

*of the same*, That the Committees in said Act mentioned, be, and they hereby are authorised and impowered to sell said Estates at private Sale, to the Persons who advanced Money thereon as aforesaid, on Application made by such Persons to the said Committee for that Purpose, and the Money so advanced (after deducting the Rent) shall go in Part Pay for the same.

Money advanced on Absentees Estates to go in Part pay.

*Provided, nevertheless, and be it further enacted*, That said Committees be and they are hereby impowered and directed to appoint three judicious disinterested Persons to appraise under Oath the Estates so to be Sold; and if the Persons who advanced the Money as aforesaid are willing to take the Estates at the Appraisements, the said Committees are hereby authorised and impowered to give good and sufficient Deeds in Fee to the Purchasers in the Name and Behalf of this Commonwealth. And said Committees shall pay the Creditors, and the Residue into the public Treasury, in the Way and Manner prescribed in said Act; and in Case the Persons aforesaid do not incline to take the said Estates at the Appraisement, they shall pay the Charge of Appraisement.

Proviso.

May 1, 1781.

### 1780. — Chapter 53.

[April Session, ch. 9.]

AN ACT IN ADDITION TO AN ACT INTITLED, "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE DEBTS DUE FROM THE CONSPIRATORS AND ABSENTEES; AND FOR THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS DUE TO THEM."

Chap. 53

*Whereas many Persons among our Enemies may have Notes, Bonds, or other Securities, against the said Conspirators or Absentees, and may endeavour to send them to their Friends or Agents here, in order to receive Pay from the Proceeds of the Estates of said Conspirators or Absentees:*

Preamble.

And for the Prevention thereof,

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the Authority of the same*, That the Commissioners appointed by the Judges of Probate in the several Counties in this Commonwealth, to receive and examine the Claims exhibited against any of said Estates, be, and they are hereby directed and required to reject all Notes, Bonds and

Commissioners appointed on Absentees Estates directed to reject all Notes, &c.

Unless—

Persons swear-  
ing to their  
Demands on  
Certificate given  
to be allowed by  
the Commis-  
sioners

other Securities, which were originally given in Favor of any Conspirator or Absentee, or which have been assigned over to them, unless it shall evidently appear that such Notes, Bonds, or other Securities were taken in the Name of any Conspirator or Absentee, as Guardian for a Person or Persons who have been, and, if living, still are good Subjects of these United States.

*And be it further enacted,* That when any Person shall present his Demands against any of said Estates, before a Justice of the Peace, and shall swear to the same in Manner and Form prescribed in said Act, and a Certificate thereof from the Justices being produced, the Commissioners of Claims shall allow it as though the Person had sworn to the same before them; any Thing in said Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

*And whereas many good Subjects of these United States who are in the Army, or in Europe, may have Demands against the Estates of said Conspirators or Absentees, but by Reason of Absence cannot exhibit their Claims to the Commissioners:*

Judges of Pro-  
bate to allow a  
further Time  
for Creditors to  
prove their  
Claims.

*Be it enacted,* That the Judges of Probate in the several Counties in this Commonwealth, be, and they are hereby directed to allow a further Time of Two Months for Creditors to bring in and prove their Claims; and where Commissioners are not appointed, the said Judges are hereby directed to appoint them, and to have them sworn to the faithful Discharge of the Trust reposed in them. And in order that the Creditors who have proved their Claims may not be kept out of their Money 'till all the Claims are exhibited and proved.

Committee ap-  
pointed to sell  
Absentees Es-  
tates to pay the  
Creditors of  
said Estates.  
Provided—  
Committees  
directed to pay  
the Money aris-  
ing from the  
Sales of said  
Estates into the  
Treasury.

*Be it enacted,* That the Committees appointed to sell the Estates of said Conspirators and Absentees, shall pay the Creditors in Manner mentioned in said Act; provided said Creditors will give Bond, with Sureties, to refund and pay back their rateable Parts and Proportions, in Case said Estate shall prove Insolvent, in order that all the Creditors may receive in Proportion to their Demands. And said Committees are hereby directed not to keep any Money arising from the Sale of said Estates on Hand, but immediately to pay the same into the Treasury, except so much as shall be necessary to discharge the Debts exhibited to them in Manner prescribed in said Act. And the Money so paid into the Treasury, shall be appropriated solely for the Purpose of

How it is to be  
appropriated.

paying the Officers and Soldiers of the *Massachusetts* Line of the Army their Depreciation Notes, agreeable to a Resolve of the Third of *March* last, and their Three Months Wages, agreeable to a Resolve of the Eighth of said *March*. And all Creditors who shall exhibit and prove their Claims after the Money is paid into the Treasury by said Committees, shall receive the same from the Treasury, in the Way and Manner prescribed in said Act.

*And whereas many Creditors have recovered Judgment in due Course of Law, against the Estates of said Conspirators and Absentees, but by the Laws of the State, Execution has been stayed.*

*Be it therefore enacted,* That the Commissioners of Claims be, and they are hereby directed to allow all Debts recovered as aforesaid, if, when such Judgments are given by Default, it shall be proved to the said Commissioners, that the Sums so recovered, were in Fact due and owing from the said Absentees, and to liquidate the same according to their real Value; and to make Return thereof to the Judge of Probate as of other Debts, and the same shall be certified by the Judge and allowed and paid as other Debts. *May 15, 1781.*

Commissioners  
of Claims  
directed to  
allow all Debts  
recovered.