

son or persons refuse to pay or deliver to the trustees, or other persons having charge thereof, to order that such person or persons shall, within ten days after service on him or them of a copy of such petition, answer on oath, or affirmation, the allegations and interrogatories therein contained; and on such answer being filed, or other proof taken *ex parte*, if the persons charged shall neglect, after notice, to answer, the court shall order the payment of any money, or delivery of any property, which shall appear to be improperly detained or concealed, and enforce obedience to such order in a summary way, by attachment and imprisonment, or the court may in their discretion order the money or property, or effects in dispute, to be brought into court to await the decision of any question that may occur as to the right, and may direct an issue, if deemed necessary, to try such question of right; and the court may award damages and costs, or either, to be paid, as shall appear to be just, and enforce such payment by attachment and imprisonment.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That every person who shall wrongfully detain or conceal, or aid in detaining or concealing, from the trustees of any school or academy, or other person or persons lawfully entitled to have or receive the same, any fund, money, property or effects, belonging to such school or academy, for the space of ten days after the same shall be demanded, shall forfeit and pay the sum of five hundred dollars, to be recovered by indictment or action of debt, one-half for the use of the informer, and the other half for the use of the state.

Penalty on persons concealing property, &c.

CHAPTER 266.

AN ACT to explain the Law in relation to Clandestine Removals to avoid Distress for Rent.

WHEREAS, doubts exist as to the meaning of the law now in force respecting clandestine removals: *And whereas*, decisions have been made contrary to the probable intention of said law; therefore,

Preamble.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That from and after the first day of May next, all removals of personal property, owned by any tenants, and removed by said tenant, or by his or her order and direction, from the premises occupied by said tenant, and for the occupation of which rent shall be due, or about to become due, if the said property be removed as aforesaid, within thirty days before the time said rent will become due, the said removal, whether by day or night, shall be considered a clandestine removal, and the property so removed, shall be liable to be followed and distrained, in the same manner as if it were found on the premises rented and occupied by such tenant, within the time limited for dis-

Tenant removing personal property where rent is due deemed clandestine, &c.