

C H A P.  
XLVIII  
Treasurer to  
pay, &c.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the treasurer of the western shore shall and he is hereby authorized and required to pay the several persons, their executors, administrators, assigns or orders, or to such of them as shall offer to receive the same, the several sums of current money allowed to them respectively, as they appear to be settled and ascertained by the journal of accounts aforesaid of this present session.

Creditors may  
receive certifi-  
cates, &c.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That all or any of the public creditors on the journal may have their election to receive a certificate or certificates from the treasurer of the western shore, signed by him, and expressing, in the whole of such certificates, the sum of current money due to such creditor or creditors respectively, which certificates shall be payable to the collectors of taxes due on any public assessment, or in the treasury for interest due, or composition on certificates; and any collector may pay any such certificates into the treasury as specie, without any oath concerning the receipt thereof; and if any of the said certificates shall not be so discounted, the treasurer of the western or eastern shore shall receive the said certificates and pay the money due thereon to the bearer out of any money in the treasury; and the treasurer of the western shore shall, on the request of any person having an allowance on the said journal, and not taking a certificate as aforesaid, retain in his hands, of the money which shall first come into the treasury, sufficient wherewith to satisfy such allowance, or the balance thereof, for which a certificate shall not have been given, and shall pay the same to the person to whom the same is due, or his order.

Passed 23d of  
Dec. 1788.

C H A P. XLIX

An ACT to empower the governor and council to compound with the discoverers of British property; and for other purposes. Lib. JG. No. 1. fol. 79.

Preamble.

WHEREAS many persons have made discoveries of British property to the governor and council, the late intendant and agent of the state, and have made application to purchase the same upon the terms held out by law to the discoverers: And whereas there is no person invested with authority to estimate the value, or fix a reasonable price for the said property, and to compound with the person making discovery and applying to purchase the same;

Governor, &c.  
to compound,  
&c.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the governor and council be and they are hereby empowered to compound with all persons who have made discovery of British property at any time before the first day of May, seventeen hundred and eighty-seven, and to allow not exceeding one third of the value of such property to any person or persons having made such discovery, according to the act to vest certain powers in the governor and council, passed at November session, seventeen hundred and eighty-five. \*

\* Chapter 88.

Executions sus-  
pended.

III. Whereas sundry collectors of the tax have been executed, and others are liable to execution, for the respective balances due from them to the state, and it appearing to this general assembly to be repugnant to the dictates of humanity and sound policy to proceed with the utmost rigour of the law against the said collectors, and their securities, whereby they, with their families, will be involved in the greatest distress, and may be reduced to the most abject state of poverty, without producing any substantial advantage to the state: And whereas it is reasonable, and accords with good government, that a power should be lodged somewhere in the recess of the general assembly, to afford relief in such cases of extreme hardship as cannot admit of delay, and would merit legislative interposition; BE IT ENACTED, That all executions issued against the said collectors, and their securities, are hereby suspended until the first day of March next.

Governor, &c.  
to suspend exe-  
cutions, &c.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the governor and the council be and they are hereby authorized to suspend or countermand executions already issued against the collectors of the tax; and to prevent executions being sued out against them respectively.

Proviso.

V. PROVIDED NEVERTHELESS, That the said collector or collectors, or their securities, applying for relief, shall furnish to the governor and council a list, on oath or affirmation, as the case may be, of all persons in their respective counties or districts who are in arrears for the said taxes, and if it shall appear to the governor and council, that the said arrearages remain in the hands of the people, and that the said collector or collectors have used their best endeavours to collect the same, then, and in such case, the governor and council shall have full power and authority to suspend or countermand any execution or executions against such collector or collectors, and his or their securities, on his or their