

C H A P.
CIV.

of Raphael, and Henry Hagan, of Charles county, John Coulter, James Bond, William Nace, George Culloden, William Price, Thomas McLaughlin, Maximilian Heuisler, Vachel Dorsey, of Johnzee, John Lee, Nicholas Reynolds, James Hooker, James Dunning, Caleb Green, John Hook, Abraham Hauffman, Bartholomew Donovan, George Nace, junior, John Walter, Thomas Royston, James Williamson, John Parish, Thomas T. Greenfield, William Belton, John Maxwell, Abraham Underwood, Samuel Croxall, William Payne Penn, Edward Dennison, John Brady and Stephen Wilson, of Baltimore county, Charles Gulley and Samuel Nicols, of Talbot county, John Gray, Thomas Biddle, Alexander Cathcart and John Savin, of Cæcil county, Leonard Townsend, Samuel Evans, John Spalding and Richard G. Hardesty, of Prince-George's county, William Wells, of the city of Annapolis, Robert Stevens, of Queen-Anne's county, Robert H. Ward, Philip Bier, junior, Isaac Parvin, John Parvin, William Parvin, Mark Parvin, Jeremiah Gilbert, David McCleary and Jaen Payen Boisneuf, of Frederick county, James Duley, Lemuel Howard, James Johnson, Clement Waltham, Aquila McComas, Winstone Smith and John Hyland, of Harford county, William Priest, William Boon, Jeremiah D. Nichols, Andrew Hall and William Crawford, of Caroline county, John Fisher, Raymond Dumas, Samuel H. Gatchell, John Gordon, Richard Phillips, Henry Lenhart, junior, Philip Lewis, James Williamson, Isaac Mordecai, John Robinson, Mordecai M. Mordecai, Charles Rogers, Hiel Peck, James Clarke, Benjamin Thomas, Owen Roberts, Thomas Cave, James Bouchell, George Bobst, Elihu Underwood, Nicholas Walter, Thomas Bailey, Jonas Yoner, George Lee, Winkles Bardin Goldthwait, Warner Lyle Nicholl, senior, Michael Branson, John Maxwell, Peter Pollard, Hugh Boner, Robert Mickle, William Bruff, Henry Brown, Arthur Smith, Samuel Allen, George L. Gray, Edward Woodyear and John Harris, of the city of Baltimore, Thomas Evans and Samuel Bayly, of Washington county, Edward Viers, of Montgomery county, George Dent and John Arnold, of Allegany county, Aaron Rawlings of Calvert county, by their petitions to this general assembly have set forth, that by reason of many misfortunes they are unable wholly to pay their debts, and have prayed that they may be discharged therefrom, upon their delivering up all their property for the use of their creditors; and the prayer of the said petitioners being found reasonable, therefore,

Chancellor, on application, to direct notice, &c.

II. BE IT ENACTED, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That on application of either of the said debtors to the chancellor, by petition in writing, offering to deliver to the use of his creditors all his property, real, personal or mixed, (the necessary wearing apparel and bedding of himself and his family excepted,) to which he is in any way entitled, a schedule whereof, (on oath or affirmation, as the case may require,) together with a list of the creditors of the person so applying, on oath or affirmation, as far as he can ascertain them, shall be annexed to or accompany such petition, the chancellor shall direct personal notice of such application to be given to the creditors, or to as many of them as can be served therewith, or their agent or attorneys, or direct notice of such application to be advertised in the most public places of the county where the said debtor resides, or to be inserted in some news-papers for such time as he may think proper, and on the appearance of the said creditor, or neglect to appear on notice, at the time or times and place appointed, the chancellor shall administer to the petitioning debtor the following oath or affirmation, as the case may require: "I, A. B. do swear, or solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will deliver up, convey and transfer, to my creditors, in such manner as the chancellor shall direct, all my property that I have, or claim any title to or interest in, at this time, and all debts, rights and claims, which I have, or am any way entitled to, in possession, remainder or reversion, (the necessary wearing apparel and bedding of myself and family excepted,) and that I have not, directly or indirectly, at any time, sold, conveyed, lessened or disposed of, for the use or benefit of any person or persons, or intrusted, any part of my monies or other property, debts, rights or claims, thereby to defraud my creditors, or any of them, or to secure the same to receive or expect any profits, benefits or advantages, thereby;" and the chancellor shall thereupon name such person as a majority of the creditors in value, their agents or attorneys, shall recommend, to be a trustee for the benefit of the creditors of the petitioning debtor, or in case of the non-attendance of the creditors, or of their not making a recommendation, the chancellor shall name such person as he shall think proper, to be a trustee as aforesaid.

None to be entitled but citizens, &c.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That no person herein before mentioned shall be entitled to the benefit of this act, unless the chancellor shall be satisfied, by competent testimony, that he has resided the two preceding years within the state of Maryland prior to the passage of this act; provided, that if the creditors who shall have due to them the amount of two thirds of the debts due by such debtor at the time of the passage of this act, shall at any time before the debtor obtains the final relief of this act, express in writing to the chancellor their dissent to the said debtor obtaining such relief, then such debtor shall not obtain the same; provided, that foreign creditors, not residing within the United States, or not having agents or attorneys, duly authorised and empowered to act in their be-