70

Liber No. 36 Nov. 30

Dec. 2

U.H.J. inclined to purchase the Time or Servitude of such Debtor or Debtors & that the respective Sheriffs in whose Custody the aforesaid Debtors or any of them shall be and are hereby authorized & obliged to summon two Justices of the Peace in the respective Counties at the request of the said Persons as soon as conveniently may be after the receipt of this Act & after giving five Days Notice at the Court Houses of the respective Counties of the intended Sale of such Debtor or Debtors to expose to Sale in the Presence of the said Justices such Debtor or Debtors and the Time of His or their Servitude to the highest Bidder and the Money arising from such Sale shall be as Effects of such Debtor or Debtors in the Hands of the respective Sheriffs subject as aforesaid to a Distribution in Manner aforesaid and the Sale and Service of such Debtor or Debtors p. 240 as aforesaid is hereby directed to be taken as a full and sufficient Acquittal & discharge against all Debts due from such Debtor or Debtors before such Sale. Provided that in Case any of the said Debtors have offered since their Confinement to make Satisfaction to their Creditors by Servitude and that their Creditors have refused to accept the same, that the Time such Debtors have been confined in Prison shall be deemed and taken as part of the aforesaid Term of Five Years & that they shall be obliged to serve for such Time as shall complete five Years from the Day of their Commitment to Prison and that in Case any such Single Persons as aforesaid have been confined in Prison for Five Years or any longer Time that the said Persons so confined shall be discharged upon the same Terms & in the same Manner that Persons having Families are by this Act directed to be discharged."

Should the Bill pass with the Clause none of the Objects of it will have Reason to complain of any Hardship from the Law, for it will be left to their Option to accept or refuse the Terms proposed, and on their Refusal, they will remain in their present State, and we presume that no Diversity of Opinion on this Head will obstruct the Passage of the Bill, not only because its Miscarriage can be of no possible Advantage to any of the Prisoners, but because it would prevent such of the Prisoners, as are not involved or concerned in the Clause, from receiving the Relief which their unhappy Situation, and the Circumstances of their Connexions call for.

Signed p Order Upton Scott Cl: Up: Ho:

Adjourned until 10 °Clock on Monday Morning

Monday Morning Dec. 2.d 1765 This House met according to Adjournment