

*Votes and
Proceedings
of the Lower
House,
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Dec. 15*

Sheriff as aforesaid, and shall refund and pay rateably to such other Creditors as shall apply for the same thereafter, the Debt or Debts due from such Prisoner to him, her, or them, so as that the said last mentioned Creditors may receive and be paid in equal Proportion to his, her, or their Demands, and in Case such Prisoner as aforesaid shall be liable on a future Breach of a Contract by him or her made or entered into before his or her Discharge, the Person or Persons who shall be entitled as a Creditor or Creditors of such Prisoner under such Breach of Contract, shall have and receive his or her Satisfaction, rateably of the Creditors who shall have received the Whole or a Proportion of the Debts due to them on such Distribution as aforesaid, and to prevent Persons who may be charged in Execution from lying in Prison until they have spent their Substance wherewith they should satisfy their Creditors, and afterwards taking the Benefit of this Act when they have Nothing left to deliver up to their Creditors, no Person who shall be charged in Execution, from and after the Expiration of this present Session of Assembly, shall be allowed or permitted to exhibit a Petition for the Purpose aforesaid, unless such Petition shall be exhibited within Thirty Days after his or her Commitment, or being charged in Execution." Leave out the Word "or" after the Word "Descent" in the Eighth Line of the Seventh Page; and after the Word "Distribution," in the same Line add the Words "or otherwise". Leave out from and after the Word "Act," in the Twelfth Line of the Eighth Page, to the Word "Creditors," in the Seventh Line of the last Page inclusively; and immediately before the continuing Clause add the following, *viz.* "*And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person or Persons hath or have been already committed, or hereafter shall be committed by any Court for Fees, on any Criminal Prosecution, it shall and may be lawful for the Court by whom such Prisoner hath been or shall be committed, upon the Application of such Prisoner, or of the Sheriff having the Custody of such Prisoner, to order such Prisoner to be sold as a Servant to the highest Bidder, for a Term not exceeding Five Years, and to direct the Money which shall arise on such Sale, to be applied as far as the same shall extend, in or towards the Payment and Discharge of the Fees for which such Prisoner hath been or shall be committed; Provided always, That if the highest Price for the Prisoner to be sold as aforesaid, shall exceed the Sum or Amount of the Fees then and in such Case, there shall be an Abatement of the Time of the Service of such Prisoner to be sold as aforesaid, in Proportion to the Part of the Purchase Money, which shall remain after Payment and Discharge of the Fees aforesaid, and the Purchaser of such Servant shall be discharged of and from such Surplus or remaining Part of the said Purchase Money after Payment of the Fees aforesaid.*"