judge Bryan, on motion to remand for new trial case on bond of 1886.

E Precedents for the relief of sureties on official bonds are numerous. In this State, the Legislature (Act of 1858, chapter 286), released *entirely* the sureties of Lloyd B. Smith, Collector of Taxes in Allegany county, and in 15th Md. 205 (State vs. Hendrickson & Smith), the Court of Appeals affirmed the right of the Legislature to do so. Again, (Act 1868, chapter 327), the Legislature released *entirely* the sureties of Sheriff Knotts of Caroline county.

Acts of our own Legislature for *partial* release of sureties are very numerous.

Amongst the Acts of Congress are many such precedents.

About 1842, Purser Southall, of the Navy, defaulted to the extent of \$40,000, and in 1852 or 1853, Congress released his sureties upon the payment of \$1,400.

About 1872, David L. Stanton, Collector of Internal Revenue for a Maryland District, defaulted to the extent \$40,000. The Forty-Third Congress in 1875, released entirely Zephaniah Poteet, John H. Longnecker and John T. Ensor, his sureties. (Statute at Large, volume 18, part 3, page 419.)

On March 6, 1886, Congress released entirely the sureties of J. T. Carter, Secretary of Arizona; on March 7, 1888, those of J. C. Dexter, Receiver of Public Moneys, Michigan; on March 14, 1888, those of Samuel A. Blaine, Indian Agent, Texas; on January 8, 1891, those of George W. Hook, Receiver at Land Office, California; and on March 22, 1886, those of Frank Soule, Collector of Internal Revenue, California.

These are a few of the many cases found among the U. S. Statutes at Large.

An examination of the reasons for relief in the above cases, where they can be learned, exhibits facts much less strong than those in this case.