

ACTS.

Maryland ss.

Att a session of Assembly begun and held at the City of Annapolis In the County of Ann Arundell the Twenty ninth Day of November in the Seaventh year of the Reigne of Our Sovereigne Lady Queen Anne of Great Brittain france and Ireland and the Dominions and Territorys thereto belonging Defender of the ffaith &^c Annoque Dni One thousand seaven hundred and Eight his Excellency John Seymour Esq^r being Governor.

Lib. L. L.
No. 64.
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Were Enacted the Laws following

An Act for reliefe of Poor Debtors and languishing Prisoners.

Whereas it is Represented to this present Generall Assembly that dureing this warr the low price for tobacco the only Staple Comodity of this province and the many losses they have had at Sea have run many honest well meaning persons inhabitants of this province farther in Debt than they are able to pay thereby oblidging many of them to leave their habitations and fly out of this Province unto other Colonys for their Liberty and others actually to be imprisoned for Debt or Damages to the Great Charge of the Country and lessening her Sacred Majestys Revenue which this Present Generall Assembly considering do pray that it may be Enacted

And be it Enacted by the Queens most Excellent Maj^{ty} by and with the advice and Consent of her Maj^{ty}s Governour Councill and Assembly of this province and the authority of the same that the severall and respective Justices of Oyer and Terminer in the severall County Courts of this province shall be and by this act are impowered authorized and appointed to Call and Cause to Come before them or any three of them whereof one to be of the Quorum any Debtor or Debtors who on the first day of January now next Comeing shall be actually in prison or Custody of any Sherriffe or Goaler within this province for any Debt or Damage or upon any attachment or Execution or any other process Issued or Issueing out of any the Courts of this province who have not wherewith to maintaine him her or themselves without being burthensome or Chargeable to relations Country Sherriffe or Goaler as also the Creditor or Creditors at whose suite such prisoners are in prison detained their Executors or Administrators Agents or