

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said agent be authorized to superintend the collection of balances due to the state on the auditor's books or on open account; and the said agent shall have power to require payment of, and, if necessary, to sue for and recover the same; and the said agent, with the approbation of the governor and council, may make composition with any such debtors, 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-eight.

CHAP.
LXXIII.
Of balances on
the auditor's
books, &c.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said agent be authorized to superintend the collection of all monies due to the state for naval duties, fines, penalties, forfeitures and amerciaments, and forfeited recognizances, and for ordinary, retailers and marriage licences, and to require payment, and (if necessary) sue for and recover the same; and the said agent may allow for insolvencies, and credit any money that the party is not chargeable with by law, and, for his information of the law, he may take the advice of the attorney-general in writing.

And all monies
due for duties,
&c.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That whenever there shall be occasion to expose to public sale the property of any collector, or his securities, by virtue of any execution already issued, or to be issued for this purpose, the said agent shall cause at least thirty days public notice to be given of such sale, and shall attend the same, and if it shall appear that there is danger of losing any part of the debt due to the state, and not otherwise, shall purchase any property so exposed to sale for the use of the state, in payment, or part payment, as the case may be, of the arrearages due by the collectors whose property may be so purchased, and that no purchase authorized by this act shall be considered as made on the part of the state, unless a public declaration to that effect be made by the agent or his deputy immediately after such sale and purchase; and any property so purchased for the use of the state, the said agent may again expose to public auction, on the most advantageous terms for the use of the state, and, if the same be sold on credit, which shall in no case exceed the term of two years, the said agent shall take bond, with good and sufficient security, to be approved of by the treasurer of the western shore, from the purchasers of such property, and all bonds by him so taken shall be deposited, with an accurate list thereof subscribed by him, in the treasury of the western shore, and shall be a lien upon the real property of such purchasers, and their securities, from the respective dates, or so much thereof as is mentioned in the schedule thereto annexed.

Notice to be
given of sales,
&c.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said agent is hereby directed to dispose of all confiscated British property that remains unsold, and take bonds to the state, with sufficient security, and give time for the payment thereof, not exceeding two years from the first day of January, seventeen hundred and ninety-eight; and that where the quantity of land in any one body subject to such sale exceeds the quantity of fifty acres, such land shall be disposed of at public sale, of the time and place of which sale at least thirty days previous notice shall be given by public advertisement; and that at the time of any sale by virtue of this act, the said agent shall make known that he only sells the right of this state thereto, and that the state doth not guaranty the title to the same, or any part thereof, but that the purchase must be in all respects at the risk of the purchaser.

Agent to dis-
pose of proper-
ty, &c.

VII. 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 shore, 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.

No payment to
be valid, &c.

VIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the agent shall have full power and authority, by and with the advice 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.

Agent to take
back property,
&c.

IX. 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 to obtain the speedy receipt of the sums due.

And may com-
promise, &c.

X. 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

Property taken
back may be
sold, &c.