

C A P. XI.

Amended by 16, Geo.
3. c. 2, by 31 Geo.
3. c. 5, also by 31 Geo.
3. c. 5, by 41 Geo. 3.
c. 6, and by 46 Geo. 3.
c. 1.

AN ACT for the more easy and speedy recovery of SMALL DEBTS.

Preamble.

WHEREAS many inconveniencies have arisen to his Majesty's Subjects of this Island through the want of an expeditious and easy method for the Recovery of small Debts: For remedy whereof,

Creditors may sue
for any Debt not ex-
ceeding 40s.

Description of per-
sons that may be sued.

Method of proceed-
ing before a Justice of
Peace.

Justice of Peace re-
quired to grant Sum-
mons

requiring Debtor to
appear before him.

Manner of serving
Summons.

I. *Be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly, That* from and after the Publication hereof, it shall and may be lawful for any person or persons whatsoever, who now have, or hereafter shall have, any Debt or Debts, not exceeding the sum of *Forty Shillings*, due or owing unto him, her, or them, in his, her, or their own Right, or as Executor, Administrator, Guardian, or Trustee to any other person or persons, by or from any other Person or Persons whatsoever residing, or in any manner, or by any ways or means whatsoever seeking a livelihood or sojourning within this Government, to apply to any one of his Majesty's *Justices of the Peace*, for this Island appointed for the County wherein such Person or Persons, so indebted as aforesaid, respectively resideth, seeketh a livelihood, or sojourneth; and every such Justice is hereby required, immediately on every such application, to grant a Summons, under his Hand, to the party so applying, directed to such Debtor or Debtors, and requiring him, her, or them to appear before him in six days next after the day of the service of such Summons, at a certain time and place to be mentioned in the same, to answer such complaint, and the complainant may forthwith cause such Summons to be served on his said Debtor or Debtors, by delivering a true copy of the same to him or them in person, or to the wife, child, or other Person belonging to such Debtor or Debtors at his, her, or their known place of abode: *Provided* such child or other person be sixteen years old, or upwards, and at the time of delivering the said copy, the person or persons so delivering the same shall inform him, her, or them, to whom the same shall be delivered, of the meaning or purport thereof: and if such Debtor or Debtors be an inmate, the service of said Summons shall be valid by delivering a copy thereof to any person or persons of discretion as aforesaid, at the House or place where such Debtor or Debtors so lodge, or reside, and at the same time telling him, her, or them the meaning or purport thereof.

II. *And be it further enacted, That* such Summons, so to be granted, shall be in the following Form, and in no other.

COUNTY.

Form of Summons.

C. D. Plt. } By A. B. Esquire, one of His Majesty's Justices
E. F. Dft. } of the Peace for said County.

YOU are hereby required personally to be and appear before me, at
at the House of on the day of next, at the
hour