

in like deplorable Circumstances not being Able to redeem their Bodies with all the Estate or Interests they have in the World Which they would readily surrender up, and part with to their several and respective Creditors if they would accept of the same and Grant the said Petitioners there Liberty which seems to unlikely for them to Obtain that unless relieved by a particular Act to be past in their Favour which by their said Petitions they have humbly prayed they must inevitably continue prisoners for life, and as the allegations of the said Petitioners appear to this General Assembly to be true and that their lying in Goal can be of no Advantage to their Creditors it is humbly prayed that the said Petitioners may be relieved According to their Prayer and that it may be enacted

Liber H. S.  
No. 1

And be it Enacted by the Right honourable the Lord Proprietary by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordships Governor and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly and the Authority of the same that in case the said Prisoners shall deliver up and surrender or Cause to be delivered up and Surrendered to the Sheriffs of the respective Counties aforesaid in the presence of two Justices of peace of the Counties aforesaid whom the said Sheriffs are hereby required to Summon at the request of the said Prisoners at some Convenient Time after the receipt of this Act not exceeding five days all their real and Personal Estate either in possession Reversion remainder or in Trust or in or unto Which they have any Claim or Interest whatsoever and likewise before the day before mentioned convey Assign Transfer and make over unto the Sheriffs respectively for the use of the said Creditors all such their Estate Interest or Claim as aforesaid after such manner as by the said Sheriffs and by the Major part of such Creditors or such of them as Shall think fit to direct therein or their Council learned in the Law Shall reasonably devise or require at the Costs and Charges of the Persons who Shall claim benefit thereof so that the said Prisoners be not burthened with any Warranties thereby Other than against them selves or those Claiming by from or under them and that the said Prisoners at the time of such their Surrender and Transferring their Estate as aforesaid Shall take their Solemn Oaths (or Affirmation if Quakers) before the said two Justices aforesaid to effect following Viz.<sup>t</sup> "I A B do Affirm or Solemnly Swear that the Goods Debts and effects Which I have delivered Assigned and made over to the Sheriff of

[Prisoners  
to be dis-  
charged on  
delivering  
up their  
Effects, on  
Oath]

[The Oath]

County and in Trust for the use of my Creditors is the Whole Estate both real and personal of my own in Possession or that I have any Title to in the World and that I have not any Estate, Goods or Effects of any kind Whatsoever left either in Possession Reversion or remainder (the necessary wearing Apparel of myself Wife and Children and working Tools excepted) and that I have not directly or indirectly sold leased or otherwise Conveyed dis-

p. 597