

21. If any defendant, being of age and regularly summoned to appear to any bill or petition in chancery, shall refuse or neglect to appear thereto at the return court, and thereupon shall stand out the process of attachment of contempt, and attachment with proclamations, and do not appear and put in a good answer to the said bill or petition by the fourth day of the court to which the said attachment with proclamations is returnable, or being served after appearance with, and brought into court upon, and process of contempt, for not answering the bill or petition filed, the said defendant, so brought into court, shall and may, upon motion, stand committed by order of the court for the same, until discharged by the further order thereof; and if the defendant in the case first mentioned, shall not appear and answer as aforesaid, by the 4th day of the court to which the attachment with proclamations is returnable, or if the defendant so committed for not answering shall not put in a sufficient answer by the fourth day of the court next after the court at which he shall be committed, in either case, unless the defendant shall have further time granted by the court to put in such answer, the bill or petition shall be taken pro confesso, and such decree made thereupon as by the court may be thought just; and if in either of the cases aforesaid, the defendant shall have further time granted, him to answer, and he shall not, before the expiration of such further time, put in a sufficient answer to the bill or petition exhibited against him, such bill or petition shall be taken pro confesso without further delay, and such decree made thereon as by the court may be deemed just; or the chancellor, in his discretion, may, in the cases aforesaid, order commission to issue for the plaintiff to examine witnesses to prove the allegations in his bill or petition, or he may examine the plaintiff on oath, upon interrogatories, to ascertain the allegations in his bill or petition, and such decree shall be made in either case as the chancellor shall think just.—*ibid.* § 20.

22. Every defendant appearing at the return court of the subpoena, shall file a sufficient answer to the bill or petition exhibited against him, with the register in chancery, on or before the fourth day of the court next following the said return court; and if the defendant (not having further time granted by the court to file an answer) shall omit so to do, the defendant shall be in contempt, and the plaintiff may, upon motion, have an attachment of contempt against him, and if the defendant upon such attachment shall be returned *non est inventis*, the plaintiff shall be at liberty to obtain, upon motion, the usual process of attachment with proclamations, to compel the defendant to answer, and if the defendant shall stand out the said process of attachment, and attachment with proclamations, and shall not file a sufficient answer by the return court of the last of the said process, the bill or petition filed, unless the defendant shall have further time granted him by the court to put in such answer, shall upon motion, be taken *pro confesso*, and such decree made thereupon as by the court may be thought just, and if the said defendant