

collect the same; and prayed that an act might pass, to enable him, the said Thomas Contee, to settle, adjust, and collect such debts.

CHAP.
XLVI.

II. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the said Thomas Contee shall be, and hereby is, authorized to settle, adjust, and collect, all debts due to the said William Molleson, and William and Robert Molleson, both, or either of them; and that the said Thomas Contee be empowered to sue for and recover, in the name of the said William Molleson, and William and Robert Molleson; or either of them, all debts and demands whatsoever, which are due or owing to the said William Molleson, and William and Robert Molleson, in this state, and which they, or either of them, could, if subjects of this state, claim from any person or persons, under such restrictions and provisions, as to bringing suits, as are or may by law be imposed on other citizens of this state; that the said Thomas Contee shall apply the money and tobacco, and any other article by him received, collected, or secured, in virtue of this act, first to the discharge and payment of all debts and engagements, for which he, the said Thomas Contee, as attorney in fact, or agent, is answerable or liable; the residue (if any) to be rateably and proportionably paid to the creditors of the said William Molleson, or William and Robert Molleson, or either of them, and the balance (if any there then be remaining) to be paid to the treasurer of the western shore; he, the said Thomas Contee, to be allowed such commissions for collecting the debts aforesaid, as the general assembly shall hereafter direct; and that the said Thomas Contee shall settle an account annually, on the first day of October, with the auditor-general, to be approved by the intendant, and lay an account of his proceedings before the general assembly, at their annual meeting in the month of November, until the business aforesaid is finished, which account shall commence from the fourth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

T. Contee
may collect
debts, &c.

III. And be it enacted, That the said Thomas Contee shall, on or before the first day of September next, enter into bond to this state, with good and sufficient security, to be approved by the governor and council, in the penalty of ten thousand pounds, conditioned for the due execution of the power and authority given to said Thomas Contee by this act, and for complying in every respect with the directions thereof.

To enter into
bond, &c.

IV. And be it enacted, That where attachment shall issue upon any writ heretofore taken out, or hereafter to be taken out, against the said William Molleson, and William and Robert Molleson, or either of them, such creditor shall be left to prosecute his legal remedy (but shall not be entitled to distribution in virtue of this act); and every person, having a claim against the said William Molleson, and William and Robert Molleson, or either of them, except as above mentioned, shall have a right to a copy of the bond aforesaid, to be given by the said Thomas Contee, and in case of a breach of the condition by the said Thomas Contee, to the injury of such person, he may maintain an action against the said Thomas Contee and his security upon the bond aforesaid, and a copy of the said bond, attested by the governor and council, shall be sufficient evidence of its execution.

Creditors may
prosecute, &c.