

Liber LL, 5
 Acts
 p. 18

liam Owen and Jacob Ratcliffe of Queen Anns County have by their Humble Petitions to this Present generall Assembly Severally Sett forth that they have Continued Prisoners for debt in the Custody of the Severall Sheriffs of the Countys af^d for some considerable time Past, and Still Continue in the like deplorable Circumstances not being able to Redeem their Bodies with all the Estate or Interest they have in the World Which they would readily Surrender up and Part with to their Several and Respective Creditors if they would Accept the same And Grant the said Petitioners their Liberty which seems so unlikely 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 thereby their families Utterly ruined And for that the truth of the said Petitioners Allegations is made Appear to this Generall Assembly by Sufficient Testimony and for that the said Petitioners and their families are fit Objects of Charity And that lying in Goal Can be no Benefit to their Creditors It is humbly Prayed that they may be relieved According to their Prayer And that it may be Enacted And be it Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietor by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordships Governour and the Upper and lower houses of this present Generall Assembly And the Authority of the Same that Unless All or Any of the Creditors of the said John Medcalf, Susannah Mitchell Ann Braham, John Hurst Edward Norwood, Frances Dorsey widow, Edward Jones, Thomas Oldham, William Norton Mathew Ashley Thomas Shore John Clements, John Oliver William Owen and Jacob Ratcliffe or the Creditor or Creditors of any or Either of them or the Attorney or Attorneys of such Creditor or Creditors or Any or Either of them af^d within this Province within Twenty Days after the End of this Session of Assembly go to the Sheriffs of the Several Countys in which the Prisoners before mentioned are Respectively Detained or kept in Custody and give good Security to Pay the Imprisonment ffees at Ten Pounds of Tobacco per Day that shall or May become Due from the said Prisoners or Any or Either of them after the End of the said Twenty Days And Also to find the said Prisoners or Any or Either of them Sufficient Meat Drink and Cloathing during their future Imprisonment in Case they or Any of them the Prisoners aforesaid shall Deliver up and Surrender or Cause to be Delivered up and Surrendred to the Sheriff of the County in whose Custody they Are in the Presence of two Justices of the Peace in Each of the said Counties whom the said Sheriff are hereby required to Sumon on the request of the said Prisoners or Any of them at the Dwelling Plantations or Places of Abode of the said Prisoners or any of them at Some Convenient time between the first day of November next and the Tenth day of December next All their Real and Personal Estate Either in Possession Reversion Re-