

An ACT to appoint an agent for the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine. Lib. JG. No 3. fol. 119.

Passed 18th of Jan. 1799.

BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That William Marbury be agent of this state, to execute the trust and power reposed in him by virtue of this act from the first day of January, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine, until the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred.

An agent appointed, &c.

II. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said agent superintend the collection of all arrearages and balances due from the several collectors of the respective counties within this state, and the said agent is hereby authorized and required to call upon the treasurers of the respective shores for an accurate statement of all arrearages and balances due from such collectors, and such account shall be furnished by the said treasurers accordingly.

To superintend the collection of arrearages, &c.

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-nine.

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-nine; 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 dispose of property, &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