

them, had at the Time of the Discharge of the said Prisoners, or any of them, or which he, she or they, at any Time hereafter, shall or may be any Way seized or possessed of, or interested in, to his, her or their own Use, or in his, her or their own proper Right, either in Law or Equity, (except the wearing Apparel and Bedding, or working Tools, of him, her or them, not exceeding the Sum of Five Pounds Current Money), and it shall and may be lawful for any of their Creditors, their Executors, Administrators and Assigns, to take out new Execution, or Executions, against the Lands, Tenements, or other Hereditaments, Goods, and Chattels of the said Prisoners, or any of them (except as before excepted), for the Satisfaction of his, her, or their Debts, in such Sort, Manner, and Form, as he or they might have done if the said Prisoners, or any of them, had not been taken in Execution, or discharged, by Virtue of this Act.

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And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Action of Escape be brought against any Sheriff, or any Suit or Action, against any Justice or Justices, for the performing their Office in Pursuance of this Act, he or they may plead the general Issue, and give this Act, and the Matter in Evidence; and if the Plaintiff be nonsuit, or discontinue his Action, or Verdict pass against such Plaintiff, or Judgment upon Demurrer, the Defendant shall have and recover his full Costs.

[Actions of
Escape.]

Provided also, That nothing in this Act shall extend, or be construed to extend, to bar any Creditor or Creditors of the before mentioned Prisoners, from having and maintaining any Action of Escape against any Sheriff, who hath permitted any Escape, before the making this Act.

[Proviso.]

Provided nevertheless, That in Case the said Prisoners, or any of them, shall, at any Time after making such his or her Oath, or Oaths, or taking such his or her Affirmation, or Affirmations, as aforesaid, be convict of wilful and corrupt Perjury thereupon, or of a wilful Breach or Non-compliance with the Tenor of such Oath, or Affirmation, as aforesaid, that then the said Prisoners, or any of them, being convicted as aforesaid, shall, upon such Conviction as aforesaid, be wholly deprived of any Benefit intended to him, her, or them, by this Act, and shall, from thenceforth, be liable to be prosecuted for any Debt or Demands whatsoever, in the same Manner as if this Act had never been made; any Thing to the contrary notwithstanding.

[If perjur'd,
not to re-
ceive any
Benefit from
this Act.]

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Provided always, That the Sheriffs of Cæcil, Kent, Queen-Anne's, Talbot, Dorchester, Somerset, Baltimore, Anne-Arundel, Frederick, Prince-George's, and Calvert Counties, shall be first satisfied their Imprisonment Fees, out of the respective Effects of the said Prisoners, before any Creditor or Creditors shall have any Share of the Prisoners Effects, and if the said Prisoners Effects shall not be

[Sheriffs
Fees to be
first paid.]