

C H A P.
XXVI.
relieved by this
Act.

Wilkinson, of Calvert County; Peter Roby, Presly Cabiell, Mark Latimer, George Lovely, John Tallmage, Robert Wilson, Catharine M'Donal, George Waple, John Wade, Grace Pilkington, William Hudson, John Lammond, Joseph Nalley, John Luckett, Elisha Harben, Cornelius Maddox, Thomas Nalley, and John Gilmore, of Charles County; Joseph M'Cubbin, John Barry, Thomas Todd, and Thomas Town, of Anne-Arundel County; Joseph White, and Benjamin Kidwell, of Prince-George's County; John Bain, Francis Harris, William Conbold, Thomas Dey, William Andrews, George Grehon, William Jones, John Clay, James Oliver, and Richard Treadwell, of Baltimore County; William Banks Walls, John Metcalf, John Row, Josias Talburt, John Alexander Brown, Christian Shock, John Weaver, William Drown, Alexander Crawford, Richard Bealle, Jacob Sharrer, Robert Martin, John Ross Mellan, John Waters, Frederick Clabough, Thomas Witten, George Henback, and Thomas Davis, of Frederick County; Samuel Owens, William Ford, John Kennerly, Thomas Phillips, and Arthur Marshall, of Somerset County; Stephen Bissell, Mitchell King, Thomas Butler, William Handcock, John Benson, George Grear, Daniel Handcock, John Permwell, Ezekiel Claywell, Joshua Wheeler, David M'Cluer, Solomon Smallwood, Jonathan Dyer, John Baker, Phillip Gutherie, Christopher Godlove Schoglamer, and John Cornwell, of Worcester County; Richard Blackburn Jackson, Thomas Davis, Robert Porter, David Covenover, and Griffith Williams, of Cæcil County; Nicholas Bowdel, Hezekiah M'Cotter, and Robert Parkinson, of Dorchester County; George Harrington, William Dockery, Joseph Nevill, William Horn, Thomas Farrell, and Joseph Harris, of Queen-Anne's County; William Greenwood, Benjamin Steed, Robert Phillips, John Briscoe, and Patrick Drugan, of Kent County; Benjamin Buckler, John Dart, Alexander Anderson, and Edward Power, of St. Mary's County; and John Long, of Baltimore County; by their Petitions to this present General Assembly, have set forth, That they have respectively continued Prisoners for Debt, in the Custody of the Sheriffs of the respective Counties aforesaid, for a considerable Time past, and still continue in the like deplorable Circumstances, not being able to redeem their Bodies, with all the Estate or Interest they have in the World, which they would readily surrender up, and part with, to their several and respective Creditors, if they would accept of the same, and grant the said Petitioners their Liberty, which seems so unlikely for them to obtain, that (unless relieved by a particular Act to be passed in their Favour, which, by their said Petitions, they have humbly prayed) they must inevitably continue Prisoners for Life; and, as the Allegations of the said Petitioners, appear to this General Assembly, to be true, and that their lying in Jail can be of no Advantage to their Creditors, it is humbly prayed that the said Petitioners may be relieved according to their Prayers, and that it may be enacted;

Prisoners to
be discharged
on delivering
up their Ef-
fects, on
Oath.

II. And be it Enacted, *by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That in case the said Prisoners shall deliver up, and surrender, or cause to be delivered up, and surrendered, to the Sheriffs of the respective Counties aforesaid, in the Presence of Two Justices of the Peace, of the Counties aforesaid, whom the said Sheriffs are hereby required to summon, at the Request of the said Prisoners, at some convenient Time, after the End of this Session of Assembly, all their Real and Personal Estate, either in Possession, Reversion, Remainder, or in Trust, or in, or to which they have any Claim or Interest whatsoever, and likewise convey, assign, transfer, and make over unto the Sheriffs, respectively, for the Use of the said Creditors, all such their Estate, Interest, or Claim as aforesaid, after such Manner, as by the said Sheriffs, and by the major Part of such Creditors, or such of them as shall think fit to direct therein, or their Counsel learned in the Law, shall reasonably devise or require, at the Costs and Charges of the Persons who shall claim Benefit thereof, so that the said Prisoners be not burthened with any Warrantes thereby, other than against themselves,*