

things relateing in the said Act to the marriage of Negroes with ffreeborne women & their Issue are firme & valid according to the true intent & purport of the said Act vntill this p^rsent time of the Repeale thereof, any thing in this Act to the Contrary Notwithstanding. Liber W. II.

An Act for preventing vexacious and
vnecessary suites att Law.

Whereas diuerse & Sundry persons within this Province Contracting debts by acco^t with m^rchants & others for which they stand & Remaine onely debtors vpon their said Bookes of Acco^s the which though they are honestly & well disposed to pay the same vpon demand ffirst had & Required of the said debt by the said Credito^{rs} or other person Lawfully authorized to Receiue the same without which itt is Impossible for the said debto^{rs} to knowe where or to whom to pay the said debt, yett seuerall of the said Credito^{rs} through a vexatious & Avaritious humor doe dayly Comence their suites att Law ag^t such their debto^{rs} without any demand of such their debts of their said debto^{rs} whereby the said debt is much Increased & the said debto^r thereby greatly burthened & Impouerished by meanes of such their vexatious & vnjust suites in Law, Bee itt therefore enacted by the Lord Prop^{ty} by & with the advice & Consent of the vpper & Lower houses of this p^rsent Assembly & the Authority of the same that from & after the Twentieth day of decemb^r next, noe person whatsoever his Executo^{rs} or Adm^{rs} Liueing or Tradeing into this Province shall for any debt due or oweing to him by acco^t vpon Booke or otherwise, & for which the debto^r hath not past his hand & seale to such his Credito^r shall sue or Implead att Law such debto^r for any such debt Contracted as aforesaid, & not vnder hand & Seale of such debto^r aforesaid vnlesse hee shall ffirst demand and Requier the same of the said debto^r in the County where hee shall inhabitt, if att his Habitacon, & if not, then by leaueing a noate vnder the hand of such Credito^r or those hee shall Impower to Receiue the same, what time & to whome the same shall bee paid, And if therevpon the same bee not accordingly paid then itt shall & may bee Lawfull for the said Credito^{rs} to sue & Implead such debto^r for the said debt, & Recouer ag^t him all such Costs & damages as vpon Legall Tryall in any Court of this province shall bee adjudged ag^t him & in Case any person shall sue or implead any such his debto^r as aforesaid, Contrary to this Act, hee shall loose all his Costs of such suite, & bee Liable to satisfy such his debto^r all such damages as shall accrue vnto the said debto^r by such his