

ACT for the Relief of Creditors, and to
Passed July } prevent Frauds and Deceits occasioned
10th, 1729. } by secret Sales, Mortgages and Gifts
 of Goods and Chattels.

WHEN and as often as any Provincial Justice or Justices of the Peace, shall be informed upon Oath, by the Testimony of One creditable Witness, or by any other probable way, that any Person or Persons is or are actually runaway or removed in a secret Manner from the Place of his or her Abode, and shall have carried or shall be about to remove or carry away any part of his, her or their Substance, to deceive their Creditors or abscond from Justice, it shall and may be lawful for such Justice, upon Application by any Creditor, and making it appear that such Runaway is really and *Bona Fide* indebted to such Creditor and in how much, to issue his Warrant to the County Clerk or Provincial Clerk, as the Case shall require, to issue Attachment for what such Creditor or Creditors shall make appear to be due them; by Virtue of which Warrant and this Act, it shall and may be lawful for every such Clerk, to issue Attachment in the usual Form, for the Debt or Damages so proved, and the incident Cost and Charges, against such Runaway or absconding Person, to be directed to the Sheriff or Coroner, as the Case shall require.

THE same Proceedings shall be had on all Attachments, to be so issued, and Security given on Condemnation of any Effects that shall be construed the Debtors, and are so attached, as are directed by the Act for regulating Attachments, and limiting the Extent of them.

PROVIDED always, that when any Creditor shall produce any Bond, Bill, protested Bill of Exchange, Promissory Note or other Obligation, Writing or Instrument under the Hand and Seal of such Runaway or absconding Person, such Creditor shall make Oath, or Affirmation if a Quaker, that the whole Debt or Part thereof, mentioning particularly what Part thereof, if any Payment hath been or shall be made, remains really and *Bona Fide* due and owing, and if the Debt shall be due on Account or a booked Debt, then the Creditor shall prove such Account and how much thereof shall be due as above, which Debt and Probate shall be lodged with the respective Clerks, before any Attachment shall issue.

No Goods or Chattels whereof the Vendor, Mortgager or Donor shall remain in Possession, shall pass, alter or change or any Property thereof be transferred, to any Purchaser, Mortgagee or Donee, unless the same be by Writing, and acknowledged before one Provincial Justice or one Justice of the County where such Seller, Mortgager or Donor resides, and be within Twenty Days recorded in the Records of the same County.

PROVIDED