

CHAPTER 271.

Dec. Ses. 1816.

An act to appoint an Agent for the year one thousand eight hundred and seventeen.

Passed Feb 5.

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That James Murray, of James, be agent of this state, to execute the trust and power reposed in him by virtue of this act, from the first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, until the first day of January, eighteen hundred and eighteen.

Agent appointed.

2. *And be it enacted,* That the said agent be authorised 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 bond, with sufficient security.

To collect balances due the state.

3. *And be it enacted,* That the agent of this state be and he is hereby vested with all and singular the powers and authorities necessary for, and incident to, the demanding, requiring and obtaining, the payment of all arrearages and balances whatever, due to the state from the debtors thereof; and the treasurers of the eastern and western shores, and the auditor, are hereby severally required to furnish the agent of this state, when requested, with correct statements of such arrearages and balances; and the said agent is hereby authorised and empowered to direct suits to be commenced against such debtors of the state as he may think proper and expedient, and appoint an attorney or attorneys to prosecute and conduct any particular suit or suits so directed to be brought and commenced as aforesaid; *Provided,* that all debts due to the state shall be paid to the agent or treasurer of the respective shores, unless made to the clerks and sheriffs of the several counties, in the cases where the clerks and sheriffs are by law authorised to receive the same.

Vested with the powers necessary for obtaining payment of balances, &c.

4. *And be it enacted,* That the said agent shall be authorised 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 licenses, and hawkers and pedlers licenses, 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 he may take the advice of the attorney-general in writing.

To collect monies due for naval duties, &c.

5. *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 persons whose property may be so purchased, and that no purchase authorised by this act shall be considered as made on

When property to be exposed to sale agent to give notice.