

C H A P.
XXIII,
XXIV.

of common recovery, or any ways or means whatsoever, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

C H A P. XXIV.

A Supplement to the act for the liquidation and payment of debts against persons convicted of treason.

Preamble.

WHEREAS many persons may have claims against persons convicted and attainted of treason, and British subjects, whose property has been confiscated and seized by this state, and there is no mode by which such claims can be liquidated and paid:

Claims to be adjusted, &c.

II. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That every person, having any account, debt, claim, or demand, against any subject convicted and attainted of treason, and whose property has been or may hereafter be sold by law, or any British debtor, whose property has been seized and confiscated, may lay his account, debt, claim, or demand, before the auditor-general, who is hereby empowered and directed to liquidate and adjust the same, and the balance, if any, shall be signed by the auditor, and being examined by the governor and council, may be delivered by the claimant to the treasurer of the western shore, who is hereby directed to assign to him any bond or bonds taken for the sale of the particular estate of which he was a creditor that may be lodged in the treasury, or he may receive the money therefor, or a certificate, which may be discounted in taxes, at the option of the claimant or creditor, provided the same do not exceed the amount of the property sold as aforesaid.

Commissioners to sell property, &c.

III. *And be it enacted,* That the commissioners appointed for the preservation and sale of confiscated British property, are hereby authorized and directed to make sale, at public vendue, of so much of the property of such persons confiscated or forfeited as aforesaid, at one year's credit, with good bond and security, as will discharge the claims lodged as aforesaid; which said bond shall be lodged with the treasurer of the western shore, and may by him be assigned to any claimant or creditor, who had the account, claim, debt, or demand, against the particular estate.

Where debts amount to more than sales, claimant to receive a dividend, &c.

IV. *And be it enacted,* That when the just debts against any particular estate amount to more than the sales thereof, that it shall and may be lawful for the claimant or creditors aforesaid to receive a dividend, in proportion to each particular claim, giving preference to debts of superior quality and nature, as practised by the testamentary law; and when there shall be a surplus of such sales over and above what is sufficient to discharge the debts aforesaid, the same shall be paid into the treasury, subject to the disposal of the general assembly.

Treasurer to grant certificates, &c.

V. *And be it enacted,* That where there shall be confiscation and appropriation of the property aforesaid, and not a sufficiency unappropriated and unfold to discharge the debts aforesaid, that in such case the treasurer is hereby empowered and directed to grant to such claimant or creditor a certificate, in current money, for his debt as aforesaid,

or