

James Carter, Sarah Butcher, and William Biggs, had not been taken in Execution or discharged by virtue of this Act.

Session
Laws

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Action of Escape be brought against any Sheriff, or any Suit or Action against any Justice or Justices, for the performing their Office in Pursuance of this Act, he may plead the general Issue, and give this Act, and the Matter in Evidence, and if the Plaintiff be Non-suit, or discontinue his Action, or Verdict pass against such Plaintiff or Judgment upon Demurrer, the Defendant shall have and recover his full Costs.

Justices and
Sheriffs to
plead this
Act in
Actions of
Escape, &c.

Provided also, That nothing in this Act shall extend or be construed to extend to bar any Creditor or Creditors of the before mentioned Prisoners, from having and maintaining any Action of Escape against any Sheriff, who hath permitted any Escape before the making of this Act.

Proviso.

Provided nevertheless, That in Case the said *Samuel Deavor, Michael Taylor, William Burros, James Carter, Sarah Butcher and William Biggs*, shall at any time after making such his Oath or Oaths, or taking such his Affirmation or Affirmations as aforesaid, be Convict of wilful and corrupt Perjury thereupon, or of a wilful Breach, or Noncompliance with the tenor of such Oath or Affirmation as aforesaid, that then the said *Samuel Deavor, Michael Taylor, William Burros, James Carter, Sarah Butcher and William Biggs* being Convicted as aforesaid, shall upon such Conviction as aforesaid, be wholly deprived of any Benefit intended to him or them by this Law, and shall from thenceforth be liable to be prosecuted for any Debt or Demands whatsoever, in the same manner as if this Act had never been made; any thing to the contrary notwithstanding.

Persons
intended to
be reliev'd
by this Act,
if perjur'd,
not to
receive any
benefit
therefrom.

Provided always, That the Sheriffs of *Ann-Arundel, Prince George's, Kent, Cæcil, Dorchester and St. Mary's*, shall be first satisfied their imprisonment Fees, out of the respective Effects of the said Prisoners, before any other Creditor or Creditors shall have any share of the Prisoners Effects, and if the said Prisoners Effects shall not be sufficient to satisfy the Sheriffs their imprisonment Fees, that then the said *Samuel Deavor, Michael Taylor, William Burros, James Carter, Sarah Butcher, and William Biggs*, shall Satisfy and Pay to the Sheriffs the residue of their imprisonment Fees, provided that the said Sheriffs shall not Prosecute, Detain or Imprison the said *Samuel Deavor, Michael Taylor, William Burros, James Carter, Sarah Butcher and William Biggs*, within two Years after his or their Releasement; any thing in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sheriff's
Fees to be
first paid
out of the
Prisoners
Effects.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any of the Persons intended to be relieved by this Act, are and shall be of sufficient ability of Body to Labour, such Person or Persons, not having a Wife or Family, shall be and are hereby obliged to Serve