

CHAP.  
XXVII.

made by the public, and to call on the party for performance, and in case of refusal or delay, to direct suits for the breach of contract; and the said intendant may make composition, and release the party, on such terms as he may think proper; and all sheriffs are strictly enjoined to obey any summons for calling any debtor before the intendant, under the penalty of fifty pounds for every refusal or neglect; and the said intendant is to adopt some mode to obtain the amount of the claims of the public creditors, on certificates, unsettled accounts, or otherwise.

To keep an  
account of  
expenditures,  
&c.

X. **And be it enacted,** That the said intendant be authorized to inspect all expenditures of the state (ever keeping in view that prudence and economy are essentially necessary) and to keep an account thereof, and to inspect all records, books, papers, and accounts, in any office; and all letters to or from his office shall be deemed public letters, and shall be forwarded as such; and it is declared to be his duty to prepare estimates of the yearly expenditures, and to arrange and state, in one view, every branch or source of revenue, and the amount or value of each; and the general heads of the yearly expenditures, and the whole amount thereof; and to strike the balance of the expences, and the funds, and to lay them before the general assembly, at their annual meeting in November seventeen hundred and eighty-three, with his opinion as to the ways and means to procure the supplies; and it is declared to be the duty of the said intendant, to study and introduce economy into every office and department, and to report his opinion if any officer or department is more expensive than necessary; and to render an account, at every session, of his office, and the transactions therein; and the said intendant is to consult and advise with the governor and the council, on the state and management of the revenue, and public monies and tobacco, and the demands and debts of government, and on complaint made by the said intendant of mal-conduct by any of the officers under his control, the governor and council, on sufficient proof thereof, on hearing, or on default or delay to appear on notice, may remove such officer, and appoint another in his place; and it is declared to be the duty of the said intendant to obtain returns of the line of this state, and to report to each session the number wanting to complete the same, according to the last regulation by congress of the continental army; and to direct the auditor and treasurer, and such other public officers as he may think proper, to close and balance their accounts annually on the first day of September; and to correspond with the superintendant of the finances of the United States, and with the agents of this state in Europe or the West-Indies; and to report to each session the amount of each emission in circulation.

May appoint  
an assistant,  
&c.

XI. **Be it enacted,** That the said intendant may appoint a discreet and prudent person, skilful in accounts, to be his assistant; and the said assistant, before he acts in his office, shall take an oath to keep secret, and not to disclose, directly or indirectly, to any person, any matter or thing which he shall be directed by his principal to keep secret, unless to the senate or house of delegates, when required; and the said intendant may also appoint some diligent and skilful accountant to be his clerk, who shall take an oath of secrecy similar to that of the assistant.

XII. **And**