

44
any way for the Debtor to discharge themselves of the same if they have
satisfied the same any way as by bringing the Creditor upon his Oath to declare
and sett forth if he hath Received the said debt or any part thereof or whether
there be not any accounts betwixt the Creditor & Debtor whereby he may
discount the same or to prove his Plea for the witnesses living Remote
and impossible to bring them viva voce to give their Testimony therein
which thing proveth oftentimes very prejudiciall to both parties To prevent
which and to give Redress therein for the future

Bee itt Enacted by the Right Hon^{ble} the Lord Proprietary by and with
the advice and assent of the upper and lower house of this present Gener^{all}
assembly That all Debts of Record whether by Judgment Recognizances
deed inrolled and upon Record the Exemplification thereof vnder the Seale
of the Court where the said Judgments were given or where the said
Judgments is Recorded shall be a sufficient Evidences to prove the same
And also that all other debts by bonds Bills accounts or otherwise that shall
from and after the first day of November next ensuing hither to be putt in
Suite against any person whatsoever living and residing within this
Province shall be proved by the Oath of the witnesses thereunto before a
Publick Notary or other officer lawfully Authorized thereunto of the Country
or place where soever it shall happen the said Bonds or Bills shall be sent from
at which time and before the which said Publick Notary or Publick officer
shall be present the Creditor who shall then likewise before the said Publick
Notary or other officer of the place soe Authorized upon his Corporall
Oath declare that the said debt or any part or parcel thereof is not satisfied
or that there is not any accounts betwixt the said Creditor or Debtor
by which the said Creditor may be likewise indebted to the Debtor to the
value of the said debt or any part thereof for any matter or thing accrued
since the time of the date of the said bond bill or Instrument or whether
the said Creditor hath not given to the Debtor any Release for the same
to be sent together with the proofes vnder the hands and Seals of the
Publick Notary or other publick officer thereunto appointed which if
the Creditor shall Refuse or Neglect to performe and doe Then the said
matter or thing by the said Publick Notary or other officer soe by them
Certified as aforesaid shall not be Received as any Evidences to prove the
said debt And if the Creditor be dead and his Executor or administrator
sue any such bond bill account or otherwise and sue the said Debtor
for the same the Executor or administrator in like manner before
such Publick Notary or other officer for that purpose appointed shall sett
forth and declare upon their Oath whether or not they have not heard the
Creditor in his life time acknowledge that debt to be satisfied or whether or not