

A C T O F C O N G R E S S.

assign, transfer or deliver over, all and singular the said bankrupt's estate and effects, aforesaid, with all muniments and evidences thereof, to such person or persons as the major part, in value, of such creditors, according to the several debts then proved, shall choose as aforesaid: Provided always, that in such choice, no vote shall be given by, or in behalf of any creditor whose debt shall not amount to two hundred dollars.

Proviso.

Sec. 7. *Provided always, and be it further enacted,* That it shall be lawful for the said commissioners, as often as they shall see cause, for the better preserving and securing the bankrupt's estate, before assignees shall be chosen as aforesaid, immediately to appoint one or more assignee or assignees of the estate and effects aforesaid, or any part thereof; which assignee or assignees aforesaid, or any of them, may be removed at the meeting of the creditors, so to be appointed as aforesaid, for the choice of assignees, if such creditors, entitled to vote as aforesaid, or the major part, in value, of them, shall think fit; and such assignee or assignees as shall be so removed, shall deliver up all the estate and effects of such bankrupt, which shall have come to his or their hands or possession, unto such other assignee or assignees as shall be chosen by the creditors as aforesaid; and all such estate and effects shall be, to all intents and purposes, as effectually and legally vested in such new assignee or assignees, as if the first assignment had been made to him or them, by the said commissioners; and if such first assignee or assignees shall refuse or neglect, for the space of ten days next after notice, in writing, from such new assignee or assignees, of their appointment, as aforesaid, to deliver over as aforesaid, all the estate and effects as aforesaid, every such assignee or assignees, shall, respectively, forfeit a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars, for the use of the creditors, and shall moreover be liable for the property so detained.

Creditors may remove the assignees, &c.

Sec. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That at any time, previous to the closing of the accounts of the said assignee or assignees, so chosen as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for such creditors of the bankrupt, as are hereby authorized to vote in the choice of assignees, or the major part of them, in value, at a regular meeting of the said creditors, to be called for that purpose, by the said commissioners, or by one fourth, in value, of such creditors, to remove all or any of the assignees chosen as aforesaid, and to choose one or more in his or their place and stead: And such assignee or assignees as shall be so removed, shall deliver up all the estate and effects of such bankrupt, which shall have come into his or their hands or possession, unto such new assignee or assignees as shall be chosen by the creditors, at such meeting; and all such estate and effects shall be, to all intents and purposes, as effectually and legally vested in such new assignee or assignees, as if the first assignment had been made to him or them, by the said commissioners: And if such former assignee or assignees shall refuse or neglect, for the space of ten days next after notice, in writing, from such new assignee or assignees, of their appointment, as aforesaid, to deliver over, as aforesaid, all the estate and effects aforesaid, every such former assignee or assignees, shall, respectively, forfeit a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars, for the use of the creditors, and shall moreover be liable for the property so detained.

Suits not abated by the removal of assignees.

Sec. 9. *And be it further enacted,* That whenever a new assignee or assignees shall be chosen as aforesaid, no suit at law or in equity shall be thereby abated; but it shall and may be lawful for the court in which any suit may depend, upon the suggestion of a removal of a former assignee or assignees, and of the appointment of a new assignee or assignees, to allow the name of such new assignee or assignees, to be substituted in place of the name or names of the former assignee or assignees, and thereupon the suit shall be prosecuted in the name or names of the new assignee or assignees, in the same manner as if he or they had originally commenced the suit in his or their own names.

General effect of the assignment by the commissioners.

Sec. 10. *And be it further enacted,* That the assignment or assignments of the commissioners of the bankrupt's estate and effects as aforesaid, made as aforesaid, shall be good at law or in equity, against the bankrupt; and all persons claiming by, from, or under such bankrupt, by any act done at the time, or after he shall have committed the act of bankruptcy, upon which the commission issued: Provided always, that in case of a *bonâ fide* purchase made before the issuing of the commission from or under such bankrupt, for a valuable consideration, by any person having no knowledge, information or notice of any act of bankruptcy committed, such purchase shall not be invalidated or impeached.

It shall bar an estate tail.

Sec. 11. *And be it further enacted,* That the said commissioners shall have power, by deed or deeds, under their hands and seals, to assign and convey to the assignee or assignees, to be appointed or chosen as aforesaid, any lands, tenements, or hereditaments, which such bankrupt shall be seized of, or entitled to, in fee tail, at law, or in equity, in possession, remainder or reversion, for the benefit of the creditors; and all such deeds, being duly executed and recorded according to the laws of the
State