

An ACT for the settlement of public accounts, and to appoint persons to collect the debts due to persons convicted of treason, and for a specific performance of certain contracts made by British subjects previous to the revolution.

WHEREAS a number of citizens have claims against British merchants trading to this state before the revolution, and since peace those merchants have appointed factors or agents to collect the debts due to them from the citizens of this state, and those factors or agents never having notified by public advertisement, or otherwise, their power to adjust the debts of said merchants, those citizens who have claims against them are unable to obtain a settlement of their accounts, and it being necessary to secure, as far as possible, to our citizens their just debts,

Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That all such factors or agents, or their principals, now within this state, unless bond with security be given as herein after directed, shall on or before the first day of August next, lodge with the auditor a list of all balances due to such merchants upon oath, and any such factor, agent or merchant, who shall hereafter come into this state shall, within four months from the time of coming into this state, lodge with the auditor a list upon oath of balances due to such merchants, and if they should neglect to deliver such list as aforesaid, then it may be lawful for the debtors of such merchants to plead the non-compliance with this act, and the several courts of justice within this state are hereby directed not to proceed after the first day of August next, to give judgment against any citizen of this state on any action brought by any of the said merchants, or their agents as aforesaid, unless they produce a certificate from the auditor certifying that this act has been complied with.

And be it enacted, That every factor or agent appointed to collect debts due before the seventeenth day of October, seventeen hundred and eighty, by citizens of this state to subjects of Great Britain, and every such British creditor, if he shall collect, shall give bond to the state with such security and in such penalty as the chancellor shall approve, with condition, that he will satisfy and pay all just debts due from such creditor to any citizen of this state, so far as debts shall be collected by him; and no debtor of any such British creditor shall be obliged to pay his debt before bond be given as hereby required, and if bond and security shall be given as aforesaid, then the British merchant, agent or factor, shall not be obliged to return the list as is herein before directed.

And, Whereas numbers of accounts and claims against persons whose property has been confiscated by this state, have been laid before the auditor to be approved and passed for payment thereof, and many of them have been and still may be rejected for want of the necessary evidence to satisfy the auditor of the justice of the claim, Be it enacted, That in all cases where the auditor has rejected or shall reject any account or claim as aforesaid for want of the necessary proof, or from an opinion that the claim is unjust, the claimant may lay his papers before the chancellor, who is hereby authorized to make up an issue on the case and send it for trial to the county court where such person resides, or the general court, as the case may require, and any judgment obtained on trial as aforesaid shall be sufficient to authorize the treasurer to receive the claim for payment agreeably to law.

And be it enacted, That in all cases where it shall appear to the auditor by the lists returned as before directed, that there are debts in the hands of the citizens of this state due to persons whose property has been confiscated as British property, the creditors of such persons shall resort for satisfaction out of such debts, and the property confiscated shall be only responsible where such debts are insufficient to pay and satisfy the claims of such creditors.

And be it enacted, That the power and authority heretofore vested in the governor and council to approve or reject accounts passed by the auditor be, and is hereby abrogated, and the auditor is hereby required to take into his possession all the accounts and claims which now lie before the governor and council, and to reconsider, adjust, and pass or reject the same, as justice shall require.

And, whereas there may be debts due to persons convicted of treason, and there is no mode pointed out by law for collecting the same, Be it enacted, That the county courts be, and they are hereby directed to appoint a proper person in their county to take into their possession the books, accounts, or other papers belonging to such persons convicted as aforesaid, and that the said person so appointed shall be, and is hereby authorized to collect, and if need be to sue for and recover in the name of this state, all such debts, dues and demands, as he shall discover to be due in his county to such convicted person, and to pay the same, after deducting his commission for his trouble and expence, into the treasury of his shire, and that the monies so paid in shall be considered as part of the estate of the person to whom due, and applied towards discharging the claims against such estate; and the person so as aforesaid appointed by the county court for the purpose aforesaid shall, before he acts in virtue of such appointment, give bond to the state in such penalty and with such security as the said court shall approve, for the faithful execution of the trust reposed in him by this act, the said bond to be lodged with the clerk of said court, to be by him recorded, and the original to be transmitted with all convenient speed to the register in chancery, to be by him safely kept in his office, and such county court may allow the person by them appointed such commission for his trouble as they may adjudge reasonable according to circumstances, not exceeding in any case fifteen per cent.

