

Session *Gannon, John West, William Clements, junior, Samuel Peck,*
 Laws *Edmund Melton, Francis Tate, George Russell, William Willoughby*
James, Robert Walmsley, Solomon Trener, and Garret Corbert, by
 their humble Petition to this present General Assembly, have set
 forth, that they have continued Prisoners for Debt in the Custody of
 the Sheriffs of the several Counties aforesaid, and still continue in
 the like deplorable Circumstances, and not being able to redeem their
 Bodies with all the Estate or Interest that they have in the World,
 which they would readily deliver 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 for them
 to obtain, that unless relieved by a particular Act Passed in their
 Favours, which by their said Petition they have humbly prayed, they
 must inevitably continue Prisoners for Life. And for that the Truth
 of the said Petitioner's Allegations are made appear to this present
 General Assembly by sufficient Testimony, and that the said Petitioners
 are fit Objects of Charity, and that their lying in Goal can be
 no Benefit to their Creditors, it is humbly Prayed that the said Petitioners
 may be Relieved according to their Prayers, and that it may
 be Enacted,

And be it Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary,
by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's Governor, and
the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the

p. 36 *same,* That unless all or any of the Creditor or Creditors of any of
 the said Prisoners, or the Attorney of such Creditors aforesaid within
 this Province, shall, within Twenty Days after the End of this Ses-
 sion of Assembly, go to the Sheriffs of the aforesaid Counties of
Anne-Arundel, Prince George's, Calvert, Talbot, Charles, Queen-
Anne's, Somerset, St. Mary's, and Cæcil, and give good Security to
 pay the Imprisonment Fees the Sum of Ten Pounds of Tobacco *per*
 Day, that shall or may become due from the said Prisoners respec-
 tively, after the end of the said Twenty Days, and also find the said
 Prisoners, sufficient Meat, Drink and Cloathing, during their future
 Imprisonment; and in case they the said Prisoners shall deliver up
 and surrender, or cause to be delivered up and surrendered, to the
 Sheriffs of the Counties aforesaid, in the Presence of Two Justices of
 the Peace of the said Counties, whom the said Sheriffs are hereby
 required to Summon, on the request of the said Prisoners, at some
 convenient Time after the receipt of this Act, not exceeding Ten
 Days, all their Real and Personal Estate, either in Possession, Re-
 version, 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
 of *Anne-Arundel, Prince George's, Calvert, Talbot, Charles, Queen-*
Anne's Somerset, St. Mary's, and Cæcil, Counties, 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

Creditors to
 go to the
 Sheriffs in
 20 Days,
 and give
 security for
 Fees, &c.