

ties remaining unexpended in their hands, together with the books of account, of the corporation, and all notes, bonds, and other evidences of debt thereunto belonging, or in anywise appertaining.

C H A P. XXX.

X. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said corporation shall be able and capable hereafter to purchase, receive, hold and enjoy, any estate, real, personal or mixed, not exceeding six thousand dollars.

Corporation may purchase, &c.

C. H. A. P. XXXI.

An ACT for the relief of Philip Edwards, of Baltimore county.

Passed 15th of Jan. 1799.

Lib. JG. No. 3. fol. 69.

WHEREAS Philip Edwards, of Baltimore county, has stated to this general assembly his inability to pay his debts, and has petitioned for an act to release him therefrom upon giving up all his property to the use of his creditors: And whereas the said Philip Edwards, being an officer in the navy of the United States, is liable, from the military arrangements, to be called out of this state, which justifies a distinction of his case from others who have petitioned for similar acts;

Preamble.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That in case the said Philip Edwards shall, before some justice of the peace for the county where he resides, make and subscribe the following oath, to wit: "I, Philip Edwards, do swear, or affirm, that I will deliver up, convey and transfer, to the use of my creditors, all my property, real, personal or mixed, (the necessary wearing apparel of myself and family, as allowed by my trustee, only excepted,) that I have or claim any title to, or interest in, at this time, and all debts, rights and claims, which I have at this time, or that I am in any respect entitled to, in possession, remainder or reversion; and that I have not, directly or indirectly, at any time before, sold, conveyed, leased, disposed of, or intrusted or concealed, any part of my property of any kind, or any part of my debts, rights or claims, thereby wilfully to defraud or deceive my creditors, or any of them, or to secure the same, or to receive or expect any profit, benefit or advantage thereby;" and shall execute and acknowledge, before two justices of the same county, a deed to his trustee, appointed in virtue of this act, on behalf of his creditors, for all his property, debts, rights and claims, agreeably to his said oath, in trust for his creditors, a schedule whereof he shall insert in, or annex to, the said deed, that thereupon, and for ever thereafter, the said Philip Edwards shall, by virtue of this act, be acquitted, released, and for ever discharged, from all debts, promises, contracts, agreements and covenants, due from, or contracted, made or entered into by him, before the passing this act; provided, that any property acquired by the said Philip Edwards, after the making the said deed, by descent, or in his own right by devise, bequest, or in course of distribution, shall be liable for the payment of his debts.

Oath to be taken, &c.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the sheriff of Baltimore county shall be and is hereby appointed as trustee in behalf of the creditors of the said Philip Edwards; and the said sheriff, before he acts as such, shall take the following oath before some justice of the peace of said county, to wit: "I, A. B. do swear, that I will faithfully, impartially and honestly, according to the best of my skill and knowledge, execute the several powers and trusts reposed in me as trustee for the creditors of Philip Edwards, without favour, affection, prejudice or malice."

Sheriff appointed trustee, &c.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if the said Philip Edwards shall be arrested or imprisoned on any process sued out on any judgment or decree obtained against him for any debt, damages or costs, contracted, owing, or growing due before the passing of this act, the court out of which such process issued shall and may discharge the said Philip Edwards on motion; and if the said Philip Edwards shall be arrested or imprisoned on any process for the recovery of any debt, damages or costs, contracted, owing, or growing due before the passing of this act, the court before whom such process shall be returned shall and may discharge the said Philip Edwards out of custody on his common appearance being entered, without any special bail; provided, that the discharge of the said Philip Edwards shall not acquit any other person from such debt, damages or costs, or any part thereof, but that all such persons shall be answerable for the same in such manner as they were before the passing of this act.

If arrested, to be discharged, &c.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any creditor of the said Philip Edwards shall, at any time within two years after he is discharged, allege, in writing, to the justices of Baltimore county court, in court sitting, that he the said Philip Edwards hath, directly or indirectly, sold, conveyed, leased, or otherwise disposed of, or intrusted or concealed, any part of his property of any kind, or any

When fraud is alleged he may be examined, &c.