And, whereas there may have been contracts and sales made of lands by persons who were British subjects at the time of the revolution with citizens of this or some one of the United States, and there is no mode of procuring a conveyance of such property, or compelling a specific performance of such contracts, Be it enacted,

That in all cases where there has been a contract and sale of any real property by a British subject previous to the revolution, and such contract has not been completed, in all such cases it shall and may be lawful for the chancellor, and he is hereby authorized and directed, upon bill being filed by the party, and upon full inquiry made into all the circumstances of the case, to decree a conveyance of the property and payment of the money agreeably to the rules of the court of chancery, and upon such decree being signed, and the money paid, it shall and may be lawful for the chancellor to execute a conveyance in fee simple for the same, but no decree shall pass for a conveyance before sixty days notice by the party in the Baltimore or Annapolis news-paper of filing such bill, and a summons issues for the attorney general to appear and shew cause, if any, why such decree should not pass.

Auditor's office, January 23, 1787. ABSTRACT of an ACT to extend the time for bringing in and settling claims against the state, passed the 20th January, 1787.

Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That all claims against this state, on account of property confiscated, depreciation and pay of the army, or otherwise, by any citizen thereof, or any citizen of the United States, or their executors or administrators, which have arisen before the time limited by law for bringing them in, may be brought in, passed and settled by the auditor general, on or before the first day of September, seventeen hundred and eighty seven, and when passed and settled as aforesaid, shall be paid by this state as by law directed, any thing in former acts to the contrary notwithstanding; provided the claimants, or their executors or administrators, make appear, by their oaths or affirmation, or otherwise to the satisfaction of the auditor general, that for want of sufficient notice, or from some unavoidable impediment, they could not bring in their claims as aforesaid within the time heretofore limited by law.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That no claim against this state, on account of the property of the debtor being confiscated, shall be passed, unless satisfactory proof is given, that there are not debts due in the county to the persons whose property has been confiscated, to satisfy the claim exhibited against the state, and that due industry has been used by the claimant to discover debts subject to attachments, and the proper means taken by him to secure his claim out of such debts.

The general assembly having extended the time for bringing in claims against the public, the auditor general gives notice, that the persons who apply for pay or depreciation of pay must, before they can receive it, produce their discharge, or if they have lost or mislaid them, good and sufficient vouchers of their being the identical persons who served in the army by the names they respectively call themselves, and those who administer as legal representatives of soldiers who actually died in the service of the United States, must produce authentic vouchers that they are relations and true heirs of the deceased. And further, that no person who is not entitled to receive pay or depreciation of pay, either in person or as a representative of a soldier deceased, will receive any answer as to what may be due to either of them. And no person, or the representative of a person who was not in service on the 30th day of April, 1780, and afterwards regularly discharged, or mustered dead after that time, or who had not served two full years before that time, from and after the first day of January, 1777, and was not regularly discharged or mustered dead, need apply for the pay or depreciation of pay aforesaid.

C. RICEMOND, auditor-general.

FIVE POUNDS REWARD. Upper Marlborough, Prince-George's county, September 12, 1786.

RAN away from the subscriber, on the 4th of June, a negro man named CHARLES, twenty-five years of age, a short thick fellow, about five feet six inches high, has a short flat nose, a very bushy head of hair, thick lips, with a lump on the upper one, he is a handy fellow, and works well at the whip-law; had on when he went away his common working dress; I have reason to believe he has other cloaths with him, but cannot particularly describe them, therefore he probably may change his apparel. As I purchased him of Notley Young, Esq; on Patowmack, I apprehend he is lurking about in that neighbourhood. Whoever takes up and secures the said fellow, so that his master may get him again, shall receive if above ten miles from home thirty shillings, if out of the county forty shillings, and if out of the state the above reward, including what the law allows, paid by

WILLIAM BOWIE, 3d.

TO BE SOLD, A healthy young Negro Wench, With a Male Child in arms. Inquire of the Printers.

May 7, 1787.

TAKEN up as a stray by Philip Pearce, an iron grey MARE Colt, about thirteen hands three inches high, neither docked nor branded, and appears to be about three or four years old. The owner is requested to come, prove property, pay charges and take him away.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by F. and S. GREEN, at the POST-OFFICE, Francis-Street.

