

And with the same view of avoiding expense, it is expedient that other duties which properly belong to the office of Marshal, and which require to be performed at a distance from the Court, be executed by others; in which cases, commissions are to be addressed specially to any competent persons, by name, resident near the place where such duties are to be performed.

§ 7. *Proceedings by Action.*

These are to commence with an entry by a Proctor, in a book to be kept in the Registry for that purpose, called the "Action Book*" of the action in a given sum sufficient to cover the demand and the probable amount of costs; but this sum is on no account to be excessive. Before any warrant is issued, the party applying for the same is to exhibit to the Registrar an affidavit,† setting forth the nature of the demand, that application for payment has been made without effect to the parties concerned, and that the aid and process of the Court are required for the enforcement thereof. Upon the leaving of this affidavit in the Registry, a warrant,‡ specifying the amount of the action, may issue to arrest the property proceeded against or the persons in cases where personal arrest is lawful; but personal arrest is never to be resorted to when the ends of justice can be otherwise obtained. The Proctor, having obtained the warrant from the Registrar, is to make a copy of it, and then deliver the warrant and copy to the Marshal, with instructions for the execution of the process. If the instrument is to be served on a ship, cargo, and freight at different places, as many different copies thereof as are requisite, must be made by the Proctor for that purpose. Every copy is to be examined with the original by the Marshal, or the person serving the instrument.

§ 8. *Execution of Warrants.*

When a ship is, or a ship and cargo are, to be arrested, the warrant is to be affixed on the mainmast or some conspicuous part of the vessel for a short time, and a collated copy of it left on board; and when goods only are to be arrested, (either for the purpose of proceeding against such goods or the freight due thereon,) the warrant is to be affixed for a short time on part of the goods, and a collated copy thereof left thereon, or with any person in whose actual custody the goods may be.

In cases of personal arrest the warrant under the seal of the Court must be shewn to the party before he is taken into custody.

A certificate § of the service of every warrant executed by the Marshal is to be indorsed thereon, and signed by him, in which he is to set forth the time when, and the mode by which the service was effected.

When a warrant is served by any other person than the Marshal, there must be, in addition to a similar certificate of the person serving it, his affidavit in the verification thereof.¶

The warrant having been served is to be delivered back to the Proctor, to be by him returned into the Registry at the time when it purports to be returnable; and the Registrar is then to attend with the Proctor before a Judge or Surrogate, and enter a minute in the Assignment Book, that the warrant has been returned duly served and executed.¶

§ 9. *Appearance and Bail.*

After the entry of an action, and before the issue of a warrant, the defendant may voluntarily appear, and give bail, and thus avoid the expense consequent on the issue of process.

An appearance alone, without any bail, may be sufficient for the purpose of contesting a suit, but in cases of the arrest of property or of the person, either the

* See forms of Actions, No. 1 to 14.

† See Affidavits to lead Warrants, No. 15 to 20.

‡ See forms of Warrants, No. 21 to 34.

§ See Forms No. 35 to 37.

¶ See the Form of this Affidavit, No. 38.

¶ See Form of Minute, No. 39.