

And for the further Declaration which shall be taken and allowed for Evidences to prove such Bills or Bonds, *Be it Enacted*, That the Oath of one or more of these Persons that subscribed as Witnesses to such Bill or Bond, made before One Justice of the Provincial Court, or Two Justices of the County-Court of this Province, in their respective Counties, shall be Evidence to prove the Debts in the Provincial and County-Courts of this Province.

Good Evidence to prove Bills and Bonds.

Provided nevertheless, That if the Defendant will traverse such Proof, and put it upon the Country for Proof, it shall be allowed him so to do.

Yet may be tried by the Country.

And be it likewise Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That an Account of Goods sold, Work done, Money lent, and such other Articles as lie properly in an Account, and sworn to by the Plaintiff, in any Action brought, or by the Defendant in his Defence, against all or any Part of the Plaintiff's Claim, before such Justice or Justices as aforesaid, and that no Part or Parcel thereof is paid, other than what is taken Notice of in the said Oaths, shall be received as Evidence to prove the Fact in any Court of this Province. *Provided*, That any Plaintiff or Defendant in any Action against whom such Oath is given for Evidence, shall be at his Liberty to traverse such Oath, by giving Evidence other than himself against it, to invalidate the same; and the Court or Jury that tries the Cause, shall judge by that which appears to them the fullest and fairest Evidence.

What Accounts Sworn to shall be Evidence.

Yet subjected to be Traversed, and Judged of by the fullest and fairest Evidence.

An ACT for the Speedy Recovery of small Debts, out of Court, before a single Justice of the Peace.

FORASMUCH as it is requisite that there be some Remedy for the Recovery of small Debts, whereof the Courts of Judicature have no Jurisdiction,

Be it Enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Majesty's Governour, Council and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That in all such Cases wherein the real Debt or Damage doth not exceed Four Hundred Pounds of Tobacco, or Thirty Three Shillings and Four Pence in Money, it shall and may be lawful for any one Justice of the Peace of each respective County wherein the Debtor doth reside, to try, hear, and determine the Matter of Controversy between the Creditor and Debtor, and upon full hearing of the Allegation of both Parties, shall give Judgment accordingly; and if need be, charge the Constable with the Body of the Debtor in Execution, who is hereby obliged and impowered to carry the Person so committed, to the Sheriff of the County, together with a Certificate or

Debt or Damage not exceeding 400l. of Tobacco or 33 s. and 4 d. may be adjudged, on Justices Warrant.

And the Constable charged with the Debtor in Execution, till Commitment to the Sheriff.