

CHAP. LXI.
Agent to dispose of property, &c.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said agent is hereby directed to dispose of at public sale all confiscated British property that remains unsold, giving at least thirty days notice thereof by public advertisement, and take bonds to the state, with sufficient security; and give time for payment, not exceeding two years from the first day of January, seventeen hundred and ninety-seven.

And to call on the attorney-general, &c.

VII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the agent shall immediately call on and request the attorney-general to commence, and prosecute to final determination as speedily as possible, the state's right to all confiscated property which hath been made known and discovered to the said agent; and the said agent shall report to the next session of assembly such suits as are or may be depending to recover the same, and also such as may then not be commenced, with the reasons assigned by the attorney-general why the same have not been commenced; and to cause immediate notice to be given in the public papers of this state to the discoverers of confiscated property, to produce to the agent the title papers of the lands by them respectively discovered, on or before the first day of August next, in order that the same may be laid before the attorney-general for his opinion thereon.

No payment to be valid, &c.

VIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That no payment in future by any officer or person indebted to the state shall be valid and effectual, unless made to the treasurer of the western or eastern shores, or to the agent for the time being, or unless made to the clerks and sheriffs of the several counties, in the cases where the said clerks and sheriffs are by law authorized to receive the same.

Right to cease, &c.

IX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the right, title and interest, of any and every informant or discoverer of property liable to confiscation, shall cease, determine and be utterly null and void, unless the title papers to authenticate the state's right be produced and lodged with the agent by the informant or discoverer on or before the first day of August next.

Agent to take back property, &c.

X. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the agent shall have full power and authority, by and with the advice and approbation of the governor and council, in all cases of uninstalled debts, to take back any property heretofore purchased by any person and not yet paid for, in cases where the person so having purchased, and his securities, are not capable of paying for the same, and to compromise the same upon terms and principles of equity and justice, by and with the advice and consent aforesaid; and the agent is hereby required to lay a particular statement of his proceedings under this section before the next session of assembly.

And may compromise, &c.

XI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the agent, with the approbation and consent of the governor and council, be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to compromise any suit depending in chancery with any state debtor, upon any terms in their judgment calculated to promote the interest of the state, and obtain the speedy receipt of the sums due.

Property taken back may be sold, &c.

XII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if, under the terms of any compromise made as aforesaid, the property heretofore purchased should be taken back and re-vested in the state, the same may be sold by the agent, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to sell the same at public sale, on a credit of three years, giving the notice herein before mentioned, payable, one third of the principal, and the whole interest annually, on the first day of December in each year; and the bonds, when taken, shall be returned to the treasurer of the western shore, and reported to the general assembly at their session next ensuing the taking of such bonds.

Agent to call on the attorney-general, &c.

XIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That all cases in chancery, where no compromise under this act is effected, shall be placed under the direction of the agent, who is hereby authorized and required to call on the attorney-general to prosecute or defend the same to immediate final decision; and the governor and council are hereby authorized and empowered, at the request of the agent, in cases of difficulty, to aid the attorney-general, by employing any person to attend to surveys where necessary, or otherwise to assist in the prosecution or defence of said suits, which person or persons are to be paid out of the contingent fund of five hundred pounds; and the names of the persons so employed, together with the sum allowed for their services, to be laid before the general assembly at their next session.

Debtors may be sued, &c.

XIV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any bond debtor to the state for confiscated property purchased, or otherwise, shall neglect to make payment, agreeably to the condition of his bond; and sundry resolves of the general assembly, the said agent shall cause process to issue for the whole principal and interest then due, or shall proceed on any execution already issued, and served and suspended, as occasion may require, or, under the direction and with the approbation of the governor and council,