

VIII. And be it enacted, That if the said Simon Nicholls shall give bond as
 aforesaid, it may be taken in the manner and on the terms prescribed by the
 consolidating act for the sale of British confiscated property; and the said Simon
 Nicholls, and his sureties, may, at any time before the year seventeen hundred
 and ninety, discount for the debt due from the said Simon Nicholls any certifi-
 cate discountable under the said act.

C H A P.
 XLVIII.
 Bond to be
 taken on cer-
 tain terms,
 &c.

IX. And, whereas it is represented to this general assembly, that the said
 Alexander Catlett hath incurred considerable costs and expences on account of
 his becoming security for the said Simon Nicholls, which it is reasonable should
 be reimbursed, Be it enacted, That the commissioners of Montgomery county,
 or a major part of them, shall have full power and authority to settle the account
 of the collections made by the said Alexander Catlett, and make him such al-
 lowance for his trouble, costs and expences, incurred as security for the said Si-
 mon Nicholls, as two arbitrators chosen by the said Nicholls and Catlett may
 think just and reasonable, and if the said arbitrators differ in opinion, they to
 choose a third person; which allowance shall be deducted out of the money and
 certificates by him collected, according to the order of the said commissioners,
 before the payment shall be made into the treasury as aforesaid.

Commission-
 ers to settle
 the account,
 &c.

X. And be it enacted, That in case the said Simon Nicholls shall not give
 bond with security, within the time required by this act, that then, and in such
 case, the said Alexander Catlett shall have full power to proceed to complete the
 collection of arrearages in the said county, as fully and amply as collectors of the
 taxes in other counties are empowered to do, and this act, and every clause there-
 in contained, shall cease, determine, and be at an end.

If bond is not
 given, A Cat-
 lett may pro-
 ceed, &c.

C H A P. XLIX.

An ACT for the settlement of public accounts, and to appoint
 persons to collect the debts due to persons convicted of treason,
 and for a specific performance of certain contracts made by
 British subjects previous to the revolution.

Passed Janua-
 ry 20.

WHEREAS a number of citizens have claims against British merchants
 trading to this state before the revolution, and since peace those mer-
 chants have appointed factors or agents to collect the debts due to
 them from the citizens of this state, and those factors or agents never having no-
 tified, by public advertisement or otherwise, their power to adjust the debts of
 said merchants, those citizens who have claims against them are unable to obtain
 a settlement of their accounts; and it being necessary to secure as far as possible
 to our citizens their just debts;

Preamble.

II. Be it enacted, by the general assembly of Maryland, That all such factors or
 agents, or their principals, now within this state, unless bond with security be
 given as herein after directed, shall, on or before the first day of August next,
 lodge with the auditor a list of all balances due to such merchants, upon oath;
 and any such factor, agent or merchant, who shall hereafter come into this state,
 shall, within four months from the time of coming into this state, lodge with the
 auditor a list upon oath of balances due to such merchants; and if they should
 neglect to deliver such list as aforesaid, then it may be lawful for the debtors of
 such merchants to plead the noncompliance with this act; and the several courts
 of justice within this state are hereby directed not to proceed, after the first day of
 August next, to give judgment against any citizen of this state, on any action
 brought by any of the said merchants, or their agents, as aforesaid, unless they
 produce a certificate from the auditor, certifying that this act has been complied
 with.

Factors, &c.
 to lodge a list
 of balances,
 &c.

III. And be it enacted, That every factor or agent appointed to collect debts
 due before the seventeenth day of October, seventeen hundred and eighty, by citi-
 zens of this state to subjects of Great-Britain, and every such British creditor, if
 he shall collect, shall give bond to the state with such security, and in such pe-
 nalty,

And give
 bond, &c.