Piscataway, May 3, 1787. LAND FOR SALE.

Will be set up to PUBLIC SALE, on Tuesday the 12th day of June next, at the house of Mr. Charles Landis, in the town of Piscataway, PART of a tract of land called Major's Choice, containing one hundred and eight acres; this land is valuable, and lies with a half a mile of the town, but is scarce of timber, a dwelling house with four rooms on a floor, passage and three brick fire places, a good deal of very good fruit, the rest of the improvements of little value; the payment to be made in the following manner, two thirds of the purchase money may be paid by bond with such security as will bear an assignment to a person who lives on the interest of his money, and probably may not be called for in his life-time, if interest paid regularly. The terms of the other third will be made known on the day of sale. Title indisputable.

ELIZABETH WHEELER, CHARITY WHEELER, BENEDICT EDELEN.

S C H E M E OF A BOOK LOTTERY.

1 prize of 100 dollars is 100 dollars. 1 do. 5 do. 50 do. 8 do. 25 do. 200 do. 162 do. 4 do. 648 do. 172 prizes: 1000 do. 500 tickets at 2 dol. each 1000 do.

The subscriber having altered the scheme of his lottery as above, hopes it will meet with the patronage of the public.

The drawing will commence immediately the tickets are sold, under the inspection and by direction of Messieurs Wallace and Blair, who will see the prizes delivered as soon as drawn.

Tickets to be had of the subscriber, at his store, in Church-street, Annapolis.

STEPHEN CLARK. N. B. Each adventurer to have his choice of goods in the store, agreeable to the amount of the prize drawn against the number of his ticket. 3

Annopolis, May 12, 1787. To the merchant and grist-mill holders of the state of Maryland.

WHEREAS the honourable the general assembly of Maryland did, on the 11th inst. pass an act granting and well ordering to the subscriber, his heirs and assigns, the exclusive right of making and selling (for the term of fourteen years) certain machines of his invention for the lessening of the manual attendance of merchant and grist-mills, this is to inform all who may be inclined to have the benefit in their mill, that they are very simple and new, and not subject to go out of repair, and their utility such that they, if well applied, will perform a least one half of the ordinary attendance of said mills, and in his opinion they will save from waste more than will pay the whole expence of erecting and keeping them in repair; added to his demand by virtue of said act, therefore they may well be estimated to amount to fifty pounds per annum saving to those who use them. The tediousness of having them are desired to send letters, post paid, directed to the subscriber, Wilmington, Delaware state, that such measures may be adopted as speedily to serve them, by

OLIVER EVANS.

Annapolis, January 1, 1787.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Colonel William Hyde, late of this city, deceased, are requested to make immediate payments; as there are balances remaining in the hands of several of the late sheriff's, in order that it may be more convenient to those on the eastern shore, the subscriber will authorize some person to receive the sums due from them at the general court in April next, when it is hoped they will pay; those on this side the bay are requested to make payment to the subscriber; those who have claims against the said estate are desired to bring them in legally proved, to

WILLIAM GOLDSMITH, a minister of William Hyde.

N. B. Colonel Hyde in his lifetime lent several books and other things which have not been returned, and as some of the books were borrowed by Colonel Hyde, I should be much obliged to those who have them to return them to me.

12 W. G.

Prince-George's county, March 20, 1787.

CIN CINNATUS.

IS esteemed by judges a horse of perfect beauty, and his whole frame a display of nature's greatest nature. He is a fine bay, delightfully dappled, has a snip, and one white foot, rising five years old, in high condition and full primed virility, and will cover mare this season for the moderate sum of eight dollars. His sire (whose lineaments he so truly bears) was the noted and much admired ARABIAN, whose get stands so generally approved—His dam was got by Dr. Hamilton's imported FIGURE—His grand-dam by DOVE—His great-grand-dam by Colonel Tasker's OTHELLO, upon Old SELIMA.—From such premises, it may be presumed, that no horse can be better calculated for the purpose of getting stock, either for the turf or saddle.—Cin Cinatus is the property of the subscriber, and stands in Upper Marlborough.

JOHN SMITH BROOKES.