

STATUTES

Made at WESTMINSTER, *Anno quadragesimo tertio*, Reginae
ELIZABETHÆ and A. D. 1601.

CAP. VIII.

An Act against fraudulent Administration of Intestates Goods.

Forasmuch as it is often put in Ure, to the Defrauding of Creditors, that such Persons as are to have the Administration of the Goods of others dying Intestate, committed unto them, if they require it, will not accept the same, but suffer or procure the Administration to be granted to some Stranger of mean Estate, and not of Kin to the Intestate, from whom themselves, or others by their Means do take Deeds of Gifts, and Authorities by Letter of Attorney, whereby they obtain the State of the Intestate into their hands, and yet stand not subject to pay any Debts owing by the same Intestate, and so the Creditors for lack of Knowledge of the Place of Habitation of the Administrator, cannot arrest him, nor sue him; and if they fortune to find him out, yet for lack of Ability in him to satisfy of his own Goods, the Value of that he hath conveyed away of the Intestates Goods, or released of his Debts by way of Wasting, the Creditors cannot have or recover their just and due Debts:

II. Be it enacted by the Authority of this present Parliament, That every Person and Persons that hereafter shall obtain, receive, and have any Goods or Debts of any Person dying Intestate, or a Release or other Discharge of any Debt or Duty that belonged to the Intestate, upon any Fraud, as is aforesaid, or without such valuable Consideration as shall amount to the Value of the same Goods or Debts, or near thereabouts, (except it be in or towards Satisfaction of some just and principal Debt of the Value of the same Goods or Debts to him owing by the Intestate at the Time of his Decease) shall be charged and chargeable as Executor of his own Wrong; (2) and so far only as all such Goods and Debts coming to his Hands, or whereof he is released or discharged by such Admin-