

Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That the same recited act of general assembly be and the same and every article, clause and thing therein contained are hereby declared to be continued in full force from the publication hereof for the term of seven years and from thence to the end of the next sitting of assembly and no longer.

[Section II.] Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons sha[ll] cast, draw or make use of any net, seine or other device for catching of shad in the river Schuylkill after the twentieth day of May in each year during the continuance of this act, such person being thereof legally convicted shall forfeit and pay the sum of five pounds for every such offense, to be recovered and applied in the same manner and to the same uses as the other penalties in and by the said recited act imposed [are limited] and directed.

Passed April 6, 1776. Probably not submitted to the Crown for action. See Appendix XXXIII, and the note to the Act of Assembly passed March 9, 1771, Chapter 621; and the Acts of Assembly passed March 14, 1777, Chapter 747; May 29, 1901, P. L. 302.

CHAPTER DCCXXI.

AN ACT FOR THE RELIEF OF WILLIAM JUDD, JOHN ONIONS, MICHAEL JORDAN AND WILLIAM SANDERS, PRISONERS FOR DEBT IN THE GAOL OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, WITH RESPECT TO THE IMPRISONMENT OF THEIR PERSONS.

Whereas it has been represented to the assembly of this province by the petitions of William Judd, John Onions, Michael Jordan and William Sanders, prisoners for debt in the gaol of Philadelphia county, that although they are willing to assign over all their respective effects to the use of their respective creditors for the payment of their respective debts and to discharge such as shall thereafter remain unpaid as soon as by their industry they can find means of satisfying creditors, yet by their imprisonment they are disabled from putting in execution their just intentions and are reduced to great distress:

[Section I.] Be it therefore enacted by the Honorable John Penn, Esquire, Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, by and with the consent and advice of the representatives of the freemen of the said Province in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That the justices of the county court of common pleas for the county of Philadelphia or any three of them, on application to them made in writing for that purpose by the said William Judd, John Onions, Michael Jordan and William Sanders, respectively, appoint a certain day and place for holding a special court of common pleas in the said county, whereof due notice shall be given to the creditor or creditors or their attorneys in fact, respectively, at whose suit they stand respectively charged, and all other his or their creditors, respectively, that can be known to the court, by leaving the same in writing at his, her or their last place of abode, at which time and place so appointed by the said court, who shall by an order or rule of the said court cause the said William Judd, John Onions, Michael Jordan and William Sanders, respectively, to be brought before them, and the said court shall then and there in the presence of the said creditor or creditors if he or they will be present administer to the said William Judd, John Onions, Michael Jordan and William Sanders, respectively, an oath or affirmation according to law to the following effect, to wit:

That the account by him delivered into that honorable court in his petition to the said court doth contain a true and perfect account of all his real and personal estate, debts, credits and effects whatsoever which he or any in trust for him have or at the time of his said petition had or is or was in any respect entitled to, in possession, remainder or reversion (except the wearing apparel and bedding for himself and family not exceeding ten pounds in value in the whole), and that he has not at any time since his imprisonment or before directly or indirectly sold, leased, assigned or otherwise disposed of or made over in trust for himself or otherwise other than as mentioned in such account any part of his lands, estate, goods, stock, money, debts or other real or personal estate whereby to have or expect any benefit or profit to himself or family or to defraud any of his creditors to whom he is indebted.

And the said William Judd, John Onions, Michael Jordan and

William Sanders, respectively, having taken such oath or affirmation in open court and his creditors failing to discover any effects or estate belonging to such deponents omitted in his or their said accounts, and the said William Judd, John Onions, Michael Jordan and William Sanders, respectively, making an assignment to any one or more of his creditors as the court shall direct in trust for all his said creditors of all his lands, goods and effects contained in such account by a short indorsement thereon, by which said assignment the estate, interest and property of the lands, goods and effects so assigned shall be vested in the person or persons to whom such assignment shall be made, who may take possession of the same in his or their own name or names; after which no release of the said William Judd, John Onions, Michael Jordan or William Sanders, respectively, his executors or administrators, shall be any discharge against or bar to the assignees aforesaid; then the said court shall order the said William Judd, John Onions, Michael Jordan and William Sanders, respectively, to be discharged from his imprisonment aforesaid.

[Section II.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the person of the said William Judd, John Onions, Michael Jordan and William Sanders, respectively, after such his discharge as aforesaid shall not at any time hereafter be imprisoned for any debts contracted before the time of such discharge.

Provided nevertheless, That the discharge of the said prisoners by virtue of this act shall not acquit or discharge any other person from such debt, sum or sums of money for which such person now is bound or engaged with the said prisoners, respectively, nor any lands, goods, chattels or effects which the said William Judd, John Onions, Michael Jordan and William Sanders, respectively, may hereafter acquire.

[Section III.] Provided also, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That nothing in this act contained shall extend to discharge the person of the said prisoners, respectively, from imprisonment or being liable to be sued, prosecuted or imprisoned for any debt due to the Crown, and that the said debts shall be first paid by the said assignees out of the moneys, if suffi-

cient, which shall come to their hands from the effects so assigned, nor for any debt due to any distant or absent creditor to whom notice shall not have been given pursuant to the directions of this act.

[Section IV.] Provided also, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if the said William Judd, John Onions, Michael Jordan and William Sanders, respectively, shall upon any indictment for taking a false and corrupt oath or affirmation in any matter or thing contained in the said oath or affirmation be convicted by his own confession or by the verdict of twelve men, he shall suffer all the pains, penalties and disabilities which by law may be inflicted on persons convicted of willful and corrupt perjury, and shall likewise be liable to be arrested, taken and imprisoned upon any process *de novo* and charged in execution for the same debt in the same manner as if he had never been in execution or discharged before, and shall forever after be barred of any benefit of this act.

Passed April 6, 1776. Probably not submitted to the Crown for action. See Appendix XXXIII.

CHAPTER DCCXXII.

AN ACT FOR CONFIRMING THE ESTATE OF ANDREW HERSHEY, IN AND TO CERTAIN LANDS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF DONEGAL IN THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

Whereas it appears by virtue of a certain order of James Logan, Esquire, late secretary of the land office and one of the commissioners of property under the honorable proprietaries, there was surveyed unto Peter Allen on the fifth of November, one thousand seven hundred and twenty, a certain tract of land situate on Shickasalongo Creek, then in Chester but now in Lancaster county, bounded and described as follows, viz.: Beginning at a hickory tree at a corner of James Mitchell's land and extending thence by the same southwest and by west two hundred and seventy-two perches to a black oak; thence south