

Passed 16th of
Dec. 1787.

C H A P. XIII.
An ACT to direct the recording of a deed from John Slater, of Washington county, to Martin Slack, of the same county. Lib. TBH. No. B. fol. 311. A Private Act.

C H A P. XIV.
An ACT for the relief of William Stewart, of Somerset county. Lib. TBH. No. B. fol. 313.

C H A P. XV.
An ACT for the relief of the securities of John Hayman Nichols, collector of the tax for Montgomery county. Lib. TBH. No. B. fol. 314.

Preamble.

WHEREAS Henry Brookes, by his petition to this general assembly, hath set forth, that he, together with James Sutor, Leonard Davis, William Fee and Zadock Dickerson, became security for John Hayman Nichols, as collector for Montgomery county for the year seventeen hundred and eighty-four, on whose collection there is a balance due to the public of about one thousand nine hundred pounds, for which a *feri facias* issued against the property of the said Nichols and his said securities; that on the said *feri facias* the property of the said Nichols, and of all his securities aforesaid, except Leonard Davis, was taken, to the value of near five thousand pounds, but that none of the said property has been sold, although process has issued for that purpose, except five hundred acres of land of James Sutor; that Robert Peter, John Murdock, William Deakins, junior, Bernard Oneale, Edward Burges, Walter Smith and Richard Thompson, became counter securities to the petitioner, and the other original securities, and are ultimately answerable to them, but that it will be to the ruin of the said original securities, who are unable to advance the money, to have their property sold at this time, although they may afterwards recur to the counter securities; that the said John Hayman Nichols hath surrendered his books and papers to the said counter securities, on which, though there can be no reliance on their accuracy, there appears to be a balance due from the people of about two thousand eight hundred pounds; and prayed that an act may pass, transferring the collection of the said arrears to the said counter securities, giving them an indulgence till the year seventeen hundred and ninety, upon their entering into bond to the state, with undoubted security, for the payment of the said balance 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 col-
lector, &c.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Robert Peter, John Murdock, William Deakins, junior, Bernard Oneale, Edward Burges, 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 arrearages 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 Burges, 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 Burges, 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,