

Dec. Ses 1817  
&c. may be re-  
covered, &c.

Courts to ex-  
ercise jurisdic-  
tion in certain  
cases.

Passed Feb 6

Preamble

Process issu-  
ing from one  
county to be  
served in ano-  
ther, how to be  
conveyed

Clerks to send  
to post-offices  
once a week

not residing therein, shall or may be indebted unto a citizen of this state, or of any other of the United States, in a sum of money not exceeding fifty dollars, or if a citizen of this state being indebted to another citizen thereof in a sum of money not exceeding fifty dollars, shall actually run away, abscond, or fly from justice, or secretly remove him or herself from his or her place of abode, with intent to evade the payment of his or her just debts, such creditor may in either case have the like remedy by attachment, and by the like process and proceedings, as a creditor may now have in such cases when the debt doth exceed the sum of money above mentioned.

2. *And be it enacted*, That if such debtor or debtors shall be arrested on the *capias ad respondendum* issuing with such attachment, from any county court in this state, or if the said debtor shall appear to the same within the time limited in other cases of attachment, the court in which such proceedings may be had shall have and exercise full and ample jurisdiction in such suit, in the same manner, and by the like process and proceedings, as if the said debt exceeded the said sum of fifty dollars current money.

CHAPTER 139.

An act to provide for the Conveyance and Return of Process issued from the Courts of one County to the Officers of another.

WHEREAS, the trial of causes, civil and criminal, is often delayed by the irregular manner in which process is conveyed from the courts of one county to the officers of another county, and by the want of convenient proof of the delivery of such process to the officers to whom the same is directed, as well as by the frequent neglect of such officers to serve and return such process; and it appears to be necessary, for the speedy and due administration of justice, that an effective remedy should be provided in that behalf, Therefore,

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That from and after the passage of this act, the clerk or register of any court within this state, who shall be required to issue any original or judicial writ, subpoena, summons, or other process, to be served in any other county than that in which such court shall usually hold its session, shall issue such process accordingly, directed to the sheriff, coroner, or other proper officer, of such other county to whom the same ought to be directed, and shall immediately enclose such process in a letter or cover, sealed up and addressed to the clerk of such other county, and on the back thereof shall endorse his name as clerk of the county, and shall forthwith deposit the same in the nearest post office, to be conveyed by the ensuing mail to the post office at the place in which, or nearest to which, the clerk of such other county shall reside; and in such letter or cover shall be written the usual docket-entry of such process, so as to show the parties concerned, and the nature and purpose thereof.

2. *And be it enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the several clerks of the respective counties of this state, to attend at or send to the post-offices nearest to their residence, at least once a week, and enquire for letters and covers addressed to them; and if such letters or co-

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