

An ACT to enable the treasurer of the western shore to draw and sell bills of exchange, and for an emission of bills of credit, if necessary.

**B**E it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the treasurer of the western shore shall, and he is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of this state, to draw bills of exchange on Messieurs Osgood Hanbury, Sylvanus Grove, and James Russell, trustees of this state residing in London, and on William Carmichael, Edmund Jenings, Joshua Johnson, Jonathan Williams, and Richard Bennett Lloyd, Esquires, or either of them, appointed trustees by the act for calling out of circulation certain bills of credit emitted by act of assembly, payable in London, at forty days sight, for any sum not exceeding thirty-five thousand pounds sterling; and the said treasurer may, and he is hereby authorized and directed to sell his bills drawn as aforesaid, at any time within thirty days after the passing of this act, to the amount of thirty thousand pounds sterling, for specie or continental money, not drawing any set of bills for less than twenty pounds sterling, or selling for continental money at any time for less than forty-five for one on the sterling money, turned into currency at the exchange of one hundred and sixty-six pounds thirteen shillings and fourpence currency for one hundred pounds sterling, and the continental money arising therefrom, he shall exchange for the new bills to be emitted, if such new bills are in the treasury to be exchanged, or he shall pay the money received for the sale of bills to the order of the governor and council.

Treasurer of  
W. shore to  
draw bills of  
exchange, &c.

II. **And**, Whereas the forces of this state have suffered greatly for the want of the usual foreign supplies of necessaries, which cannot be procured within the state, but at the most exorbitant and ruinous prices:

III. **Be it enacted**, That the said treasurer shall draw his bills, to the amount of five thousand pounds sterling, to such person or persons as the governor and council may direct, for the purpose of purchasing, in Europe or the West-Indies, arms and ammunition, cloathing and linens, and other necessaries for our officers and soldiers, and salt for the use of the public; and the governor and the council are authorized and requested to import, or cause to be imported, the articles aforesaid, for the uses aforesaid.

To draw bills  
for purchasing  
arms, &c.

IV. **And**, Whereas the said Osgood Hanbury, Sylvanus Grove, and James Russell, may refuse or neglect to act, or may protest the said bills, or the government of Great-Britain may prevent the payment of the bills drawn in pursuance of this act, and justice requires that the purchasers in such case should be fully indemnified:

V. **Be it enacted**, That if any bill of exchange, drawn in virtue of this act, shall be protested or not paid, the drawee, endorsee, owner or possessor thereof, shall be entitled to receive the amount of the sum expressed in such bill in specie, or in currency to the value thereof in bills of credit, with an interest or damage at the rate of fifteen per cent. on the sum drawn for, and the cost or charges of protest.

Possessors of  
protested bills  
to receive spe-  
cie, &c.